



UNIVERSIDADE DE ÉVORA  
ESCOLA DE CIÊNCIAS E TECNOLOGIA  
DEPARTAMENTO DE ENGENHARIA RURAL



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## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

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## **Summary**

1. TESLA objectives
2. Olive oil mills energy consumption
3. Best practices for energy efficiency improvements
4. Success cases
5. Final considerations

## **OBJECTIVES of TESLA**

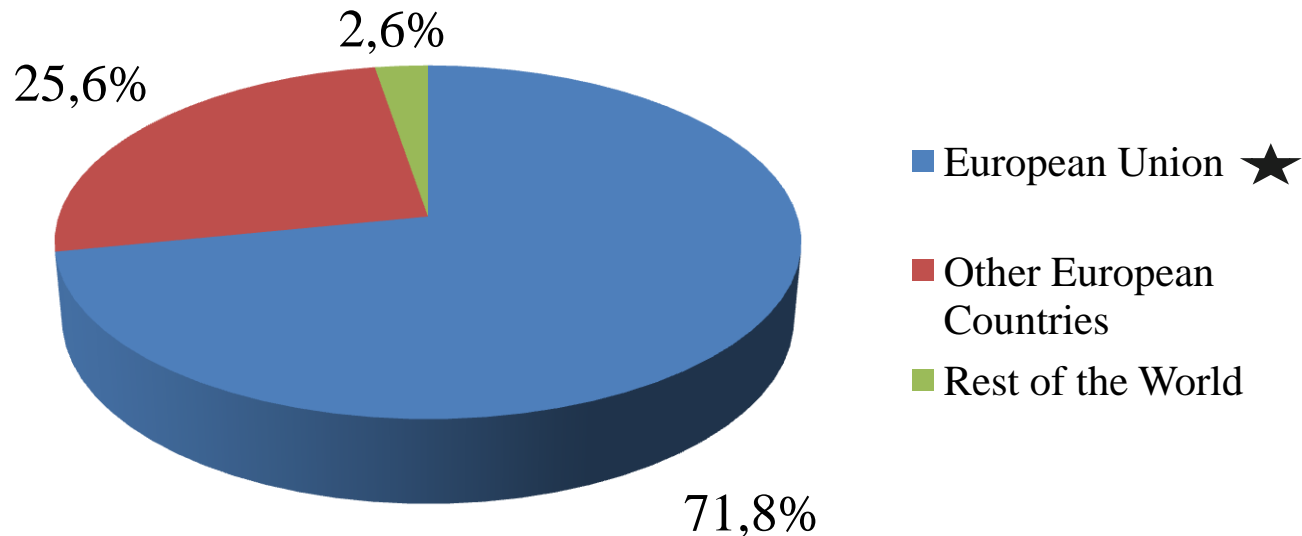
- increase access of agro-industries to energy efficiency measures
- to develop a management methodology for the agro-industry sector
- to promote investment in EE and renewable energies

# Olive oil mills energy consumption

## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

Near 95% of olive grove production is in the Mediterranean region.

### *Produção Mundial de Azeite (2010/11)*



Elaborated with data from IOC (2012)

