



In ancient Greece there was a custom, only that the tree that was adorned was not a fir, but the Eyreesis, (hirion, wool). It was a large branch of olive (quinoa), decorated with garlands of white and red wool as well as the first autumn fruits (figs, walnuts, almonds, chestnuts, cereals, etc.), which were also collected after them. They tied them with a thread and hung them on its branches.

It was an expression of gratitude for the fertility of the expired year and a request for continued fertility and euphoria for the following year. Eiresioni was dedicated to Athena, Apollo and the Hours (Euphemia, Trial, Peace).

Each year, between September 22 and October 20, children of both parents living, marched on the streets of Athens and other ancient Greek cities, singing carols (calenda) from house to house, carrying the branch of olive with them. When they arrived home they hung the Eiresioni over their front door, where it stayed until the same day of the new year, so after placing the new one, they lowered the old one and burned it. Other children hung the Eiresioni over the door of the Sanctuary of Apollo.

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