



## GILTHEAD SEABREAM (*SPARUS AURATA*)



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### BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

- **Species description** ([Read more](#))

Gilthead seabream belongs to the family of *Sparidae*.

- **Geographical distribution and habitat** ([Read more](#))

Gilthead seabream lives in the Northeast and Eastern Central Atlantic, in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea as well as in Europe inland waters (i.e. coastal lagoons and saltwater ponds).

### RESOURCE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT

- **Stock and resource status/conservation measures** ([Read more](#))

Minimum conservation reference size is established at 20 cm in the Mediterranean fishing areas (i.e. fishing areas Western Mediterranean (37.1), Central Mediterranean (37.2) and Eastern Mediterranean (37.3)).

- **Production methods and fishing gears** ([Read more](#))

The main fishing gears used are gillnets and similar nets, hooks and lines, pots and traps, seines and trawls. The species is also massively produced in aquaculture, mostly in sea cages.

Source: [Information system on commercial designations](#)

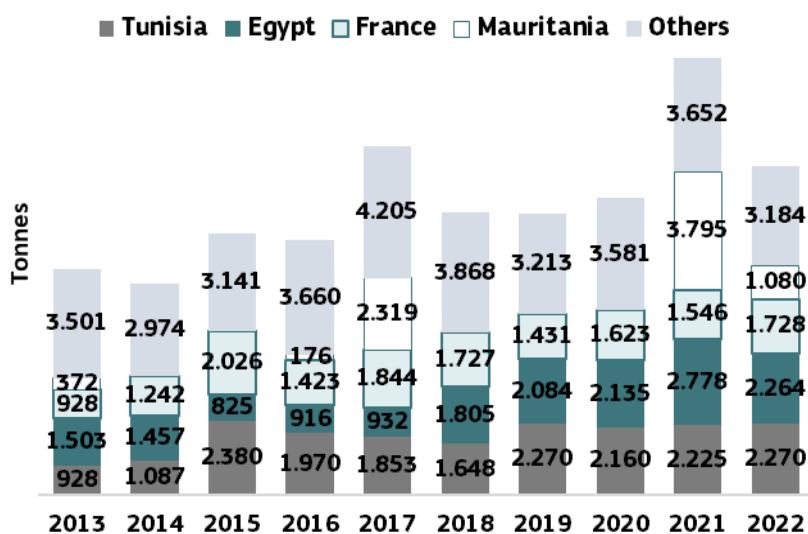
## Gilthead seabream



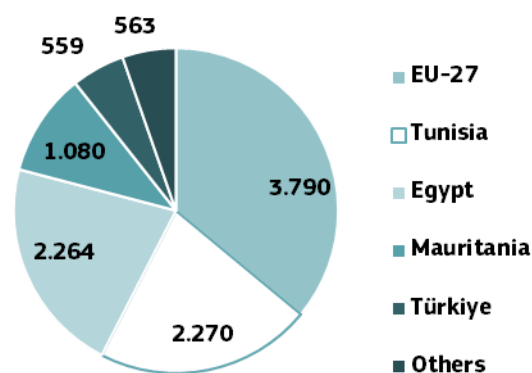
## CATCHES

- Global seabream catches was estimated at 10.526 tonnes in 2022, i.e. **0,01%** of total global catches.
- Main producers were Tunisia, Egypt, France and Mauritania. They contributed to 70% of the global production.

## Evolution of world catches



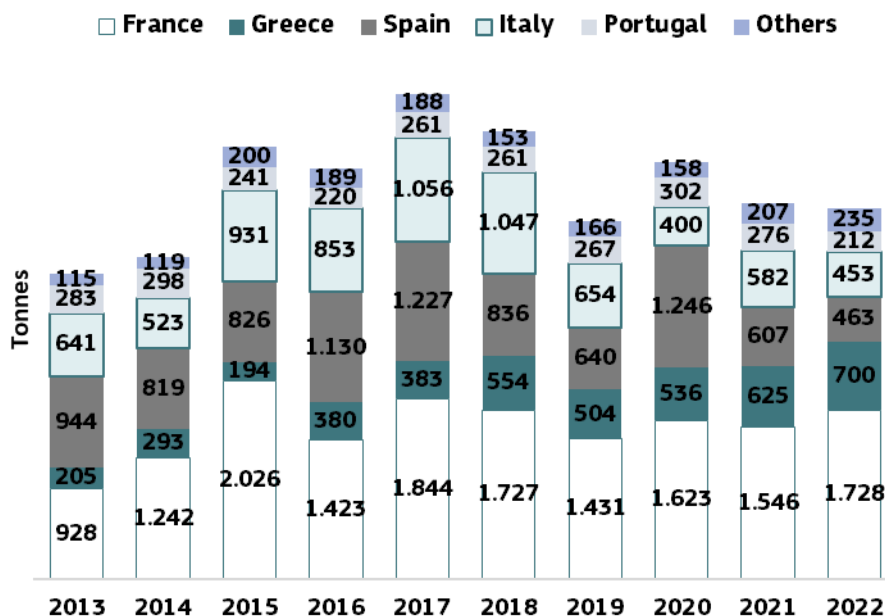
Catches (2022, tonnes)



