European Commission

Monthly Highlights

No. 8 / 2018

EUMOFA

European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products

In this issue

In July 2018, first–sales value and volume increased in Norway, Portugal and the UK over July 2017. In the same period, they dropped in Belgium, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, and Sweden.

Over the past 36 months, average prices of common octopus were the highest in Italy (7,21 EUR/kg), or 17% higher than in Portugal (6,18 EUR/kg) and 9% more than in France (6,62 EUR/kg). The average price of common cuttlefish generally increased in all surveyed countries, with the highest growth occurring in Belgium (+52%).

Import prices of Norwegian salmon have been falling again in recent weeks but still exceed the lows during last winter. Alaska pollock fillets from China continue to rise, reaching a high not seen in over a year.

In January–June 2018, the average retail price of fresh mackerel for household consumption was 6,76 EUR/kg in France and 2,90 EUR/kg in Portugal.

In 2017, Ghana exported 51.700 tonnes of tuna to markets worldwide. The UK and France are the largest EU importers of tuna products from Ghana.

In 2017, extra-EU imports of lobster reached 15.309 tonnes for a value of EUR 229 million.

In Slovenia in 2017, total aquaculture production decreased by 5% from 2016. About 1.000 tonnes of freshwater fish were bred in 2017, a decrease of 14% from 2016, whereas 726 tonnes of marine animals were farmed in mariculture, which was 9% more than in 2016.

Contents

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1 First sales in Europe

In January–July 2018, 10 EU Member States (MS) and Norway reported first-sales data for 11 commodity groups[1].

1.1 Compared to the same period last year

Increases in value and volume: Denmark, Estonia and Sweden experienced growth in first-sales value and volume. In Sweden, first sales grew by 19% in value and 79% in volume, due mainly to a high supply of herring.

Decreases in value and volume: In Belgium, France, Italy, Latvia, and the UK, a drop was observed in both value and volume terms. The drop in Latvia's first sales of fresh fish resulted from a 12% reduction in the annual quota for herring in 2018 compared to 2017, an unusual freezing of the Gulf of Riga last winter, and an increase in production by Producer Organisations of frozen sprat and herring destined for export markets. In the UK, first sales decreased due to lower supplies of important species such as mackerel and scallop among other top species.

Table 1. **JANUARY–JULY FIRST-SALES OVERVIEW OF THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)**

	January–July 2016		January–July 2017		January–July 2018		Change from January–July 2017	
Country	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
BE	9.839	38,27	9.062	35,36	7.955	34,65	-12%	-2%
DK	121.145	185,71	115.930	174,89	120.151	180,79	4%	3%
EE	33.107	7,63	29.149	6,71	30.708	7,11	5%	6%
FR	113.057	374,29	112.081	375,18	110.263	365,17	-2%	-3%
IT*	51.360	194,07	57.682	205,60	50.508	188,40	-12%	-8%
LV	29.388	6,40	33.926	6,95	23.918	4,55	-29%	-35%
LT	1.413	0,985	1.099	1,04	1.164	0,90	6%	-13%
NO	1.602.122	1.308,59	1.747.646	1.288,90	1.911.891	1.288,98	9%	0%
PT	52.887	104,62	50.112	110,12	47.720	109,78	-5%	0%
SE	68.140	46,90	41.715	35,18	74.799	41,87	79%	19%
UK	234.122	434,22	181.005	339,99	134.380	250,18	-26%	-26%

Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018); volume data is reported in net weight.
**Partial data. First-sales data for Italy covers 229 ports (approximately 50% of the total landings).*

[1] Bivalves and other molluscs and aquatic invertebrates, cephalopods, crustaceans, flatfish, freshwater fish, groundfish, miscellaneous aquatic products, other marine fish, salmonids, small pelagics, tuna and tuna-like species.

1.2 In July 2018

Increases in value and volume: First sales grew in Norway, Portugal and the UK over July 2017. The increase in first sales was particularly high for the UK mainly due to increase in catch of herring (+116% in value and +128% in volume), while Norway experienced increases due to large harvests of herring, saithe and crab among other top species.

Decreases in value and volume: Total first sales dropped in Belgium, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, and Sweden. The decreases were particularly high in Latvia due largely to low supplies of herring and sprat. In Belgium, lower supply of ray and European plaice was the main factor that contributed to an overall decrease in volume.

Table 2. **JULY FIRST-SALES OVERVIEW OF THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)**

	July 2016		July 2017		July 2018		Change from July 2017	
Country	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
BE	1.070	4,86	1.026	4,84	904	4,69	-12%	-3%
DK	12.953	23,59	10.265	22,76	11.180	21,88	9%	-4%
EE	98	0,12	106	0,15	87	0,21	-18%	43%
FR	15.150	52,24	14.959	51,69	16.410	51,13	10%	-1%
IT*	9.294	32,83	10.233	37,59	9.016	31,94	-12%	-15%
LV	493	0,10	1.362	0,23	855	0,14	-37%	-38%
LT	26	0,02	12	0,03	10	0,01	-19%	-76%
NO	90.433	98,64	92.685	78,19	117.094	87,90	26%	12%
PT	10.765	20,31	10.911	19,02	11.540	22,82	6%	20%
SE	1.042	4,33	1.318	4,40	1.091	4,09	-17%	-7%
UK	37.244	67,42	16.726	34,92	22.343	39,21	34%	12%

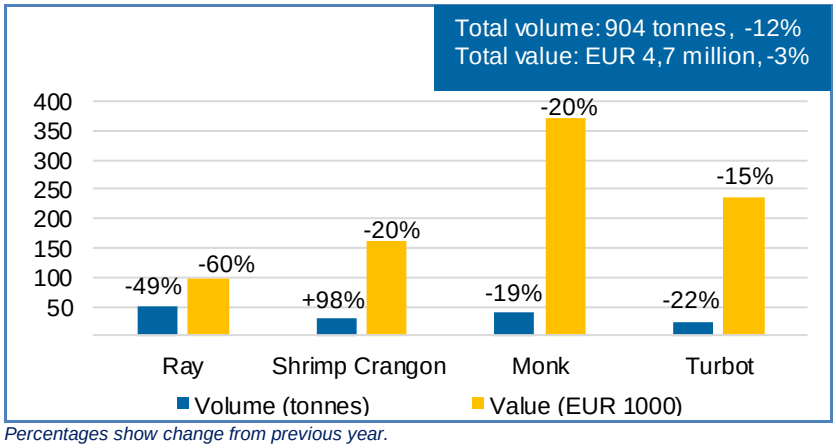
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018); volume data is reported in net weight.
**Partial data. First-sales data for Italy covers 229 ports (approximately 50% of the total landings).*

The most recent first-sales data for **August 2018** available on EUMOFA can be accessed **here.**

1.3 First sales in selected countries

In **Belgium** in **January–July 2018**, first sales fell by 2% in value and 12% in volume, compared with January–July 2017. The species most responsible for the fall in value were monk (−37%) and ray (−25%), whereas for volume the responsible species included gurnard (−31%) and European plaice (−13%). In **July 2018**, both first-sales value and volume decreased compared with July 2017. Shrimp *Crangon* spp., ray, monk and turbot were the main contributors to such decreases. Overall prices increased by 10%, although some species prices rose much more, including European plaice (+23%) and Norway lobster (+21%).

