

Olives to Oil

How to get involved



DO you have an olive tree waiting to be picked?

Time is of the essence - plan your harvest for the weekend of the **25th/26th May**

Please don't pick any earlier as your olives will spoil and may affect the golden liquid!



DON'T have an olive tree but want to help with the harvest?

Take a walk around your neighbourhood - are there olive trees on the streets? What about in your neighbours' gardens?

Have a look at www.ripenear.me to see if there are any olives in your area.



PERMISSION - olive trees planted in nature strips and public parks are community trees and you are free to harvest them.

Bear in mind that if they're planted in front of someone's house, they might be loved and cared for by the residents. You can still harvest the olives, but leave some on the tree and if you see anyone at home, say hello and let them know about the project.

Of course, any trees planted in private gardens are private property, but very often people are more than happy to share, particularly if you offer to help them with the harvest. If you feel comfortable, knock on the door and ask!



******We always advise that you go with a friend when picking fruit or knocking on doors - they can help carry the load and it's much more fun with company! Be open and friendly with passers-by and residents, and take care of your safety when working near roads.



HARVESTING

HOW do I pick them?

You can pick the olives once some have started to turn black. There will be a range of ripeness across the tree - you can pick them all (discard any that seem damaged).



You can:

- > pick the olives by hand individually or in handfuls (better for a smaller tree/fewer olives)
- > spread a tarpaulin or old sheet on the ground and shake the branches or use a rake to pull the olives down from the tree, then collect them up from the sheet at the end
- > if you're confident, prune out branches that need to be cut anyway and strip the olives off them once they're on the ground

Using a ladder can be effective to reach those higher branches - but make sure it's stable and ask someone to hold it steady while you're up there!



WHAT to bring with you

- Cloth or plastic bags
- Rake and tarpaulin or old sheet (see above)
- A ladder if you feel comfortable
- Warm clothes/sun protection
- Water to drink
- A friend!



DELIVER to 3000acres

25th May 10:00-12:30 - Ashburton Community Garden, Markham Avenue Reserve,
Ashburton

25th May 2:00-4:30 - St James Park, Burwood Road,
Hawthorn

25th or 26th May ANYTIME - 51 Clarke St,
Northcote

****If you need to drop olives off olives on your own time on the 25th or 26th May, they need to go to our Volunteer House at 51 Clarke St, Northcote. Remember, please don't pick before the 25th. If you can't find us on the day call **0402 496 217****



HOW MUCH oil will I get back?

The olive oil is FREE and we will distribute back to you the equivalent amount that you harvested (we weigh your olives when you deliver them). Your oil will be available for collection the weekend following the harvest.



Questions? email us here hello@3000acres.org