

Characters of the inflorescence

The parameters considered are: (a) average inflorescence length, determined from a sample of 40 inflorescences at the white bud stage, taken from the middle section of 8-10 fruiting shoots (previous year's growth) chosen from the most representative shoots on the south-facing side of the tree; (b) the average number of flowers per inflorescence, determined from the same inflorescences.

Length:

<i>Short</i>	(<25 mm)
<i>Medium</i>	(25-35 mm)
<i>Long</i>	(>35 mm)

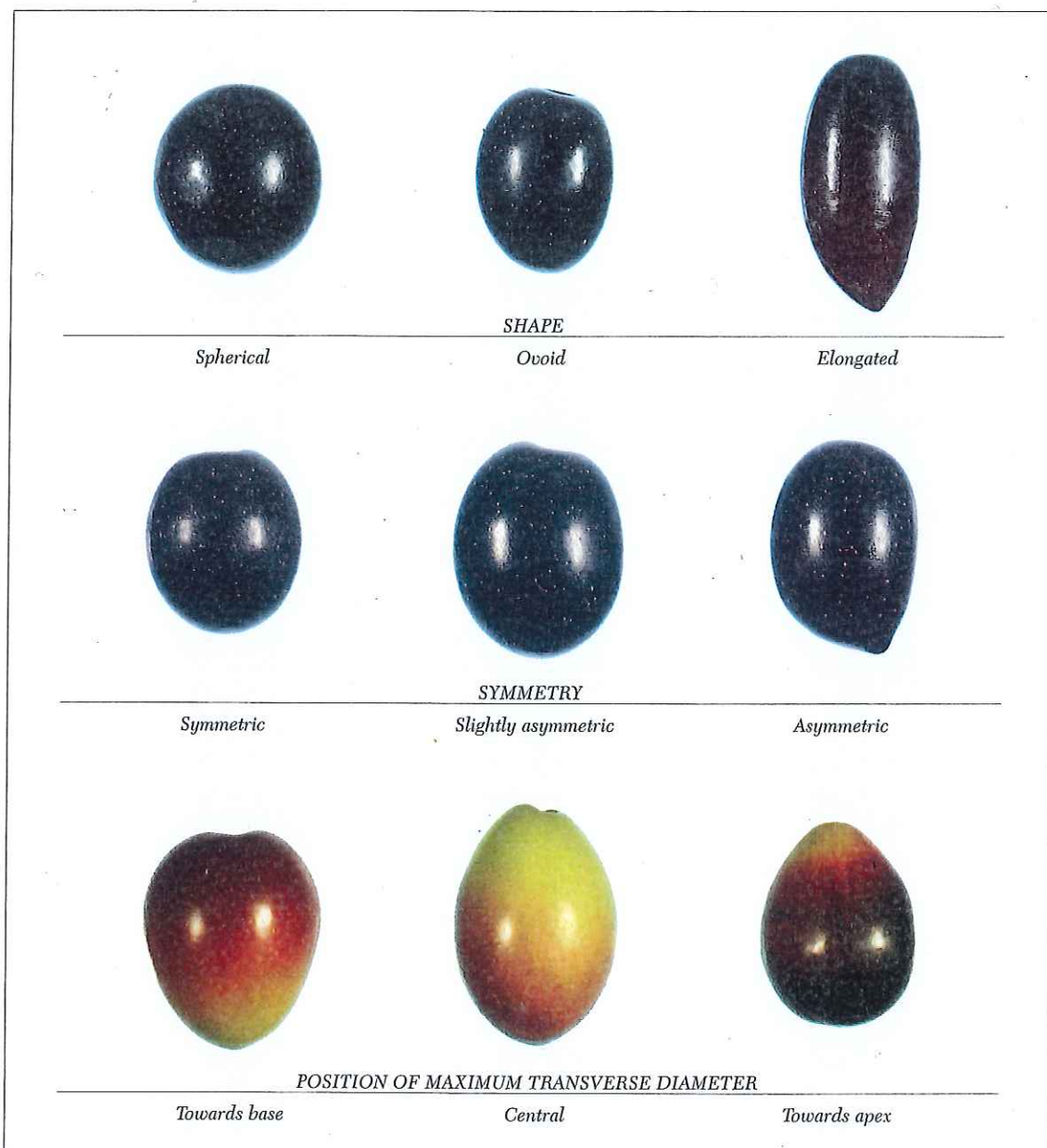
Number of flowers/inflorescence:

<i>Low</i>	(<18 flowers)
<i>Medium</i>	(18-25 flowers)
<i>High</i>	(>25 flowers)