★ Spain, Italy, France, Greece and Portugal

## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

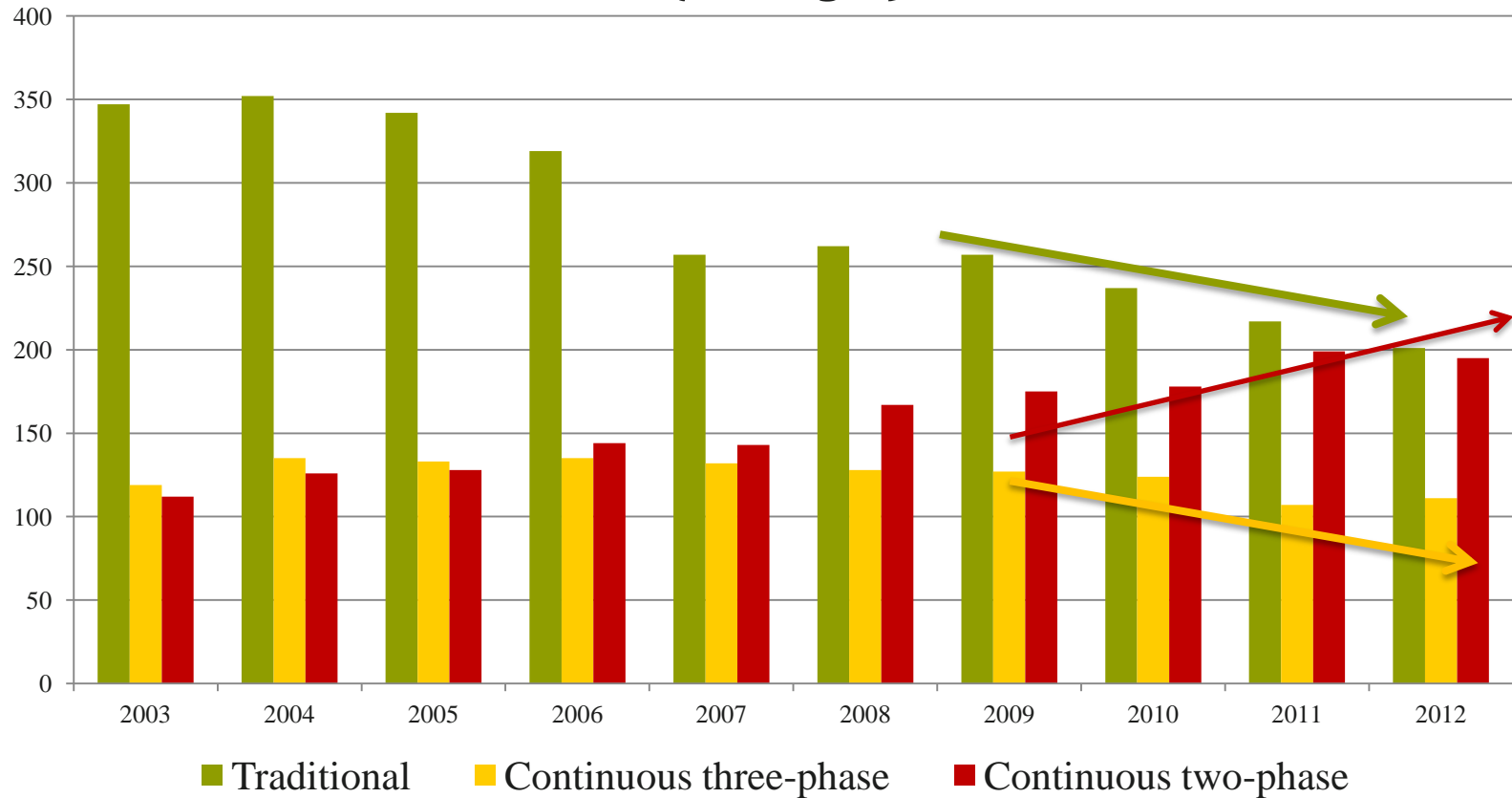
### Characteristics of the Olive Oil Sector

Olive Oil Sector - 2011	Portugal	Spain	France	Italy
Area olive groves for oil (ha)	338.048	2.584.564	55.000	1.144.400
Olives used for oil (ton)	510.733	7.820.000	16.740	3.122.500
Average productivity (kg olives/ha)	1.511	3.026	1.000	2.900
Olive mills in activity (nº)	527	1.750	254	4.809
Olive oil produced (ton)	76.200	1.651.000	3.200	464.900
Productivity (kg olive oil/ha)	227	639	58	406
Olive oil/Olives (%)	15	21	19	15
Olive oil consumption (ton)	78.000	574.000	112.000	610.000
Olive oil consumption per capita (kg)	7,4	12,3	1,7	10,3
Resident population	10.557.560	46.815.916	64.612.939	59.394.000