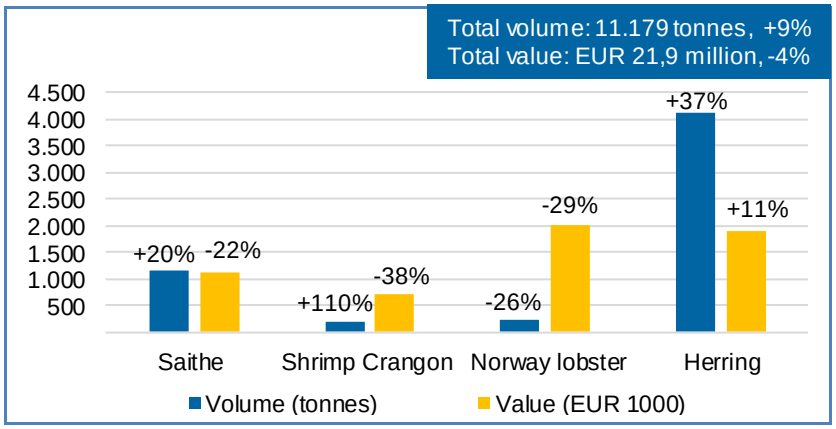
Figure 1. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN BELGIUM, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Denmark** in **January–July 2018**, first-sales value and volume slightly increased (by 3% and 4%, respectively) over the same period in 2017. Northern shrimp, Norway lobster and shrimp *Crangon* spp. were the main species responsible for such trends. Volume growth continued in **July 2018** as first-sales increased thanks to herring, whereas first-sales value decreased due mainly to Norway lobster, saithe and shrimp *Crangon* spp. Among top species, European plaice registered the highest increase in average price, up by 45% (2,88 EUR/kg), whereas saithe's prices decreased by 35% (0,96 EUR/kg).

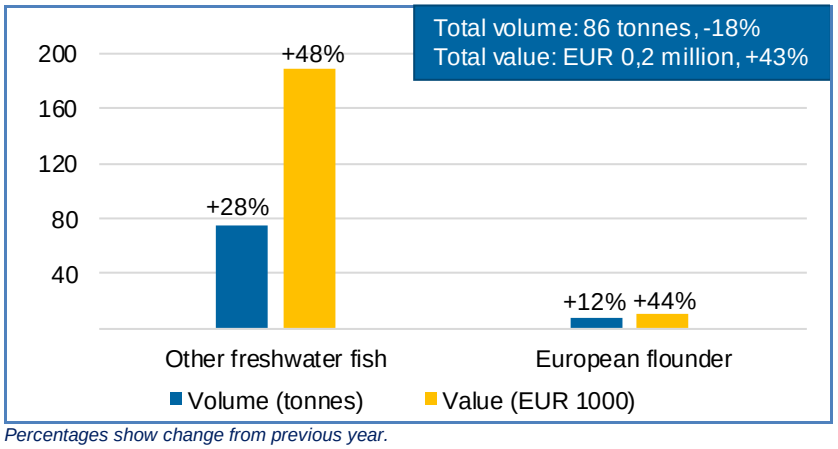
Figure 2. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN DENMARK, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **January–July 2018**, **Estonia** saw increases in both first-sales value (+6%) and volume (+5%) compared with the same period a year before, due mainly to sprat. In **July 2018**, compared to July 2017, first-sales value increased thanks to other freshwater fish (mostly European perch), but volume decreased due to herring. All main species experienced increases in average prices, of which herring and European plaice rose the most, by 72% and 29%, respectively.

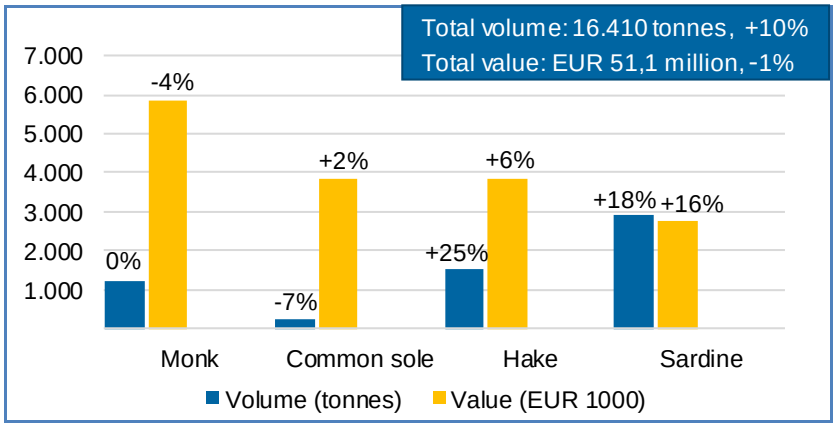
Figure 3. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ESTONIA, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **France** in **January–July 2018**, first sales slightly decreased in both value (−3%) and volume (−2%) from the same period in 2017. Lower supplies of hake, monk, Norway lobster and whiting were the key factors for such trends. In **July 2018** compared to a year earlier, first-sales value were almost unchanged, while volume increased by 10% thanks to sardine, hake and clam. Due to its increase in volume, hake prices fell by 15% (2,50 EUR/kg), while cuttlefish prices went up by 44% (7,80 EUR/kg) due to a lower volume in July 2018 in comparison with July 2017.

