



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Olive oil

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Why is in news? The Olive Oil Capital of the World, Parched

Drought has ravaged dozens of crops throughout Europe: corn in Romania, rice in Italy, beans in Belgium, and beets and garlic in France.

Among the hardest hit is the olive crop of Spain, which **produces half of the world's olive oil**.

Olive oil is from olive crop, a traditional tree crop of the **Mediterranean Basin**, produced by pressing whole olives and extracting the oil.

It is commonly used in cooking: for frying foods or as a salad dressing.

It can be found in some **cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, soaps, and fuels for traditional oil lamps**. It also has additional uses in some religions.

The olive is one of three core food plants in Mediterranean cuisine; the other two are **wheat and grapes**.

Olive trees have been **grown around the Mediterranean since the 8th millennium BC**.

Spain accounts for almost half of global olive oil production; **other major producers are Portugal, Italy, Tunisia, Greece, Morocco and Turkey**.

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthy Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833**