Source: INE (2012); IOC (2012); INEA (2012) and AFIDOL

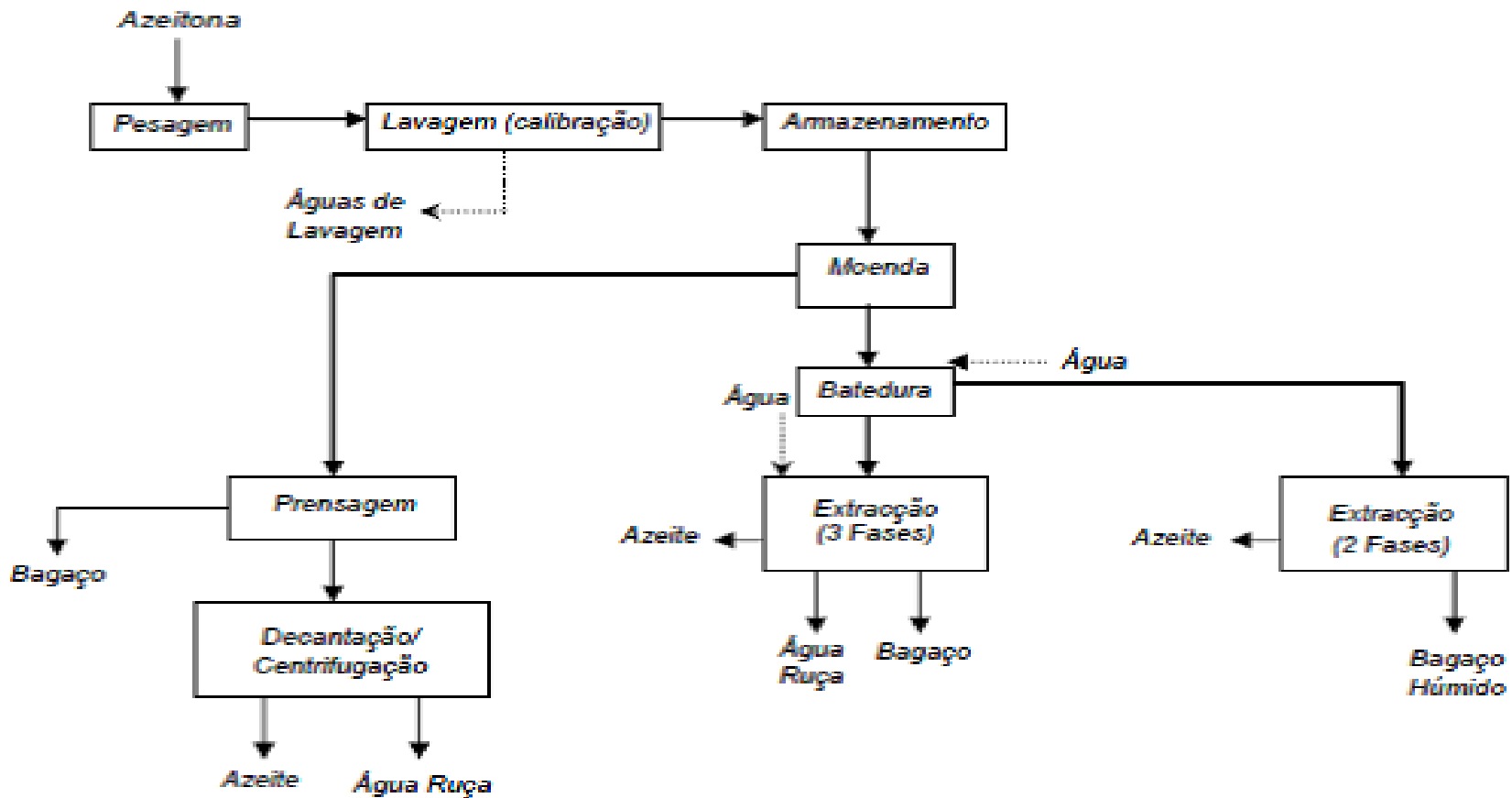
## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

### Number of olive mills with different olive oil extraction systems (Portugal)



Source: INE (2011)