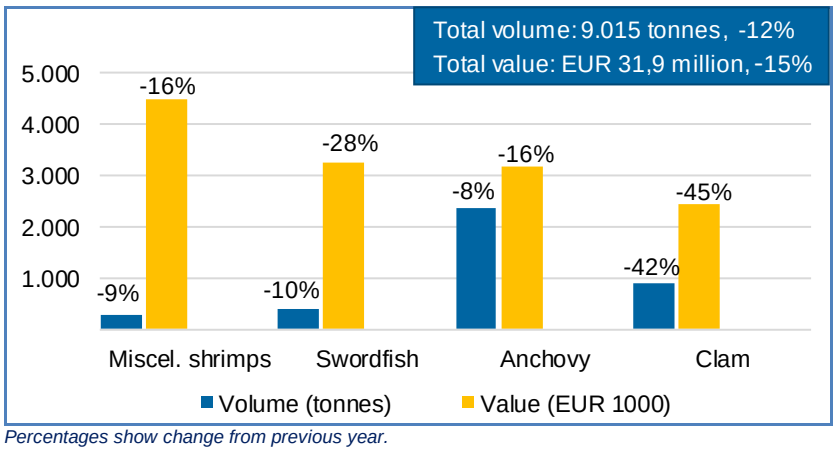
Figure 4. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN FRANCE, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Italy** in **January–July 2018**, first sales decreased by 8% in value and 12% in volume. Clam was the main species responsible (−32% in value and −34% in volume). The same trend was recorded in **July 2018**. Swordfish, clam, anchovy and miscellaneous shrimps were the main species responsible for first-sales decreases. The first-sales average prices of all species decreased by 4% due to lower average prices of top species (swordfish, anchovy, clam) in July 2018, compared to the same period in 2017.

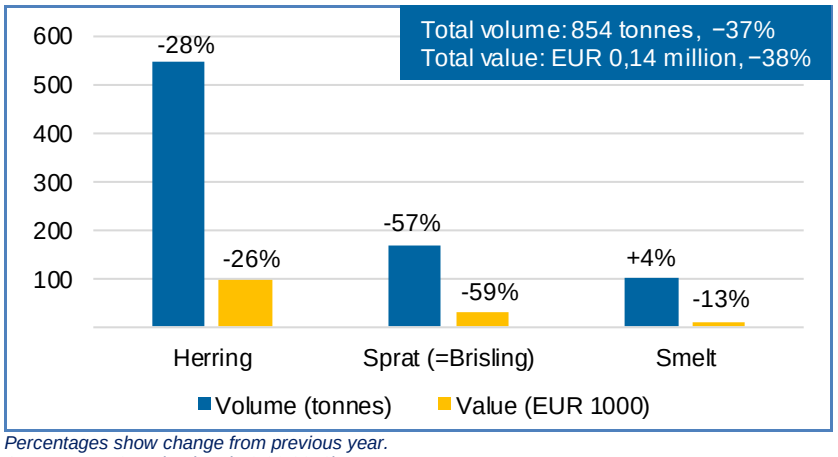
Figure 5. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN ITALY, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Latvia** in **January–July 2018,** first sales decreased in value (−35%) and volume (−29%) from the same period in 2017. This was due to lower supplies of herring and sprat, which were responsible for 89% of the value and 92% of the volume of total catches. **July 2018** saw continued sharp decreases in value and volume mainly due to the same species as well as smelt. Overall average prices slightly decreased by 2%. Of top species, sprat and smelt recorded average price decreases in July 2018: down by 4% and 17%, respectively.

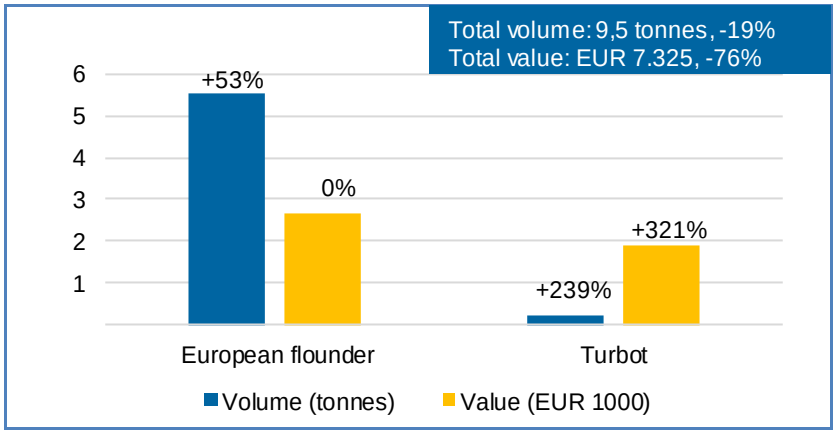
Figure 6. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LATVIA, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Lithuania** in **January–July 2018**, first-sales value decreased by 13% due to cod (−55%), whereas volume increased by 6% because of high supplies of herring (+174%), compared with January–July 2017. In **July 2018**, first-sales value and volume declined due to various species of groundfish, mostly gobies. Average prices of all top species registered decreases, of whose European flounder prices went down by 35%.

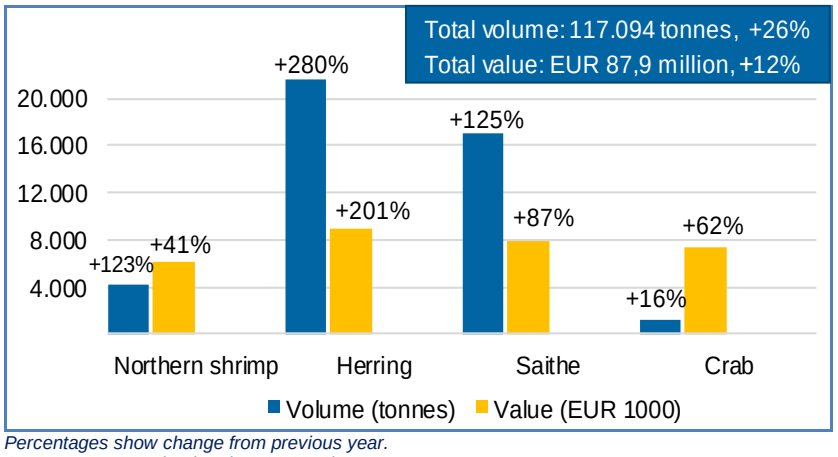
Figure 7. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN LITHUANIA, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Norway** in **January–July 2018**, first-sales value was stable, whereas volume increased by 9% mainly because of small pelagic species. In **July 2018**, both first-sales value and volume increased moderately over July 2017. The increases were attributable to herring, saithe and crab, and to a lesser extent to Northern shrimp and mackerel. Due to a high increase in volume, average prices decreased most for herring (−21%) and Northern shrimp (−37%).