Source: FAO

## Evolution of EU catches

- The EU provided **36%** of the global seabream catches in 2022. Main EU producers were France, Greece, Spain, and Italy (they together contributed to 88% of EU catches).



Source: FAO

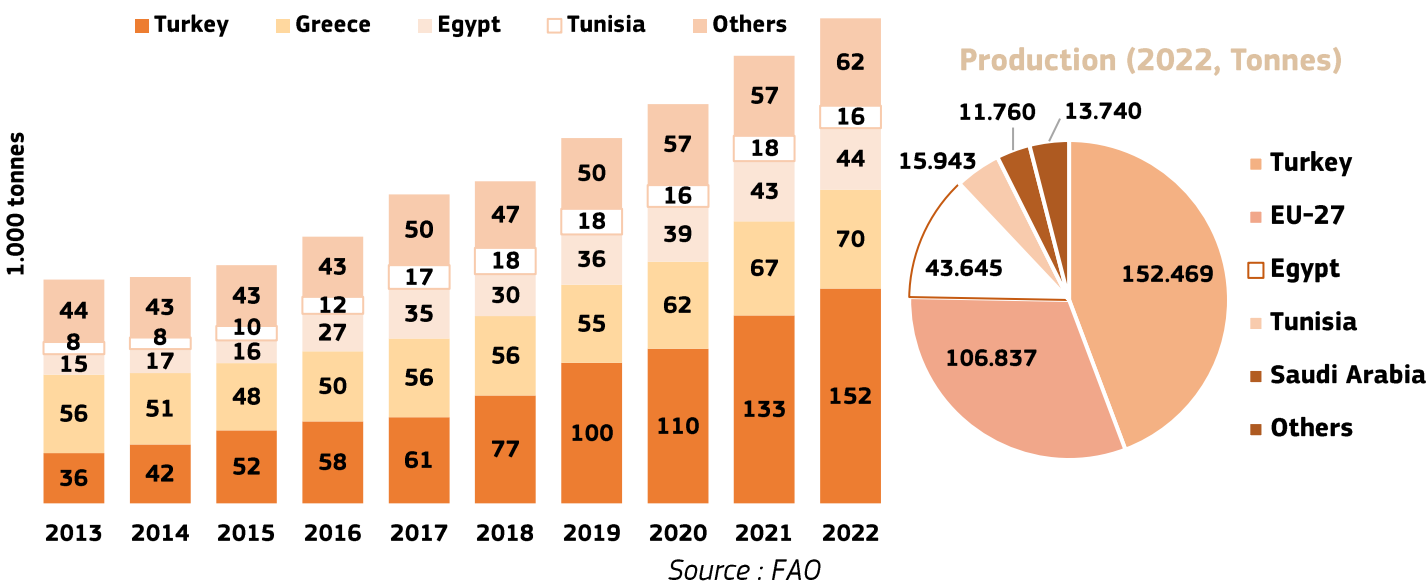


# AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

## Evolution of world production

Almost 345.000 tonnes of gilthead seabream were produced globally in 2022.