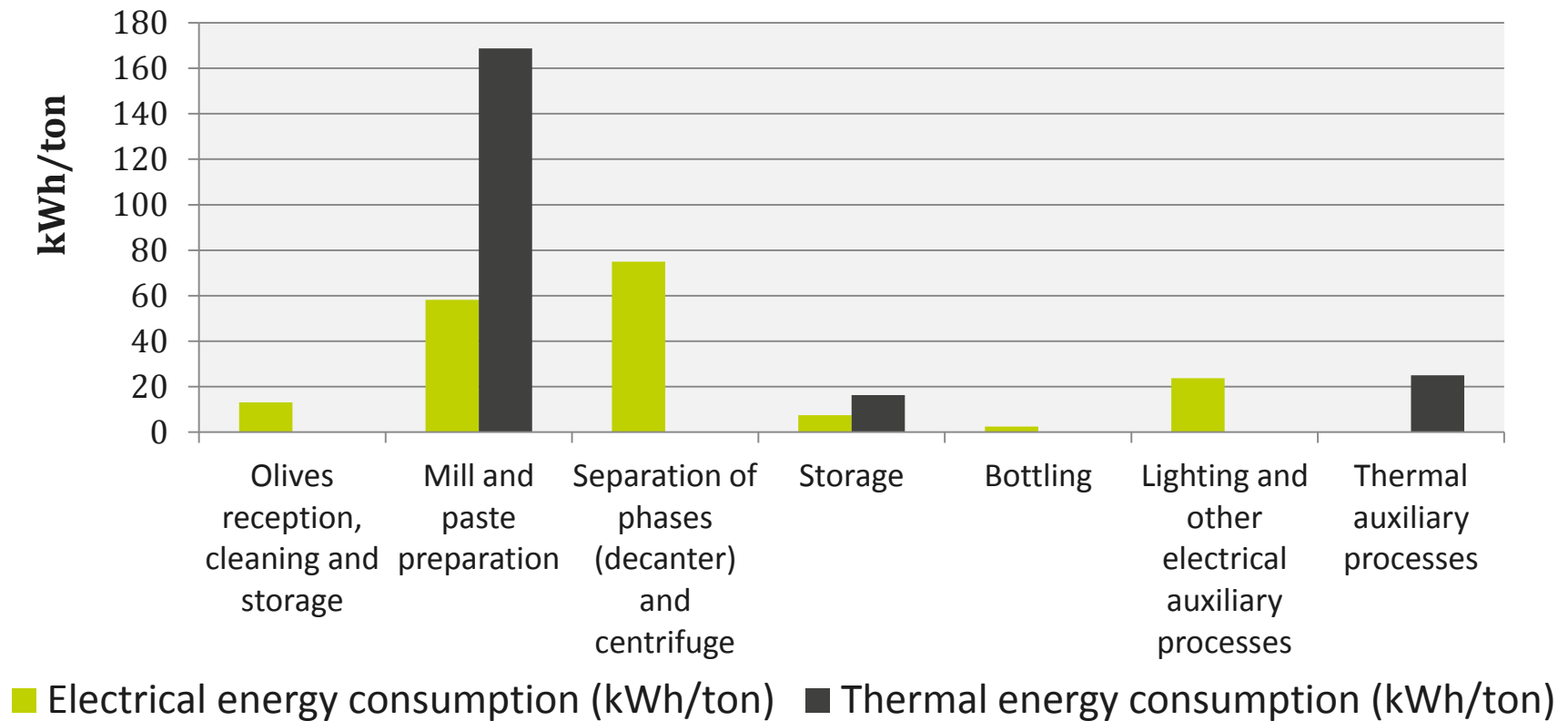
## Olive oil extraction processes





