2025/26 OOCC Voluntary Participation Form

Thank you for your interest in becoming a voluntary member of the Olive Oil Commission of California (OOCC). While participation in the OOCC sampling and testing program is mandatory for handlers who produce 5,000 gallons or more of olive oil, a less rigorous program was created for smaller producers who – on a voluntary basis – are committed to assigning and labeling grade(s) in alignment with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) grade and labeling standards: thereby encouraging a positive consumer experience and promoting California as a quality and trustworthy brand. Producers found to be in compliance with all voluntary membership requirements will be listed as a "Member in Good Standing" on the OOCC website and communications, receive a certificate verifying their status as a voluntary member of the OOCC, and are eligible to use the OOCC logo and approved language on packaging and marketing materials upon completion of the "Service Mark Agreement".

Note: For the 2025–2026 compliance year, voluntary members are not included in the CDFA Sampling and Testing Program and must conduct all required testing independently through an OOCC-approved accredited laboratory. The OOCC reserves the right to reinstate or require CDFA sampling in future seasons at its discretion.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTARY MEMBER OF THE OOCC, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM BY NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 30, 2025. ADDITIONAL PROGRAM MATERIALS AND DIRECTION WILL BE PROVIDED TO YOU ONCE THIS FORM IS RECEIVED BY THE OOCC.

BY EMAIL: ecranmer@calapple.org **BY FAX:** (559) 456-9099 **BY MAIL:** 2565 Alluvial Ave., Suite 152 Clovis, CA 93611

Company Name: _____

Contact: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

The above olive oil handler is requesting to be a voluntary member of the Olive Oil Commission of California. By signing and submitting this form, they agree to the following for the 2025/26 season:

a) *The handler agrees to contract an accredited independent laboratory to evaluate all lots of olive oil produced for the following quality parameters: Free Fatty Acid Content (FFA); Absorbency in Ultraviolet (K232, K270, and ΔK); and Organoleptic Analysis (MeD and MeF). The handler must provide copies of all Certificates of Analysis (COAs) issued by the laboratory for each lot of olive oil produced, as well as proof of the laboratory's accreditation. If the laboratory used is listed on the OOCC Approved Laboratory List available on the OOCC website, no additional accreditation documentation is required. If the laboratory is not listed, a copy of the laboratory's current accreditation certificate must be submitted with the form.*

b) *The handler agrees to submit all required documentation for the voluntary program, including completed Form A and Form B, along with laboratory reports verifying the test results for each lot of olive oil produced.*

c) *The handler acknowledges that, for the 2025–2026 compliance year, voluntary members are not included in the CDFA Sampling and Testing Program and are solely responsible for arranging and completing all required sampling and testing through an OOCC-approved accredited laboratory, as listed on the OOCC website* Accredited Laboratory Directory*. The handler agrees to test every lot of olive oil produced, including all chemical and sensory testing required under OOCC standards for voluntary members, and to submit all corresponding documentation and test results through a completed Form A. The handler further acknowledges that, while CDFA sampling is not part of the 2025–2026 voluntary membership process, the OOCC retains the authority to require or direct CDFA sampling in future seasons at its discretion. The handler agrees to grade and label all olive oil in accordance with CDFA grade and labeling standards.*

d) *The handler agrees to pay an assessment fee calculated by taking the current assessment rate of $0.16 per gallon multiplied by the quantity of olive oil produced (gal).*

e) *The program applies only to 100% California olive oils.*

Signature: _____

Title: _____