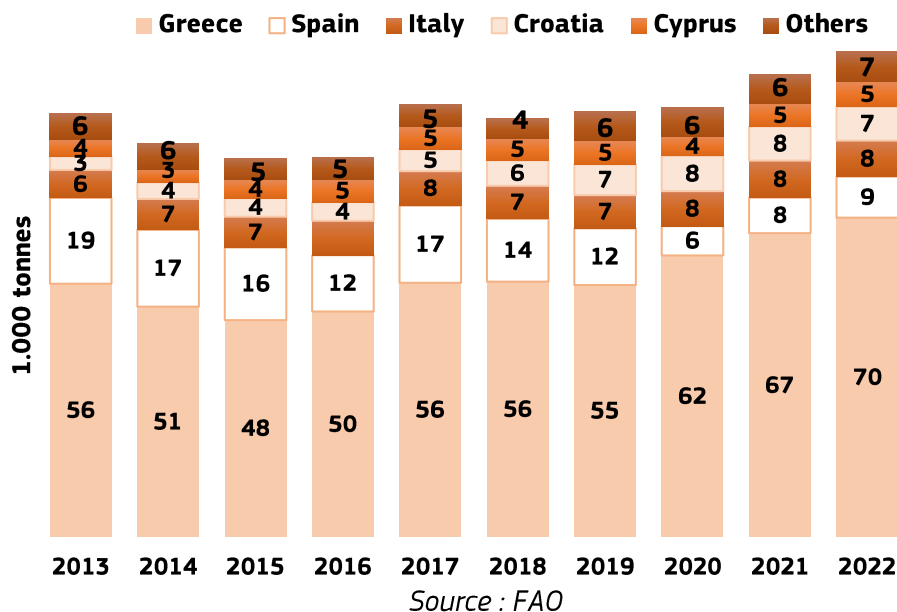
The world production of gilthead seabream has significantly increased in the last ten years (117% from 2013 to 2022). The growth was particularly significant for non-EU countries, mainly Turkey, Egypt and Tunisia (by 327%, 200% and 88% respectively).



## Evolution of EU production

In 2022, the EU provided 31% of the global production of gilthead seabream. Greece was by far the main producer (with 66% of EU total).

The EU production have increased by 15% over the last decade (2013-2022).



## Gilthead seabream



### PROCESSING

There is no significant processing activity of gilthead seabream as the species is mainly consumed fresh.

## Gilthead seabream



## TRADE

## EU imports-exports (2023, EU-27)

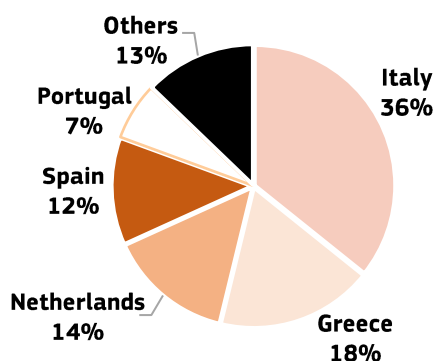
- Combined nomenclature ([Read more](#))

## EU trade of gilthead products (tonnes - 2023)

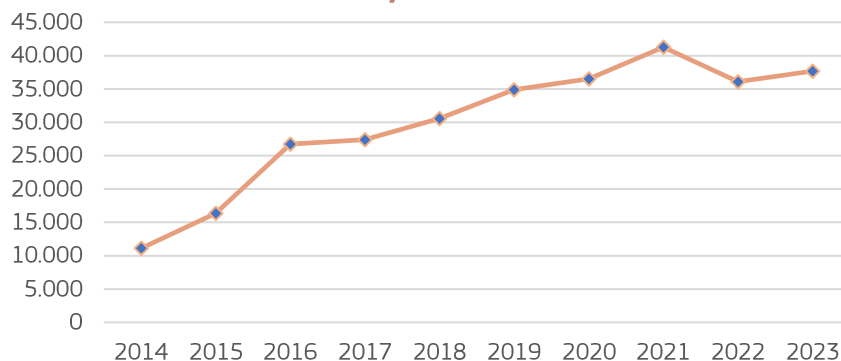
CN code	Product	EU imports	EU exports
03 02 85 30	Gilthead sea seabream, fresh or chilled	41.674	6.429
03 03 89 55	Gilthead seabream, frozen	2.231	143
<b>Total</b>		<b>43.905</b>	<b>6.572</b>

- Extra-EU imports** of gilthead seabream reached almost 44.000 tonnes in 2023, mostly fresh (95% of EU imports in 2023). Main importers were Italy, Greece, the Netherlands, and Spain (36%, 18%, 14% and 12% respectively). Turkey was by far the main supplier of the EU market (91% of the EU imports). Almost all fresh gilthead seabream came from Turkey. Imports from Turkey reached a pick in 2021 and decreased in 2022 (by 12% between 2021 and 2022). Overall they have increased by 239% between 2014 and 2023.
- Extra-EU exports** of gilthead seabream reached circa 6.572 tonnes in 2023, almost all fresh. Main exporters were Greece and Cyprus, and main destinations were Israel, Switzerland, and the United States (39%, 16%, and 14% respectively).