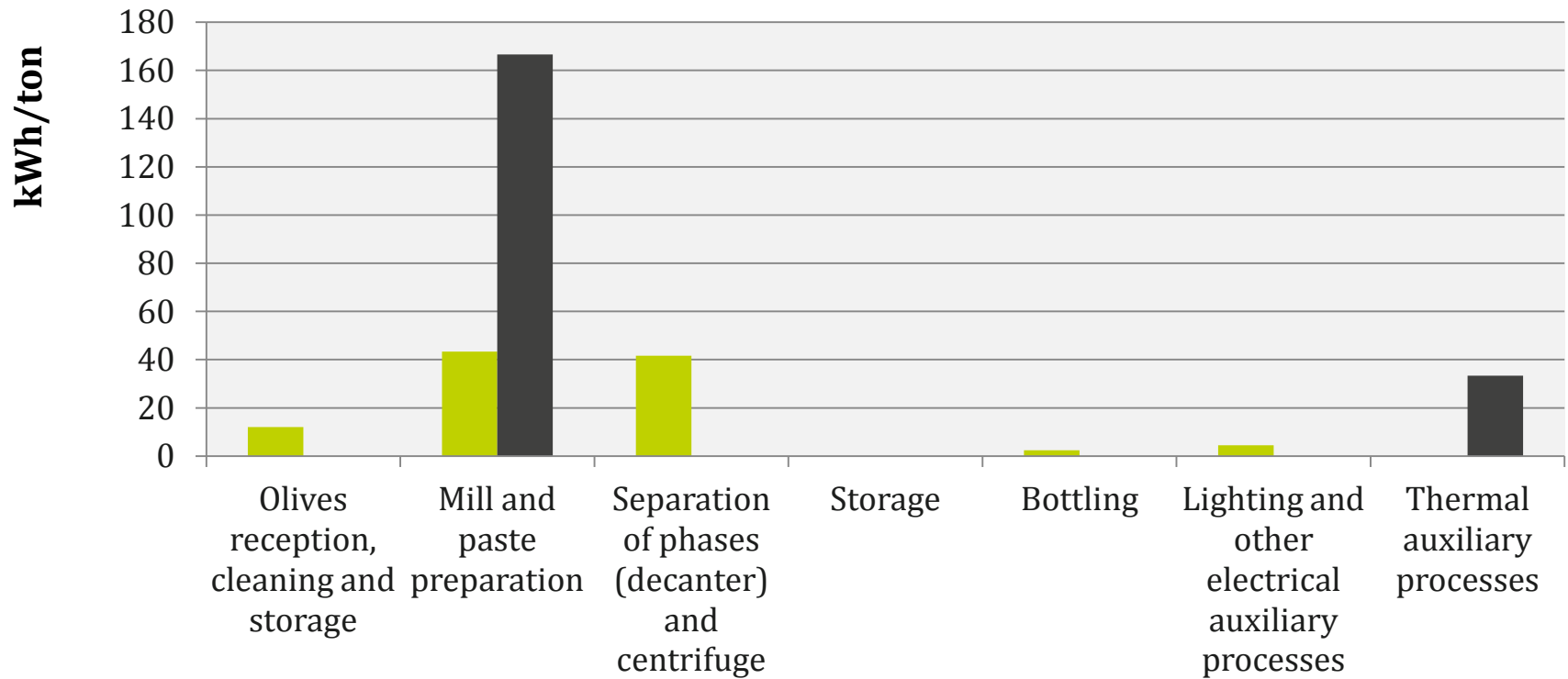
## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

