

Third edition of the competition comes to an end in Melbourne, Australia. Next appointment in Japan in 2017

SOL D'ORO SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE - THE WINNERS: AUSTRALIA, CHILE AND ARGENTINA TAKE TOP THREE PLACES

Melbourne - **Australia**, **9 September 2016**. Leontyna by Australian producer Paringa Ridge, Alonso Obsession by Chilean company Agricola Pobena and Trilogia by Argentinean company Trilogia are the winners of the Sol d'Oro Southern Hemisphere 2016 competition held in Melbourne, Australia, respectively in the delicate fruity medium, fruity and intense fruity categories.

The jury of the Veronafiere competition dedicated to olive oils produced south of the Equator also award Sol Silver and Sol Bronze medals in the three competition categories.

The Australia swept the board in the delicate fruity category, while Chile, Australia and South Africa came out on top in the medium fruity category: the podium for intense fruity oils was a South American affair with Argentina and Chile.

«Sol d'Oro,» said Maurizio Danese, President of Veronafiere, «is a contest that rewards excellence. Yet it also seeks to be an incentive towards improvement in quality through comparison with producers from all countries taking part in the competition. A positive example of how a competition can generate added value for all participants - and not only the winners - since the aim is to continue progress in a sector characterised by a niche market that is nevertheless expanding worldwide».

On the same day as the announcement of the winners, three seminars are also scheduled to analyse business opportunities for Australian olive oil on international markets. These include a focus on Japan, a country considered to be one of the most interesting markets for high quality exports, and another detailing attendance at Sol&Agrifood, the International Exhibition of Quality Agro-Foods held at Veronafiere (9-12 April 2017- www.solagrifood.com), which in 2016 attracted 56,000 professional visitors from 82 countries.

Oils winning awards at Sol d'Oro Southern Hemisphere will be entitled to affix the Sol d'Oro, Sol d'Argento and Sol di Bronzo "quality stickers" acknowledged on an international scale; they will be presented, together with the winners of the Sol d'Oro Northern Hemisphere awards in December 2017, to international buyers at the Oil Bar during the next edition of Sol&Agrifood - and included in the "Sol d'Oro" Stellar Guide published every year by Veronafiere and distributed to buyers and journalists arriving in 2016 from 80 countries.

Business promotions focusing on the award-winning olive oils also include a dedicated showcase during Olive Oil Kansai 2016 International Exhibition in Osaka 18-20 October, thanks to an agreement between the Japanese exhibition centre and Veronafiere. The Land of the Rising Sun will also host the 2017 edition of Sol d'Oro Southern Hemisphere.

The competition in Melbourne was held thanks to the sponsorship of the Government of Victoria (Vic Gov), the patronage of the Italian Consulate and the collaboration of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Melbourne.

Sol d'Oro Southern Hemisphere 2017 - The Winners

DELICATE FRUITY

GOLD SOL D'ORO - Paringa Ridge — Australia — Leontyna
SILVER SOL D'ORO - Bylands Estate — Australia - Family selection
BRONZE SOL D'ORO — Nullamunjie — Australia - Nullamunjie

SPECIAL MENTION

Lentara Grove – Australia - Frantoio Premium Reserve Yellingbo Gold – Australia - Yellingbo Gold La Reserva de Llancay Ltda – Chile - Baga' Morgenster Estate – South Africa - Morgenster Agroland s.a. – Uruguay - Corte Italiano Gabriëlskloof – South Africa - Gabriëlskloof Comercial e Industrial Soho s.a. – Chile - Olave organico

MEDIUM FRUITY

GOLD SOL D'ORO - Agricola Pobena s.a. – Chile - Alonso Obsession

SILVER SOL D'ORO - Taralinga Estate Olive Grove – Australia – Blend (Koroneiki, Hojiblanca etc.)

BRONZE SOL D'ORO - Rio Largo Olive Estate – South Africa - Premium Blend

SPECIAL MENTION

Terramater S.A. – Chile – Petralia
Agroland s.a. – Uruguay- Olio Novo 2016
Willow Creek – South Africa - Director's Reserve
Camilo Enterprises – Australia - Classic Ligurian
Empresas Carozzi s.a. – Chile- Intenso
Comercial e Industrial Soho s.a. – Chile - Sol de Aculeo blend
Snowy Mountain Extra Virgin Olive Oil – Australia - Smevoo

INTENSE FRUITY

GOLD SOL D'ORO – Trilogia – Argentina - Trilogia SILVER SOL D'ORO - Agricola Pobena s.a. – Chile- Alonso Coratina BRONZE SOL D'ORO - Olivos Ruta del Sol S.A. – Chile - Deleyda Premium

SPECIAL MENTION

Cobram Estate – Australia - Hojiblanca Taralinga Estate Olive Grove – Australia - Picual Rio Largo Olive Estate – South Africa - Extra Virgin

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