



AUSTRALIAN OLIVE
ASSOCIATION LTD

AOA Update

Australian Olive Association news and events

The "AOA Update" is a periodic e-newsletter from the AOA Board to keep AOA members and the wider olive industry up-to-date with the strategic and operational aspects of the Association. Feedback is encouraged via email to secretariat@australianolives.com.au.

President's Message



Dear Members,

We continue to operate in a COVID 19 restricted society, particularly in the Eastern states, where we must adapt our lives both personally and in our olive businesses. Some producers have had to adapt, however possible, to sometimes very difficult circumstances. It is positive to see the "roadmaps" for a largely vaccinated population providing a return to some normality in coming months. The recovery of market opportunities, freedom of movement, labour access and more will be of great benefit to the industry.

The Board continues to meet via video meetings, with our engagement with government agencies also naturally continuing electronically.

As you are aware, the conference is online this year. With a relevant and timely program promising to be well received. Register now if you have not already.

AIOA judging proceeded and the results are being collated. With a solid number of entries, this truly international competition is set to profile the medallists' who are producing outstanding EVOO and olive products. Don't forget to register for the online awards presentation either. Get your bubbles ready for a celebration in the comfort of your own home.

The team are working hard, with the conference and final technical webinars, Codex representations, UKFTA, consultations with HIA, PHA et al.

And while mentioning the team, the AOA is this month seeing the retirement of Peter McFarlane. Peter attended his last board meeting as an ex officio in August, and on behalf of the Board of directors and from the entire membership, I would very sincerely like to thank Peter for his most valuable contributions. Peter is leaving a legacy, not only to the membership but to the Australian industry.

Peter's accomplishments for the industry have included work in Biosecurity, *OliveCare*, the industry levy, market surveillance, chemical and organic registrations and permits. His communications and especially the *OliveCare* newsletter have been technical and accurate, detailed, comprehensive and widely well received. We look forward to the 2022 conference, where hopefully Peter can join us for a personal thank you.

And finally, since I last wrote to you in June, the Australian industry has had the news of the public listing of Cobram Estate Olives Ltd. We wish Australia's largest producer all the best with this change.

As we get well into spring growth with flowering looming, pruning tasks still to do, fertiliser and irrigation requirements to contemplate, I wish all our members the very best.

Regards
Mike Thomsett

CEO's Message

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our lives through lockdowns, border closures and having to change the way we do business. In the June AOA Update I indicated that I was looking forward to meeting as many members as I could after harvest. These plans have been postponed while I have been in lock down in Sydney, but technology has made it possible to e-meet many people and virtually attend meetings and award presentations such as the Australian Golden Olive Awards.



For the second year running the AOA National Olive Conference and Trade Exhibition will be replaced by an online event using the same successful format used last year. Third time lucky for the conference to be held in Devonport next year! See below for details on the 2021 program and registration.

The AIOA competition has had to cater for judges in lockdown, border closures and the challenges of sending samples internationally. I would like to thank all the producers who entered the competition this year and the judges and organisers for their on-going commitment during challenging circumstances. More information below.

The Healthy and Productive Groves Regional Olive Grove Day which was scheduled to be held this month in the NSW Riverina has been postponed until next year.

Don't forget to register yourself, family and friends for the Guinness World Record Attempt at the most people online for an olive oil tasting. This is a terrific opportunity to promote Australia as a premium EVOO producer and to raise awareness of the health benefits of EVOO. AOA members receive a 50% discount off the registration price. Register at <https://cobramestate.com.au/virtual-tasting> using the promo code AOA.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Peter MacFarlane who is retiring at the end of this month. Peter has been an absolute stalwart in all things quality related and technical for AOA and particularly for getting me up to speed in the important areas of the *OliveCare®* Code of Practice, Olive Biosecurity and Olive Agrichemical permits. Peter's dedication to producing results and his comprehensive communication documents have placed AOA in a very strong position to build on the productivity growth and quality focus that the industry has already achieved. Peter, we wish you well in retirement and thank you for your service.