### Energy consumption for olive oil production (example for a olive oil mill producing 1.600 ton of olive oil per year)



## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

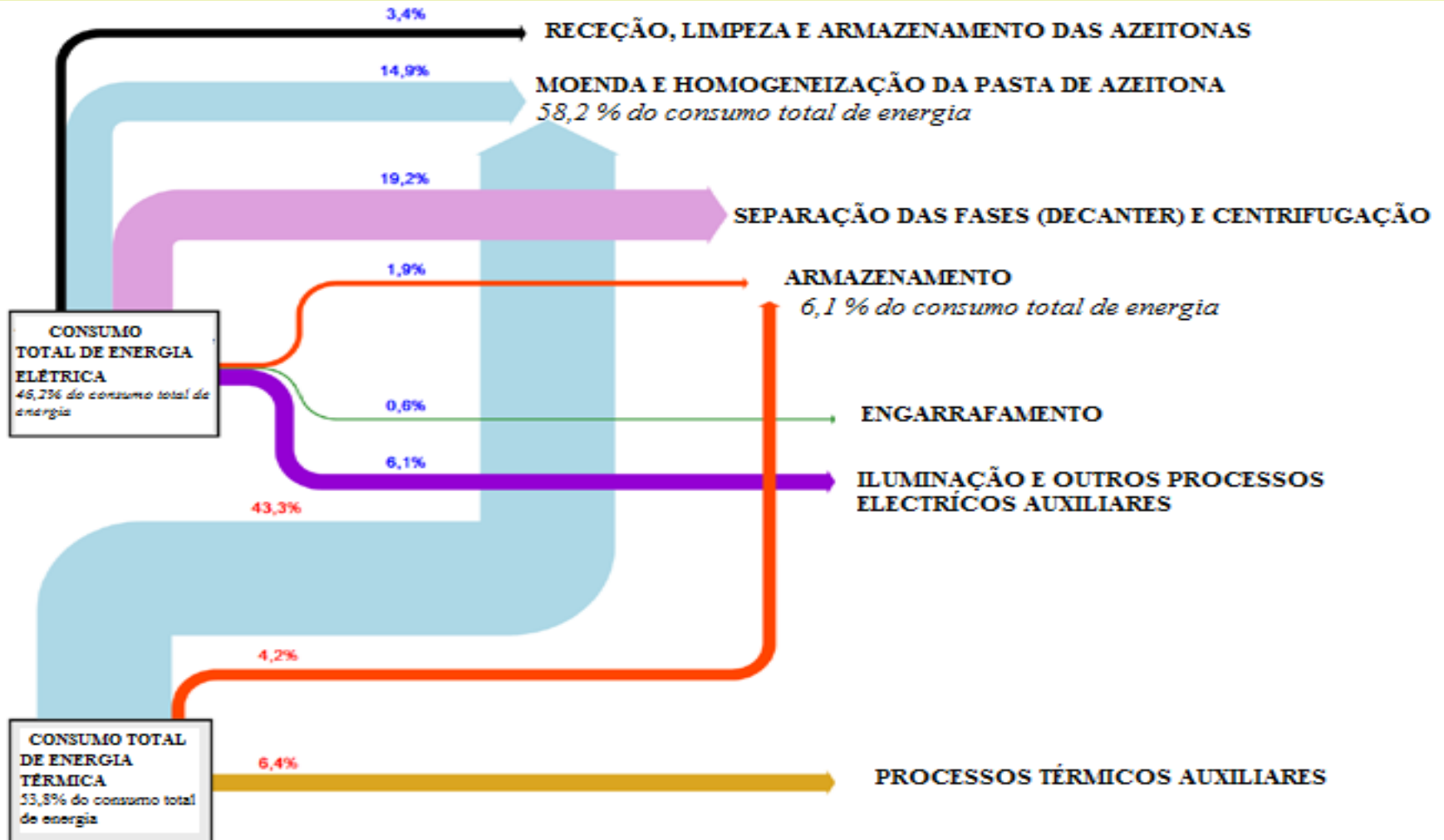
### Energy consumption for olive oil production (example for a olive oil mill producing 300 ton of olive oil per year)



■ Electrical energy consumption (kWh/ton) ■ Thermal energy consumption (kWh/ton)

## Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills

Energy Balance for the standard production industry of 1.600 tons of olive oil per year



# Best practices for improving energy efficiency

# Energy Efficiency Sustainable production

- Buildings
- General equipment
- Specific equipment
- Efficient management

## Building techniques

### *Energy Efficient Design*

- EED has been proven to be the most cost-efficient and attractive way to improve energy efficiency in industry achieving **savings up to 20–30 % of total energy consumption.**
- An important barrier against success is that manufacturers are conservative or unwilling to change a well-proven standard design and/or to update product guarantees, etc..

## Design of natural ventilation systems

- Ventilation allows controlling air properties such as temperature, humidity and air quality without any electricity demand.
- In olive oil mills, p.e., it is important to control air conditions in the bottling area in order to avoid condensation on the bottles surface causing problems with labelling.
- **Nat. ventilation saves between 13-44 kWh/m<sup>2</sup> annually (comparison with mechanical ventilation)**

### ***Materials for building industrial facilities***

- Choosing more sustainable materials implies considering the environmental properties (select those that are **abundant, non-toxic, have low embodied energy, and meet or exceed the regulations**) and the physical properties.
- **With good insulation and a suitable ventilation system, we can significantly decrease heat exchanges (losses or gains) and with that reduce air conditioning needs (cooling or heating).**

**Insulation of external walls : 33–60% energy savings**

**(Balaras et al., 2007)**



## General equipment

**Cold and heat**



**IEE > 3**



**COP > 4**

## Insulation of tubes transporting fluids

Potencial savings of 85% depending on the insulation level

**Motors and pumps with high efficiency**

**Design and motors control systems**

**Light**

LED - reduction of the needed power up to 65%.

