

## **The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Release A Report about Olives Presses in the Palestinian Territory, 2007**

- **36,032.7 tons of pressed olives & 8,869.7 tons of extracted oil.**
- **4,935.6 thousand US\$ the output value of olive presses.**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) released a statistical report about olive presses in the Palestinian Territory for the year 2007, which indicated that the total number of olive presses in the Palestinian Territory is 265, of which 224 are operating, while 41 are temporarily closed. The distribution of operating presses by automation level is as follows: 194 full automatic, 30 half automatic and traditional presses. Data indicated that operating presses are concentrated in the Northern part of the West Bank, especially in Nablus Governorate (41 presses), then Jenin and Tubas Governorates (47 presses).

The Results showed that the total quantity of pressed olive in 2007 is 36,032.7 tons, and quantity of extracted oil is 8,869.7 tons, compared with 34,002 tons of oil extracted from 159,059 tons of pressed olive in 2006, the highest quantity of extracted oil in 2007 was 6,680.5 tons from 1,576.6 of olive pressed in Jenin and Tubas Governorates, while the lowest quantity of extracted oil was 352.1 tons from 1,451.4 tons of pressed olive in Bethlehem.

The results showed that the extraction rate reached 24.6% in 2007, and 21.4% in 2006, and showed that Ramallah and Al- Bireh Governorate had the highest percentage with 29.1% in 2007, while the lowest percentage of the extraction rate was in Khan Yunis and Rafah Governorates with 18.1 % for the same year.

The results showed also that there is 1,100 person are employed in olive pressing activities in the year 2007, of which 68.0% are paid employees, compared with 1,595 were employed in 2006 out of them 68.7% as paid employees. As for the compensation of paid employees the results showed that it reached 499.0 thousand US\$ in the year 2007 compared with 1,099.3 thousand US\$ in the year 2006.

Finally the results showed a decrease in the level of olive presses output in 2007, compared with previous years, as it reached 4,935.6 thousand US\$ in 2007 compared with 12,319.4 thousand US\$ in 2006. On the other side the value added of olive pressing activity reached 3,204.8 thousand US\$ in 2007.