Michael Southan

Advocacy and Representation

Hort Innovation Australia

AOA has been interviewed to provide feedback on how HIA can do things better. The outcomes of the interview will be used to develop a preliminary report setting out views on the roles and responsibilities for HIA and Peak Industry Bodies (PIBs) such as AOA, plus the advice mechanism. Our key messages were:

- HIA's role is facilitation and administration of levy funded programs
- The role of the PIBs is to:
 - represent growers and industry stakeholders and advocate their views to government and RDCs
 - promote the industry.
 - help the industry grow.
- The advice mechanism to HIA needs to be transparent and timely.

Australia-UK FTA Update

A presentation by the British Chambers of Commerce recently indicated that from their perspective the agreement with Australia is still under negotiation with broad terms agreed by both sides. There is no indication yet as to when the agreement will be finally signed.

International Olive Council

AOA has been approached by the International Olive Council (IOC) to provide feedback on a proposed generic olive oil marketing campaign in Australia funded by the IOC. The key message provided to the

AOA Activities and Initiatives

Board Nominations

The AOA Director nomination process has commenced. The Directors who will retire at the 2021 AGM are Kent Hallett (nominated from SA), Mick Ryan (nominated from WA) and Paul Miller (nominated from LEG group). Director nomination forms have been emailed directly to financial AOA members in each relevant state. If you have not received an email, email secretariat@australianolives.com.au.

2021 AOA Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty-Sixth AGM of the **Australian Olive Association Ltd** will be held on Thursday 14 OCT 2021, 11.30am via ZOOM (link to be advised to registered members via email on Wednesday 13 October). Agenda as follows:

1. Welcome & Apologies
2. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting
3. President's Report
4. Chief Executive Officer Report
5. Financial Report
6. Declaration of Directors 2020/21
7. Member Discussion - detailed questions should be submitted to the CEO before COB Friday 8 October to allow adequate time to formulate responses. There will be time made available for more general questions on the day. However, questions requiring a detailed response will be taken on notice and responded to after the AGM.
8. Close of meeting

Only financial members of the AOA are entitled to attend the AGM.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

2021 Australian International Olive Awards



The
AUSTRALIAN
INTERNATIONAL
Olive Awards

This year there has been a record number of entries for the Australian International Olive Awards. A total of 267 entries have been received across EVOO, flavoured oil and table olive categories and judging is under way. We look forward to hearing the results after the last day of the National AOA Olive Virtual Conference on Friday October 15 at 5.30 pm AEST.

AOA 2021 Virtual National Conference 12-15 October



The 2021 AOA National Olive Industry Virtual Conference will consist of four two-hour sessions held over four days at 3:00 – 5:00pm (AEST) each day from **Tuesday 12 October to Friday 15 October**.

The sessions will consist of informative presentations from experts with the chance to ask questions and contribute comments live.

Registration is required to attend the sessions. There is an option to register for all sessions or to register separately for each session.

Cost:

Members: Free

Non-Members: \$30 plus GST per session or register \$100 plus GST for all four sessions.

[Register](#)

AOA 2021 Technical Webinar series

Final days to register!

The following are the final technical webinars for 2021. Attending the live webinars will provide opportunities for Q&A directly with leading experts.

Cost: FREE

Format: 1 hour Zoom meeting - 30 minute presentation followed by a 30 minute interactive Q&A session, providing plenty of opportunity for people to clarify particular queries or issues.

Registration: all attendees must register to gain access. A link to the session will be provided to registrants upon registration. Register below.

A summary of the webinars are listed below.

Table olive cultivars with Professor Stan Kailis

28 September 2021, 12.30pm - 1.30pm
AEST

A presentation and discussion with WA olive specialist Stan Kailis around broadening the selection of Australian table olive cultivars including the outcomes of the AOA 2021 survey results on table olive varieties grown in Australia.





5 October 2021, 12.30pm - 1.30pm AEST

A discussion with olive oil specialist Jamie Ayton around the Effect of Storage Containers on Olive Oil Quality, including findings of a 2021 review of RIRDC Publications 09-160, and 12-008.

[Click here for the full details on all webinars and to register](#)

September 2021 *Olivegrower & Processor* out now – do you have a subscription?



The September 2021 edition of *Olivegrower & Processor* is out now!

The *Olivegrower & Processor* covers all facets of the olive growing and processing industry - it's a cover-to-cover read to support your olive business.

If you don't have a subscription (**\$40/year for AOA members**) or have received a renewal notice, click [here](#) or contact Liz secretariat@australianolives.com.au or 0478 606 145.