## Specific equipment for olive oil mills

### *Biomass boilers*

Diesel boiler  Biomass boiler

**reduced from 46 €/MWh  
to 13 €/MWh**



## **Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills**

***Installation of Listello*** - With the same energy consumption it is possible to increase olive oil production up to 35%.

***Microwave radiation*** - Reduces the time (55 min to 30 min) during the malaxation of the olive paste to reach optimal temperature (28 ° C)

***Decanting tanks*** - Reduction in water consumption and a decrease in liquid effluents from oil washing process. 100% of energy savings are possible. Needs larger areas.

***Oleosim*** – similar to the previous but needs less area. Consumes approximately 96 % less energy than using vertical centrifuges.

## *Best practices for improving energy efficiency in Olive Oil Mills*

Two-phase system allows reducing waste water to 0,33-0,35 m<sup>3</sup>/t of olive oil comparing with the 6-8 m<sup>3</sup>/t of olive oil for the three-phase system and 2-5 m<sup>3</sup>/t of olive oil for the traditional extraction method.

In addition to the water saving, energy saving is about 20%.

## **Energy management**

ISO 50.001 : International norm for energy management

## **Renewable energy**

Solar – savings of 50 to 70% function of the location

Geothermal – high investment and availability

Cogeneration - olive oil mills sludge treatment: reductions in the primary energy demand (16%) as well as in the CO<sub>2</sub>eq emission. The main limitation of the combined heat and power (CHP) scheme is the economic viability, since a high simultaneous utilization of heat and power is required in most applications.

## ***Management - Bottling***

- Optimising packing line efficiency
- Use of in-line check-weights to prevent overfilling of packing

**In general, a systems approach for energy reduction, includes elimination of unnecessary processes and upgrading inefficient equipment**

## Success Cases



## **Cooperativa Agrícola de Olivicultores do Cano**

País: Portugal

Sector: **Lagares**

Medidas implementadas:

### **Alteração do sistema de extração, de 3 fases para 2 fases**

- a) Substituição da máquina de lavagem;
- b) Substituição do moinho de martelos;
- c) Substituição da batedeira (passou de 1.000 kg/h de massa a 7.000 kg/h);
- d) Eliminação de uma das centrifugas
- e) Substituição da caldeira por outra de maior potência e capacidade

## Cooperativa Agrícola de Olivicultores do Cano

País: Portugal

Sector: **Lagares**

Produto: Azeite

Produção: 344 ton (+156 ton)

Poupança Energética: **11.690<sup>(1)</sup>** kWh (**60,35 kWh/ton**)

Diminuição dos custos: **170<sup>(1)</sup>** €

Redução das emissões de CO<sub>2</sub>eq : **1<sup>(1)</sup>** ton (**23 kg CO<sub>2</sub>eq/ton**)

Investimento: 333.000 €

Período de retorno: 8

(1) A vermelho, representa um aumento no valor total de energia consumida. No entanto, por tonelada de produto produzido, tem os uma redução.

**Redução energética, de custos e de emissões de CO<sub>2</sub>**

## **S.C.A. Ntra. Sra. Del Carmen**

País: Spain

Sector: **Lagares**

- a) Substituição dos motores por outros mais eficientes
- b) Optimização das operações do lagar
- c) Substituição da centrífuga vertical por um tanque de sedimentação
- d) Instalação do Oleosim
- e) Isolamento de tubos
- f) Instalação de um sistema fotovoltaico

## **S.C.A. Ntra. Sra. Del Carmen**

País: Spain

Sector: **Lagares**

Produção: 4.500 ton

Poupança Energética total: 645.000 kWh (**143 kWh/ton**)

Diminuição dos custos: 86.000 €

Redução das emissões de CO<sub>2</sub>: 260 ton (**58 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/ton**)

Investimento: 1.000.000€

Período de retorno: 4,5 anos

**Redução energética, de custos e de emissões de CO<sub>2</sub>**

## Final considerations

Introduction of new technologies/modification of production processes.

- to change from the 3 to 2 phases
- substitution of hold equipment by more efficient new ones
- Automation systems
- substitution of lamps
- use of more efficient motors
- Period maintenance practices
- biomass use
- Management practices, etc.



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