## EU importers (2023, % in volume)



## EU imports of fresh gilthead seabream from Turkey (in tonnes)

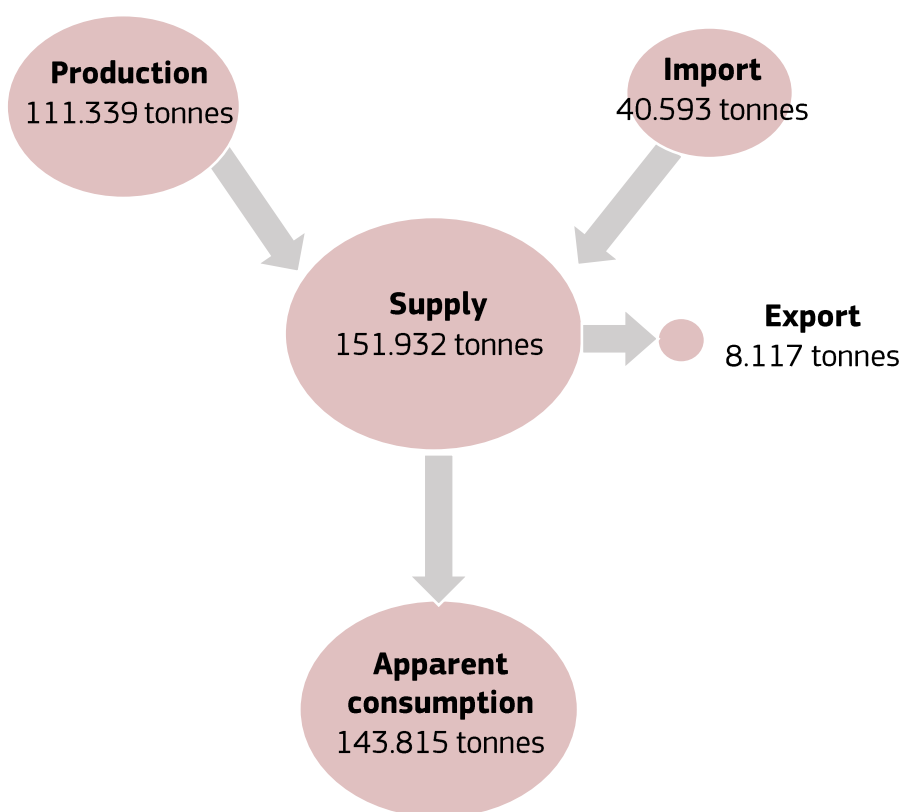


Source: EUROSTAT-COMEXT



### Supply balance

#### EU supply balance (2022<sup>1</sup>) – Tonnes of live weight equivalent<sup>2</sup> – Gilthead seabream



Source: FAO/ EUROSTAT-COMEXT

<sup>1</sup> Supply balance is provided for the year 2022 (trade data for 2022 were taken into account). Detailed trade data provided in the slide 5 concern the year 2023.

<sup>2</sup> The [conversion factors](#) were used to convert net weight of imports and exports of fishery and aquaculture products into live weight equivalents.



## PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

When data is available, prices are provided for wild and farmed seabream, as significant price difference could be noticed between the two methods of production.

### First-sale (wild) / Ex-farm (farmed) – (fresh)

First-sale and ex-farm prices are provided for France, Greece, Croatia, Italy and Spain, which are among the main EU producers of seabream.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*	Source
France (wild, fresh whole)	13,15	13,78	13,35	13,49	13,74	13,29	15,13	15,72	15,35	16,13	EUMOFA
Italy (wild, fresh whole)	12,16	12,04	11,71	12,37	12,39	12,30	11,81	12,58	12,70	13,69	EUMOFA
Spain (wild, fresh whole)	11,89	12,16	11,52	12,80	12,62	10,95	13,87	14,37	14,93	15,56	EUMOFA
Greece (farmed)	5,17	4,88	4,62	4,47	4,56	4,66	4,39	5,74	n.a.	n.a.	EUMOFA
Croatia (farmed)	6,32	6,53	6,45	5,88	5,77	5,94	6,04	6,63	n.a.	n.a.	EUMOFA
Spain (farmed)	5,33	5,60	5,20	5,07	5,11	5,59	7,55	5,39	n.a.	n.a.	EUMOFA
Italy (farmed)	7,34	7,09	7,67	7,62	7,35	7,45	6,48	7,56	n.a.	n.a.	EUMOFA