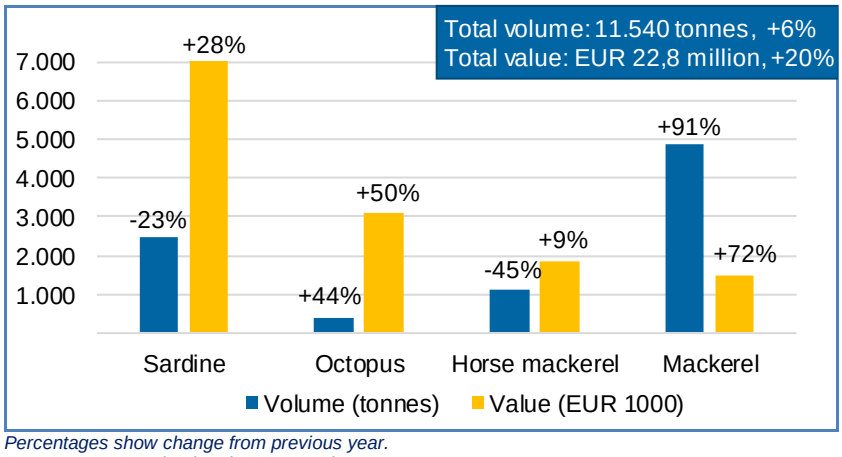
Figure 8. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN NORWAY, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Portugal** in **January–July 2018**, first-sales value was stable, whereas volume decreased by 5% due to lower landings of horse mackerel and sardine. In **July 2018**, first-sales value increased due to sardine, octopus, and mackerel, whereas volume increased mainly due to high catches of mackerel. The average price of herring (up by 66% to 2,97 EUR/kg) and Atlantic horse mackerel (up by 100% to 1,64 EUR/kg), contributed to the overall average price increase of 13% compared to July 2017.

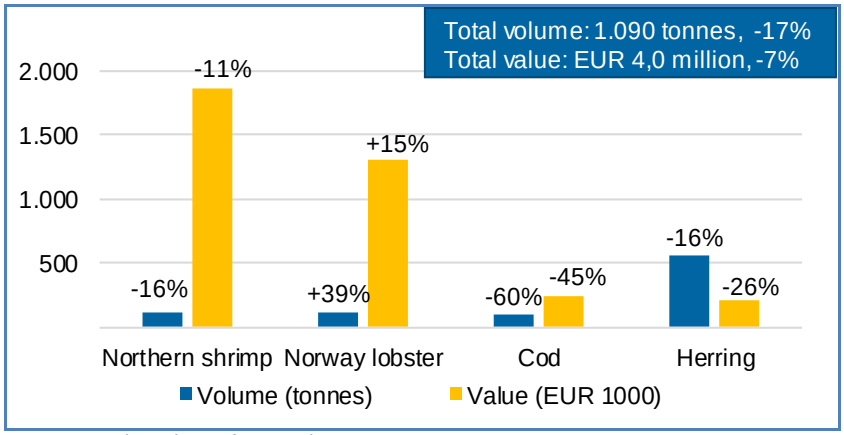
Figure 9. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN PORTUGAL, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In **Sweden**, first sales grew strongly in both value (+18%) and volume (+79%) during **January–July 2018**. The growth was due to herring, which recorded increases of catch by 62% (EUR +5,59 million, and +27.200 tonnes). In **July 2018**, lower first-sales value and volume of Northern shrimp, cod and herring contributed to the overall decreases. Of the top species mackerel's average price increased by 61% (4,75 EUR/kg), whereas herring recorded decrease of 11% (0,36 EUR/kg).

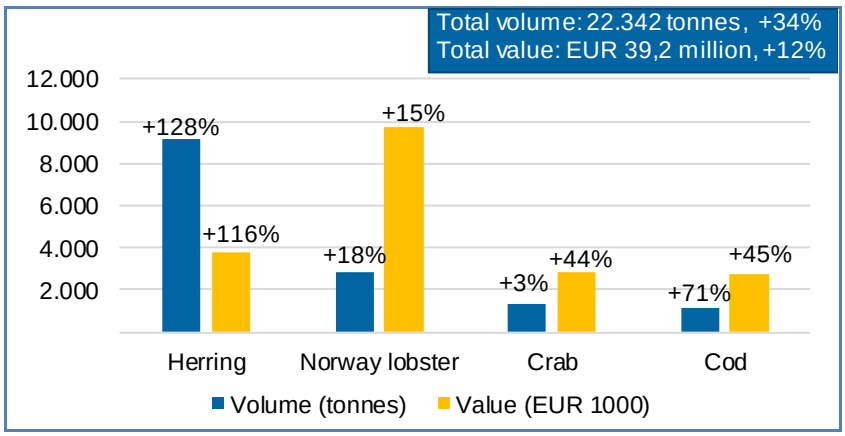
Figure 10. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN SWEDEN, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

In the **UK** in **January–July 2018** from a year earlier, both first-sales value and volume decreased by 26% due mostly to mackerel, scallop and Norway lobster. In **July 2018**, the trend reversed, compared with July 2017. Herring, Norway lobster, cod and crab contributed the most to the increase in value. In addition to these species, saithe contributed to the increase in first-sales volume. In general, average prices of all species fell by 16%. They significantly decreased for saithe at 0,76 EUR/kg (−32%) and mackerel at 1,71 EUR/kg (−26%).

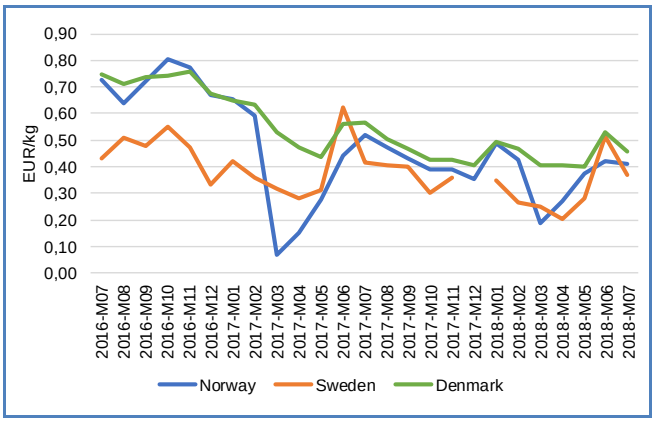
Figure 11. **FIRST SALES OF MAIN COMMERCIAL SPECIES IN THE UK, JULY 2018**



Percentages show change from previous year.
Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

1.4 Comparison of first-sales prices of selected species in selected countries

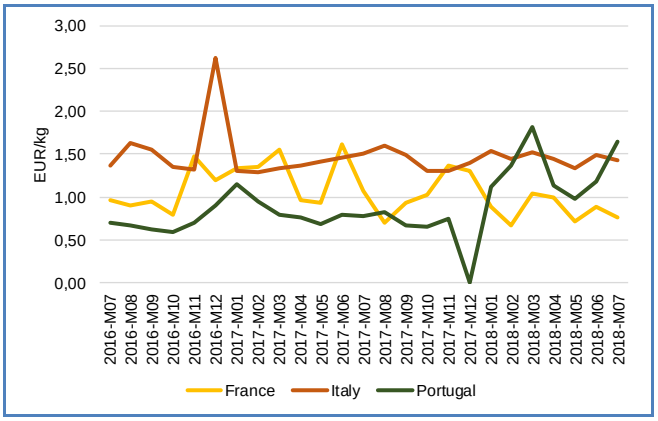
Figure 12. **FIRST-SALES PRICES OF HERRING IN DENMARK, NORWAY AND SWEDEN**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

Herring is landed in Europe mainly by **Denmark**, **Sweden** and **Norway**, which together have accounted for 86% by volume of total reported landings through August. The average first-sales prices in these countries in **August 2018** were 0,41 EUR/kg in Norway (down by 2% from July 2018 and 21% from August 2017), 0,37 EUR/kg in Sweden (down by 29% from the previous month and by 11% from the same month in 2017), and 0,46 EUR/kg in Denmark (down by 14% from July 2018 and by 19% from August 2017). First-sales prices in all three countries have shown a general downward trend in the past two years, although there was a recent upward trend in each country.

