

ASPECTS CONCERNING TO THE EXPORT OF OLIVE OIL

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MOSH AND MOAH

Minerals oils are nowadays ubiquitous contaminants in the environment: they may migrate into food in several ways:

- agronomic techniques
- production processes
- storage

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over the last few years, attention to mineral oils by large retailers has increased (specially German retailers):

- purchase specifications in commercial relationship
- different purchase specifications depending on the supermarket chain

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It is certainly acceptable to include in the commercial relationship restrictive limits respect the legal limits to improve the quality of the product; in the case of MOSH and MOAH the limits are really restrictive and sometimes not justified.



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CONSEQUENCE

difficulty in finding compliant raw materials having to analyze mineral oils, also considering the many other parameters present in the specifications.

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PURCHASE SPECIFICATIONS

Limits imposed by the specifications:

- criteria used
- reasons for the choice: different limits based on the length of the chain of carbon atoms taken into consideration.

ANALYTICAL METHODS

In July 2017 it was published a standardised method for quantification MOSH and MOAH (DIN EN 16955:2017).

This method was validated in a ring test: LOQ for MOSH and MOAH is 10 mg/Kg.

ANALYTICAL METHODS

At the moment we do not know if the German laboratories use the same method, this involves:

- time to perform analysis
- repeatability problems
- reproducibility problems

CONCLUSIONS

- standardised european method LOQ for MOSH and MOAH is higher than specification limits
- uncertain of measures is high for MOSH and MOAH analysis, specially for low contents of mineral oils: risk of discarding high quality raw material (e.g. limit MOSH C17-C35 is 4,0 mg/Kg, analysis result 4,3 mg/Kg).

CONCLUSIONS

- analysis time, 7 working days after the receivement of the sample.
- the companies, at the time of purchase, don't know if the product complain specification until to receive analysis results from various laboratories.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION