

Sebastopol's Gold Ridge Organic Farms wins top honors

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The results are in. A whopping 45 olive oils were entered in the Harvest Fair's annual Olive Oil Competition. Ten different varieties were represented, producers from four local regions were on display, 15 Double Gold medals and 17 Golds were bestowed upon the top winners.

A select team of judges spent a full day evaluating each entry based on sensory attributes, quality and adherence to very specific category standards. The oil that came out on top and took home the fair's highest honor with a Double Gold and Best of Show was a Picholine Blend EVOO from Sebastopol's Gold Ridge Organic Farms.

"We are blessed with one of the best growing environments for producing world class olive oils. It's gratifying that the judges appreciated the quality of our picholine extra virgin oil this year," said Brooke Hazen, Farmer/Owner of Gold Ridge Organic Farms.

Kudos to the following producers who all took home Double Golds for one or more entries: Orsi Family Vineyards (Blend), Il Fusti Olive Oil & Vinegar (Taggiasca, Jalapeno), Bricoleur Vineyards (Blend), Olive Truck (Picual, Arbequina, and Bergamot), Trattore Farms and Winery (Meyer Lemon, Valencia Orange, Basil and Jalapeno), and Olive Press (Jalapeno, Basil). A hearty congratulations to all who entered their well-crafted oils who by doing so, continue to elevate the caliber of the competition. To view the complete list of entrants, please visit harvestfair.org.

The Sonoma County Harvest Fair is also accepting entries for the Amateur Wine Competition (entry deadline Aug. 23) and the Professional Wine Competition (entry deadline Aug. 30). Judging will begin in September. To learn more, please visit <https://harvestfair.org>.

Food and wine lovers will get a chance to taste many of the award winners at the Harvest Fair's Taste, Toast & Celebrate! Saturday, Oct. 12, from 6-9 p.m., at the Grace Pavilion. Guests will be the first to learn which three wineries will take home top honors as the sweepstake winning wines will be unveiled for the first time at this coveted harvest celebration.

Tickets and information are available at <https://harvestfair.org>.