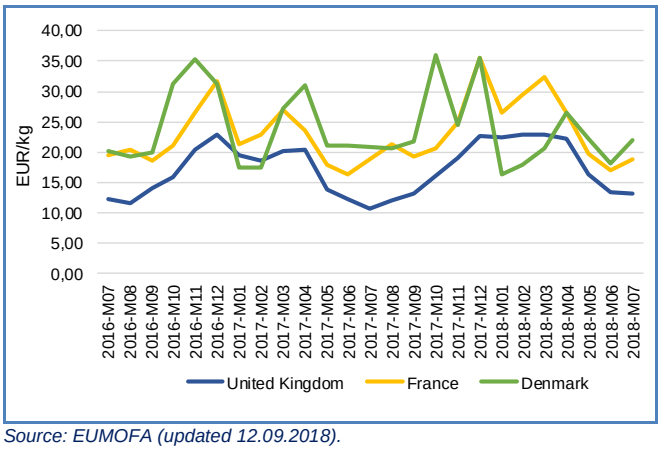
Figure 13. **FIRST-SALES PRICES OF ATLANTIC HORSE MACKEREL IN FRANCE, ITALY AND PORTUGAL**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

For **Atlantic horse mackerel**, most of all reporting countries' first sales in 2018 have taken place in **France**, **Italy** and **Portugal**. The average first-sales prices in these countries in **August 2018** were 0,76 EUR/kg in France (down by 15% from July 2018 and 29% from August 2017), 1,42 EUR/kg in Italy (down by 4% from the previous month and by 5% from the same month in 2017), and 1,64 EUR/kg in Portugal (up by 38% from July 2018 and by 110% from August 2017). The prices in France and in Italy have shown no long-term trend up or down, while in Portugal there is a very irregular upward trend. Prices in the three countries keep close in the long run but show considerable differences month-to-month, due in part to the cost of moving products from one country's market to another for a short-run gain in price.

Figure 14. **FIRST-SALES PRICES OF LOBSTER IN DENMARK, FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

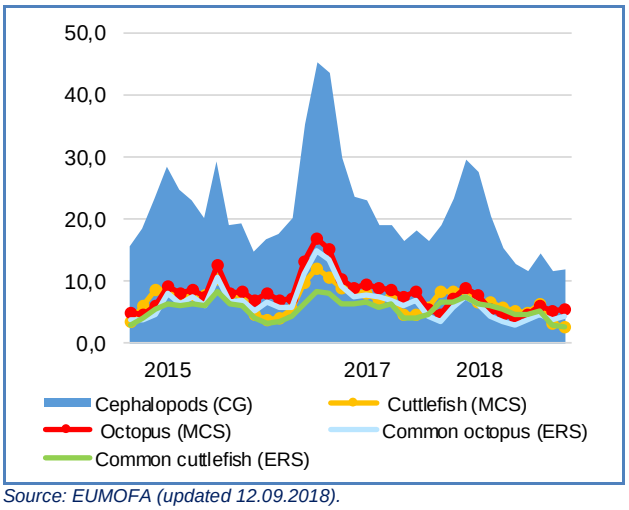
For **lobster** *Homarus* spp., almost all reported EU catches (99% by volume through August 2018) occur in the **UK**, **France**, and **Denmark**. The average first-sales prices in these countries in **August 2018** were 13,15 EUR/kg in the UK (down by 2% from July 2018 but up by 24% from August 2017), 18,78 EUR/kg in France (up by 10% from the previous month and unchanged from the same month in 2017), and 22,01 EUR/kg in Denmark (up by 21% from July 2018 and by 6% from August 2017). These three countries' prices, which move close together over the course of a year, show a seasonal pattern tied to supply availability, as lobster landings are higher in the summer and lower in the winter. Prices are usually lower in the UK, the largest first-sales market, and often higher in Denmark, the smallest of the three, with France usually in between.

1.5. Commodity group of the month: Cephalopods

The **cephalopods** commodity group (CG) ranked 6th in value and 7th in volume among 11 commodity groups in July 2018[2]. First sales of cephalopods reached EUR 11,9 million and 1.614 tonnes – a decline of 34% and 42% in value and volume, respectively, from first sales in July 2017. In the past 36 months, the highest value of cephalopods was registered in November 2016, when it reached more than EUR 45 million.

The cephalopods commodity group includes four main commercial species (MCS): cuttlefish, octopus, squid and other cephalopods. Common cuttlefish belongs to MCS Cuttlefish, whereas common octopus belongs to the MCS Octopus. At the species (ERS)[3] level, common octopus and common cuttlefish together made up 60% of total first-sales value of cephalopods during January–July 2018[4].

Figure 15. **FIRST-SALES VALUE COMPARISON AT CG, MCS, AND ERS LEVEL FOR REPORTING COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).
**Norway excluded due to a limited level of data for species at ERS level.*

[2] More data on commodity groups can be found in table 1.2 in the Annex.
[3] Species reported at Electronic Reporting System (ERS) level, based on FAO 3-alpha codes.
[4] Ranking of the main commercial species in the Cephalopods commodity group can be found in table 1.3 in the Annex.

1.6. Focus on common octopus

The octopus is a benthic species that lives in temperate and tropical waters around the world, from the coastline to the outer edge of the continental shelf. Its main habitat is rocks, reefs, and grass beds. Octopus has a limited seasonal migration, usually overwintering in deeper waters and occurring in shallower waters during summer.

The octopus is distributed in the central-east Atlantic off the coast of Africa, from Morocco to Senegal and the Mediterranean Sea.

Spawning peaks occur in April−July in the Mediterranean Sea. Octopus can reach a total length of 1,2 m for females and 1,3 m for males. It can grow to a maximum weight of 10 kg - although its average weight is 3 kg.

