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# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## Spanish olive growers claim first victory against U.S. duties

*Madrid.*—Spanish olive growers have claimed an important victory in a U.S. court, which could help lift some of the duties imposed by President Donald Trump's administration, Spain's olive exporters' association said yesterday. Spain is the world's largest olive and olive oil producing country. Its industry was hit hard when the U.S. Commerce Department imposed duties of around 35% on Spanish black olives in 2018 after concluding they were being sold too cheaply and benefited from unfair subsidies.

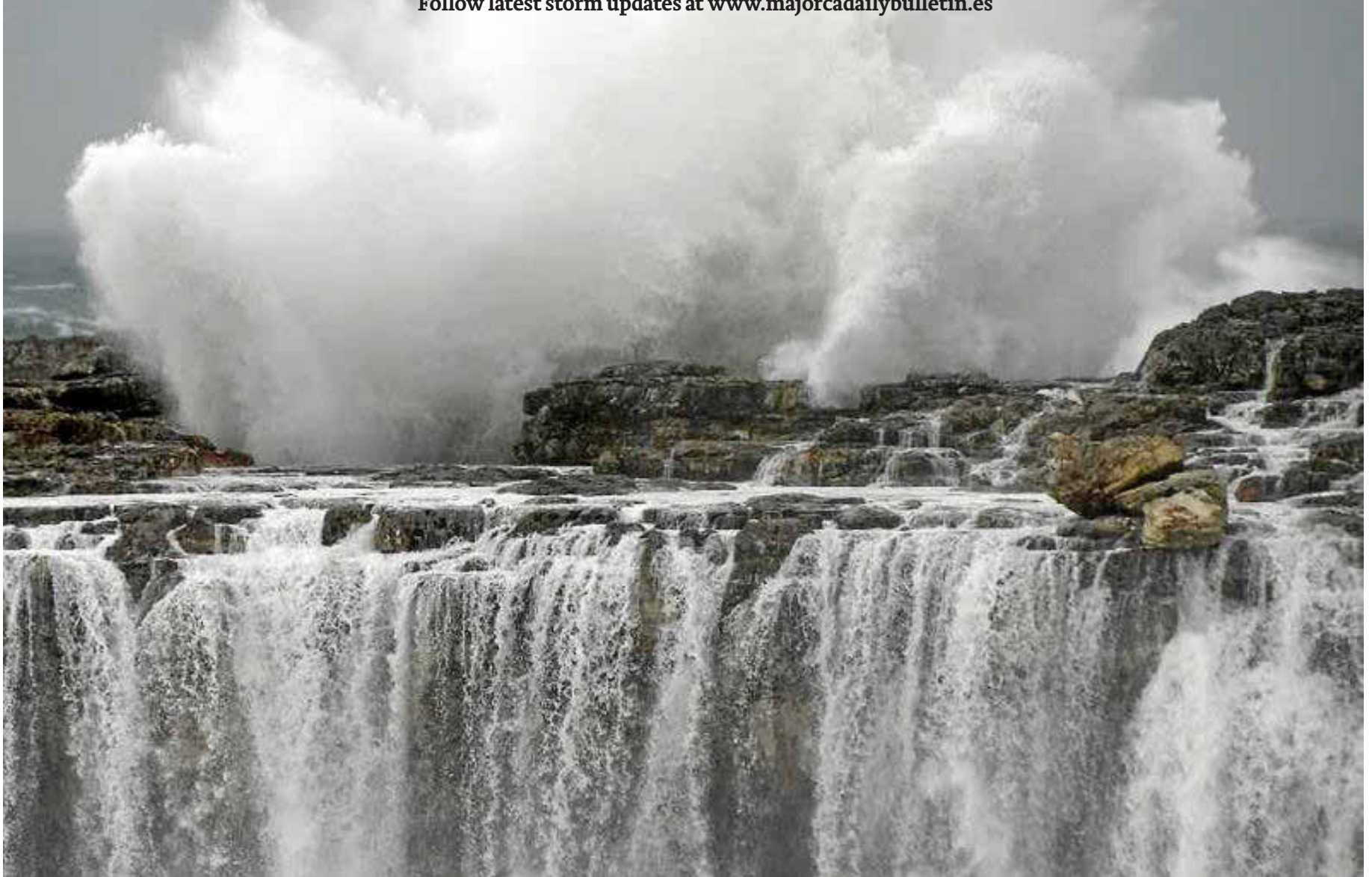
The European Union opened legal action against the duties at the World Trade Organization a year ago. The United States Court of

International Trade said in a ruling issued on Friday, and cited by the Spanish association Asemesa on Tuesday, that some of the Commerce Department's interpretations of the U.S. Tariff Act were arbitrary.

The court said subsidies on Spanish black olives were not specific and that the level of production of raw olives was dependent on weather rather than the demand from the food industry, contrary to the reasons the United States had cited when deeming the subsidies unfair. The court gave the Commerce Department 90 days to argue why the duties should be maintained at current levels. **See business**

● Stunning photograph taken by Joan Llado of the storms which hit the Cala Marcal area near Felanitx on Tuesday: See Report Inside.

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# IN THE EYE OF THE MAJORCAN STORM