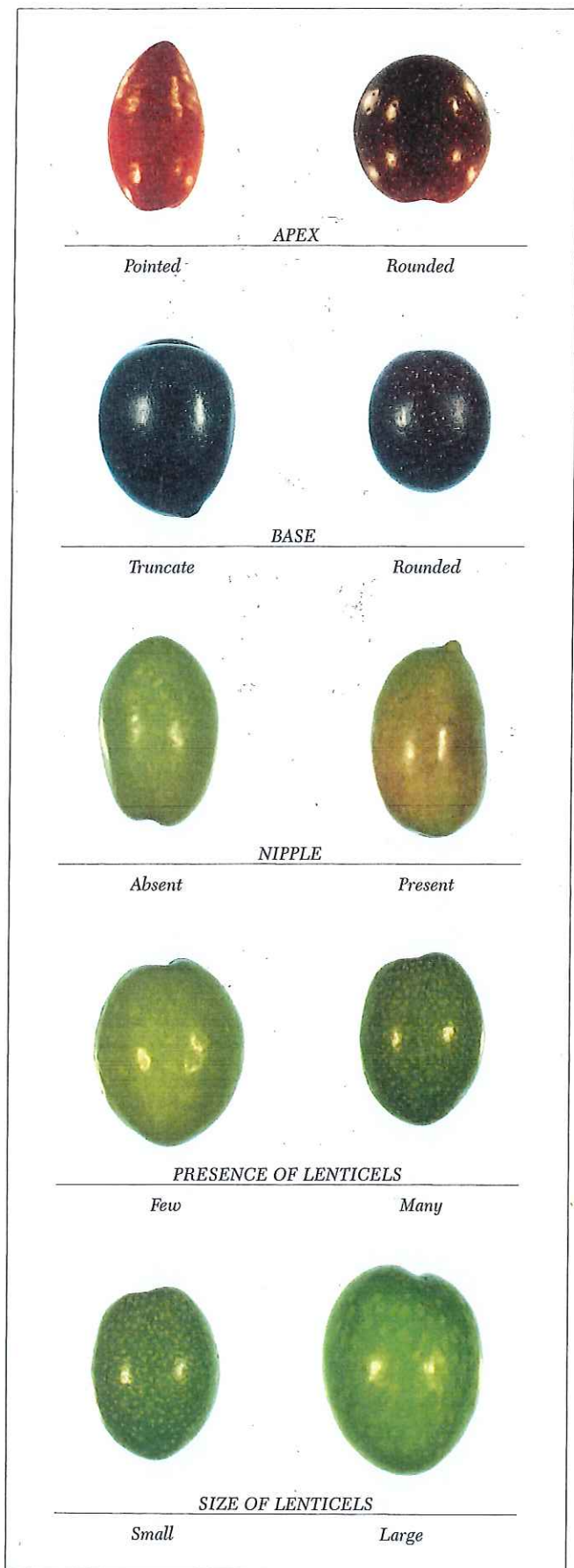
Characters of the fruit

These characters are determined in a sample of 40 fruits taken from the middle section of fruiting shoots chosen from the most representative shoots on the south-facing side of the tree. Fruits with malformations or very small or very large fruits with respect to the population as a whole are discarded from the sample.

The fruit is described when colour change is completed.



From 'World Catalogue of Olive Varieties' IOOC, 2000



For some characters, reference is made to two positions of the fruit when viewed longitudinally. Position "A" is the position in which the fruit shows the greatest asymmetry when held by either end between the index finger and thumb. Position "B" is reached by turning the fruit 90° in such a way as to present the most developed part to the observer.

Weight: The following categories have been defined on the assumption that each variety has been cultivated in the normal agronomic conditions for its growing area:

- Low (<2 g)
- Medium (2-4 g)
- High (4-6 g)
- Very high (>6 g)

Shape (in position A): This is determined from the ratio between the length (L) and width (W):

- Spherical (L/W <1.25)
- Ovoid (L/W 1.25-1.45)
- Elongated (L/W >1.45)

Symmetry (in position A): This is determined by the extent to which the two longitudinal halves match:

- Symmetric
- Slightly asymmetric
- Asymmetric

Position of maximum transverse diameter of the fruit with respect to the stalk (in position B):

- Towards base (positioned towards stalk)
- Central
- Towards apex

Apex (in position A):

- Pointed
- Rounded

Base (in position A):

- Truncate
- Rounded

Nipple: This characteristic of the tip of the fruit style may be:

- Absent
- Present

Presence of lenticels: The characters of the lenticels are determined when the fruit is fully developed but still green. They are inspected visually and there may be:

- Few
- Many

Size of lenticels: When compared with other cultivars they may be:

- Small
- Large

The characteristics of the lenticels are listed together in the varietal fact cards in the catalogue.

Characters of the endocarp (stone)

The endocarp is the internal, woody part of the fruit that encloses the seed and that is used for the structural observations whereas the term stone refers to the endocarp and seed together, which is used to determine the weight.

The description is carried out on the stones of the 40 fruits used as the sample for the carpological characteristics. As in the case of the fruit, reference is made to two positions in the case of some characters. Position "A" is normally the position of maximum asymmetry and it is the position at which the carpel suture faces the observer. Position "B" is reached by turning the fruit 90° in such a way as to present the most developed part to the observer. On the whole, the characters of the endocarp are very discriminating in identifying the varieties.

Weight: The following categories have been defined on the assumption that each cultivar has been cultivated in the normal agronomic conditions for each growing area:

- Low* (<0.3 g)
- Medium* (0.3-0.45 g)
- High* (>0.45 g)

Shape (in position A): This is determined from the ratio between the length (L) and width (W):

- Spherical* (L/W <1.4)
- Ovoid* (L/W 1.4 <1.8)
- Elliptic* (L/W 1.8-2.2)
- Elongated* (L/W >2.2)

Symmetry (in position A): This is determined from the extent to which the two longitudinal halves match:

- Symmetric*
- Slightly asymmetric*
- Asymmetric*

Position of maximum transverse diameter of the stone with respect to the stalk insertion point (in position B):

- Towards base* (positioned towards insertion point)
- Central*
- Towards apex*

Apex (in position A):

- Pointed*
- Rounded*

Base (in position A):

- Truncate*
- Pointed*
- Rounded*