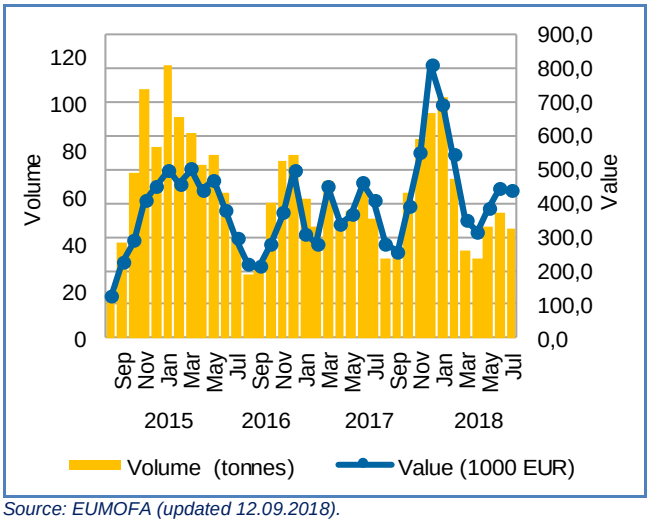
Octopus is a very popular species, particularly in the Mediterranean countries, and is fished in both artisanal and commercial fisheries. Common gears used to catch octopus are hooks and lines, pots, spears, and otter trawls. It is marketed fresh, frozen, dried, salted, smoked and canned[5].

A minimum catch size for octopus is set: 750 g (whole) and 450 g (gutted) in the European waters, except in Skagerrak/Kattegat, for the protection of the species, and in particular the juveniles[6]. However, some EU countries have more restricted technical mesuares, i.e., Croatia where minimum catch size for octopus is 1 kg[7].

Selected countries

In **France** during January−July 2018, first sales of common octopus increased by 21% in value, whereas volume remained stable compared to the same period in 2017. Compared with January−July 2016 value increased by 4%, although volume decreased sharply by 30%. In July 2018, first-sales value increased by 6% and volume declined by 10% compared to the same month a year earlier. Most octopus' sales were registered at ports in the Mediterranean Sea: Le Grau-du-Roi, Sète, and Agde.

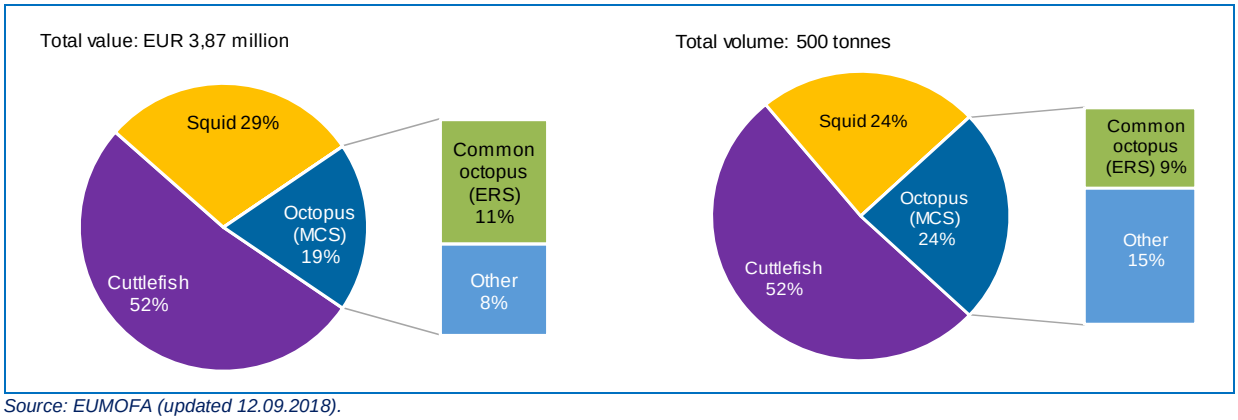
Figure 16. **COMMON OCTOPUS: FIRST SALES IN FRANCE**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

[5] http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/3571/en
[6] Council Regulation (EC) No 850/98 http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0227&from=EN
[7] **https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2017_12_122_2785.html**

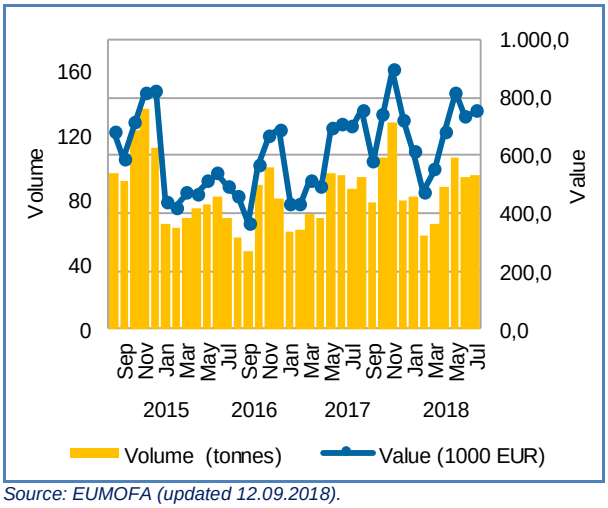
Figure 17. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON OF CEPHALOPODS IN FRANCE IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JULY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

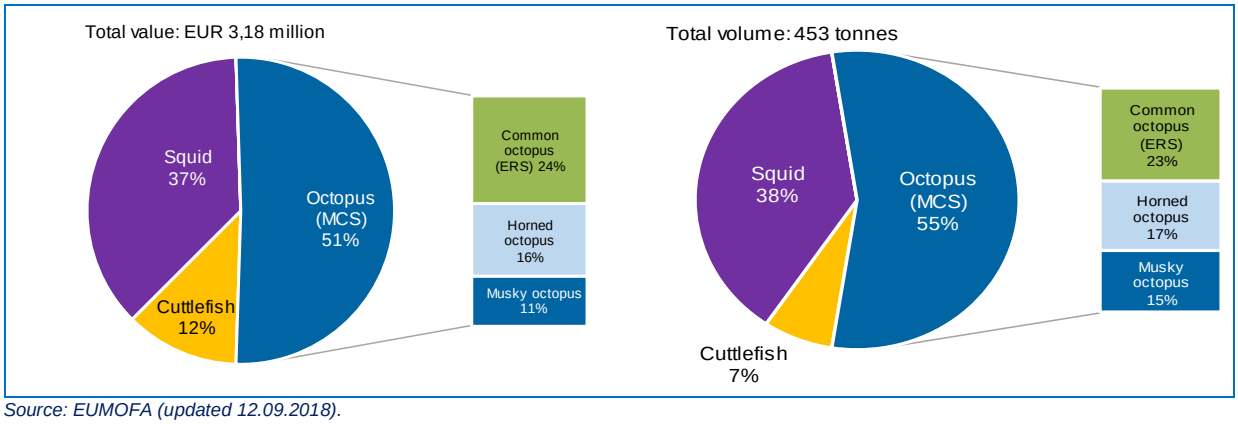
In **Italy** in January–July 2018, first sales of common octopus increased by 17% in value and 9% in volume over the same period in 2017. Compared with 2016, value increased sharply by 39%, whereas volume went up 18%. In July 2018, value and volume increased by 8% and 10%, respectively, over July 2017. Italian ports where first sales of octopus occur are situated in both the Mediterranean and Adriatic Sea. Among the important ports with the highest first sales are Anzio, Civitavecchia and Fiumicino.

Figure 18. **COMMON OCTOPUS: FIRST SALES IN ITALY**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

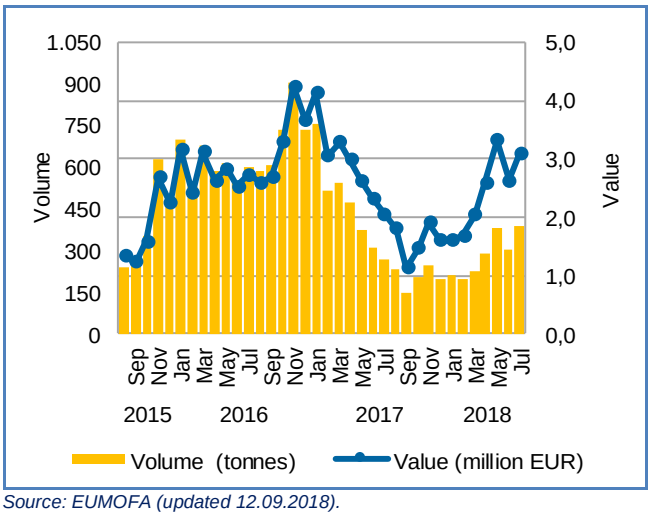
Figure 19. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON OF CEPHALOPODS IN ITALY IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JULY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

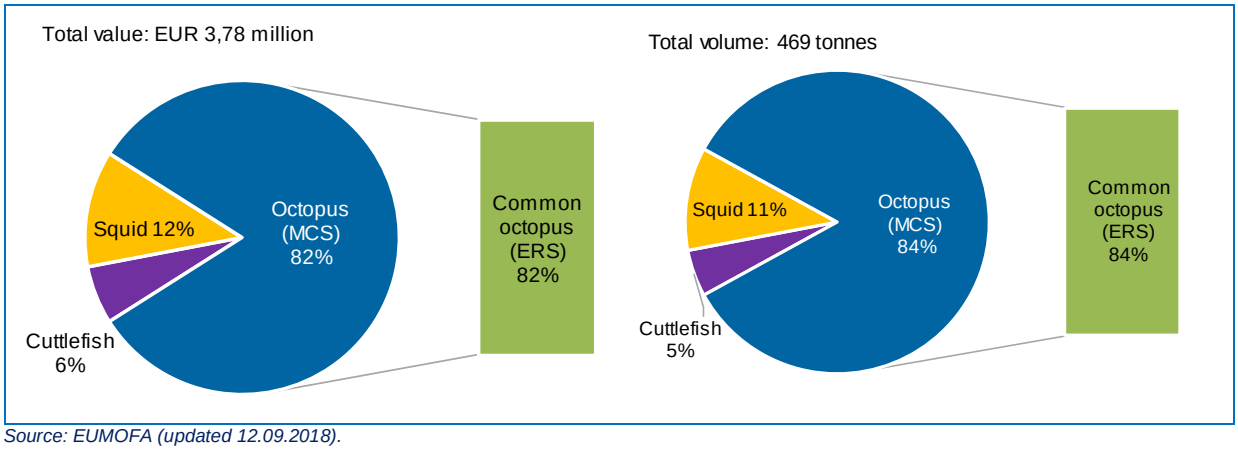
In **Portugal** in January–July 2018, first-sales value and volume of common octopus recorded decreases by 17% and 38%, respectively, compared to January–July 2017. Compared with the same period in 2016, value decreased by 13% and volume over 50%. The highest first-sales value and volume were registered in November 2016, when 903 tonnes were sold for EUR 4,24 million. July 2018 recorded increases by 50% in value and 45% in volume compared to the previous year. Nearly all of octopus first-sales occurred at ports in the Atlantic on the Iberian Coast such as port of Sesimbra and Portimão.

Figure 20. **COMMON OCTOPUS: FIRST SALES IN PORTUGAL**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

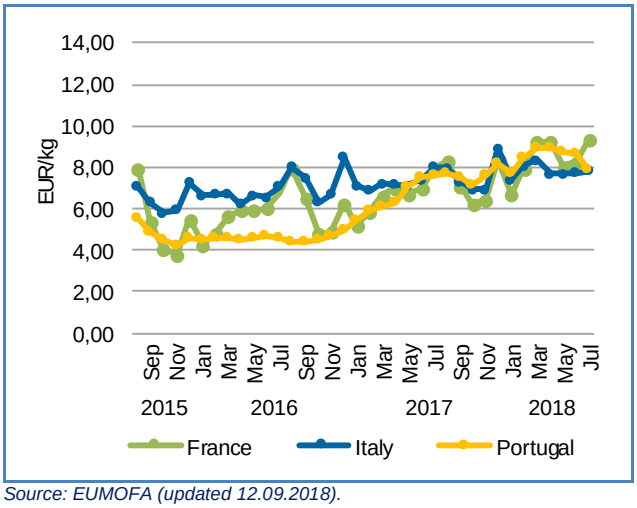
Figure 21. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON OF CEPHALOPODS IN PORTUGAL IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JULY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

Price trends

Figure 22. **COMMON OCTOPUS: FIRST-SALES PRICE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

We have covered **common octopus** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

First sales: Italy (6/2017), France (6/2017), Portugal (6/2017, 3/2016, 1/2015, February 2013, September 2013).

Consumption: Italy (8/2017, 1/2016), Portugal (8/2017, 1/2016).

Trade: Extra-EU export (04/2015), Extra-EU import (11/2016).

During the past 36 months, average first-sales prices of common octopus increased in all the analysed countries. Prices were the highest in Italy (7,21 EUR/kg), or 17% higher than in Portugal (6,18 EUR/kg), and 9% more than the average price in France (6,62 EUR/kg).

In **France**, in the first seven months of 2018 the average price increased 22% to 8,07 EUR/kg compared to January−July 2017, and almost 50% above levels in 2016. Over the three-year period, the price peaked in July 2018 (9,34 EUR/kg), when 46 tonnes were landed. The highest volume was recorded in January 2016 when 116 tonnes were sold for 4,27 EUR/kg. The lowest average price occurred in November 2015, when 107 tonnes were sold for as little as 3,81 EUR/kg.