\* From January to November 2024

### Wholesale (fresh)

Wholesale prices are presented for France and Spain.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*	Source
France (wild, 0,8-1 kg)	16,59	13,24	14,98	13,72	13,93	15,47	12,21	24,65	19,94	20,23	RNM-Rungis
France (farmed, 0,8-1 kg)	8,38	8,52	8,31	8,77	9,5	9,63	8,98	12,14	11,56	12,63	RNM-Rungis
Spain (farmed)	6,22	5,94	5,36	5,49	5,26	2,24	5,12	5,8	5,62	6,37	Mercamadrid
Spain (wild)	14,03	16,99	15,85	18,94	18,43	18,3	20,04	21,67	21,58	24,99	Mercamadrid

\* From January to November 2024



## PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

### Retail/consumption (fresh)

Retail prices refer to Greece, which is among the major EU consumers of seabream.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*	Source
<b>Greece (wild)</b>	22,03	22,62	24,84	25,58	26,09	27,26	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	EUMOFA
<b>Greece (farmed)</b>	6,48	5,93	5,79	6,14	6,23	6,38	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	EUMOFA
<b>Spain</b>	7,89	7,9	7,97	7,88	7,81	7,86	7,84	8,27	9,00	n.a.	MAPA
<b>Italy - fresh, 400-600g</b>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	7,83	8,27	8,27	9,05	9,36	9,42	ISMEA
<b>Italy - fresh, 600-800g</b>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	8,74	9,04	9,04	10,48	10,74	10,86	ISMEA

\* From January to November 2024

### Import (fresh from Turkey)

Import prices are provided for Italy, Greece, Spain, and Netherlands which are the main importers of fresh seabream.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*	Source
<b>Italy</b>	4,84	3,97	4,01	3,61	3,75	3,81	3,78	4,48	4,47	5,55	EUMOFA
<b>Greece</b>	4,77	3,84	3,71	3,53	3,44	3,54	3,46	4,03	4,15	5,01	EUMOFA
<b>Spain</b>	4,97	4,4	4,26	3,86	3,77	3,91	3,90	4,61	4,42	5,41	EUMOFA
<b>Netherlands</b>	4,88	4,35	4,42	4,13	4,09	4,10	3,96	4,88	4,86	5,74	EUMOFA

\* From January to August 2024

### Export (fresh)

Export prices refer to Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain and France, as they were the main exporters of seabream in 2023.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*	Source
<b>Greece</b>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5,52	5,83	5,70	6,34	8,50	EUMOFA
<b>Cyprus</b>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	5,10	6,46	7,70	8,30	7,88	EUMOFA
<b>Italy</b>	6,34	6,3	5,85	5,52	6,16	6,24	9,93	7,55	8,93	10,48	EUMOFA
<b>Spain</b>	5,52	5,16	4,87	8,27	8,5	10,56	10,93	16,79	11,86	14,28	EUMOFA
<b>France</b>	8,48	8,37	9,68	9,49	10,03	10,94	14,73	12,78	12,96	13,13	EUMOFA

\* From January to August 2024





## MARKETING

- National lists of commercial designations ([Read more](#))
- Information system on commercial designations and scientific names in all EU languages ([Read more](#))
- Applicable marketing standard ([Read more](#))

## CONSUMPTION

- Apparent consumption per capita of gilthead seabream in 2022: **0,32 kg** live weight equivalent (source: [Supply balance – 2022](#), EUMOFA).
- Nutritional value (Gilthead seabream, France, fresh fillet, values per 100 g – source : NUTRAQUA/AQUIMER)

Nutritional value	Gilthead seabream
kilo calories (kcal)	128
Kilojoule (kJ)	537
Water (g)	72,7
Ashes (g)	1,4
Proteins (g)	20,8
Carbohydrates (g)	0,3
Lipids (g)	4,8
Cholesterol (mv)	63,5
Omega 6 (mg)	425
Omega 3 (mg)	1239
EPA (mg)	327
DHA (mg)	555