In **Italy**, the average price in the first seven months of 2018 was higher than in the same period in 2017 (+7%) and 2016 (+17%). Catches and average prices fluctuate throughout the year without clear trends, depending on stock abundance. The highest recorded price in the three-year period was in December 2017, when the price reached 8,92 EUR/kg for a volume of 80 tonnes. The lowest price was recorded in October 2015 at 5,78 EUR/kg.

Reaching 8,50 EUR/kg in January−July 2018, average price in **Portugal** increased 35% over 2017 and as much as 86% over the first seven months of 2016. The highest price was recorded in April 2018, when 289 tonnes were sold at an average price of 8,97 EUR/kg, whereas the lowest price at 4,26 EUR/kg for 903 tonnes was registered in November 2016.

1.7. Focus on common cuttlefish

Common cuttlefish is widespread in the North Sea, around the British Isles to the coast of North and West Africa. It is also found in the Mediterranean, including the Adriatic Sea.

It lives on sandy or muddy bottoms from shallow waters to approximately 200 m depth. The species feeds on small molluscs, crabs, shrimps, and smaller cuttlefish. Spawning takes place throughout the year in shallow waters, mostly in water temperatures 13–15°C (between April and July in the Mediterranean). The cuttlefish reproduces only once during its lifetime, around the age of 2, when males measure 14 cm (dorsal length of the mantle) and females 18 cm[8].

The species is usually caught with trawls as a target species and as bycatch in demersal fisheries. The artisanal fisheries utilise a larger variety of highly selective gear types, such as spears, pots, and traps, often combined with the use of light[9].

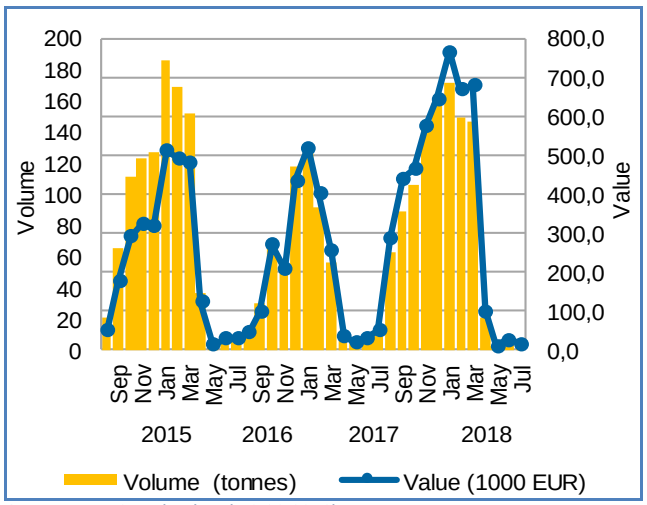
Several species of cuttlefish are fished, but the species most frequently landed is the common cuttlefish (*Sepia officinalis*).

Common cuttlefish is frequently marketed as fresh and frozen and is a highly attractive food item in Japan, South Korea, Italy, and Spain[10]. There is no minimum regulatory market size at the EU level.

Selected countries

In **Belgium** in January–July 2018, common cuttlefish first-sales value and volume increased significantly by 72% and 63%, respectively, compared to the same period in 2017. It continued to grow in first-sales value (+35%) but declined in volume (−11%) compared with 2016. In July 2018, first-sales value and volume significantly decreased (more than 60%), compared to the same month a year earlier. All common cuttlefish first sales were registered at the ports of Oostende and Zeebrugge in the North Sea.

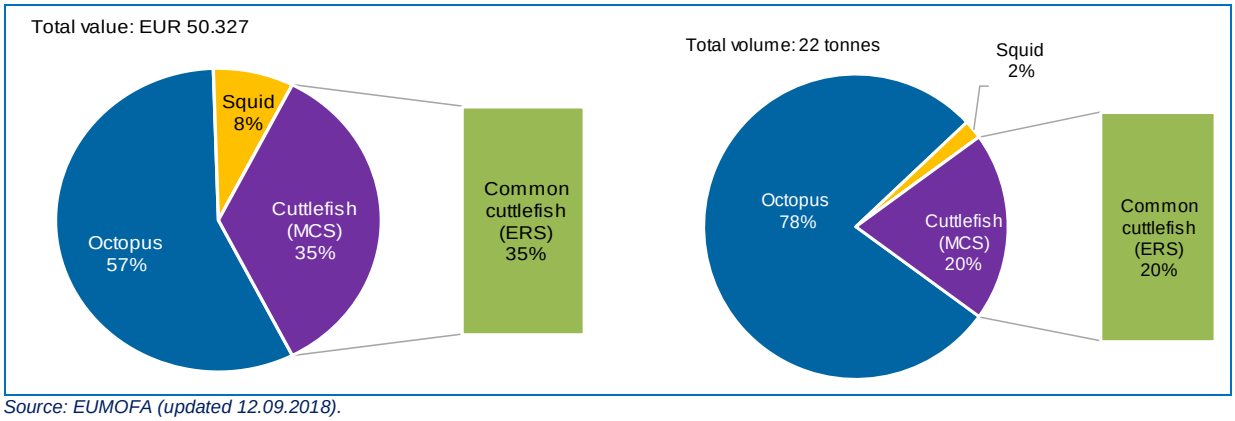
Figure 23. **COMMON CUTTLEFISH: FIRST SALES IN BELGIUM**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

[8] http://www.guidedesespeces.org/fr/seiche
[9] http://seafish.org/media/Publications/SeafishSpeciesGuide_Cuttlefish_201401.pdf
[10] http://www.fao.org/fishery/species/2711/en

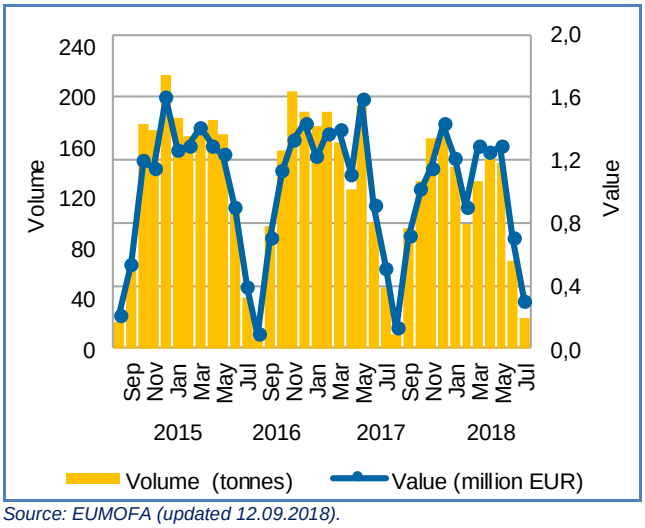
Figure 24. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON OF CEPHALOPODS IN BELGIUM IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JULY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

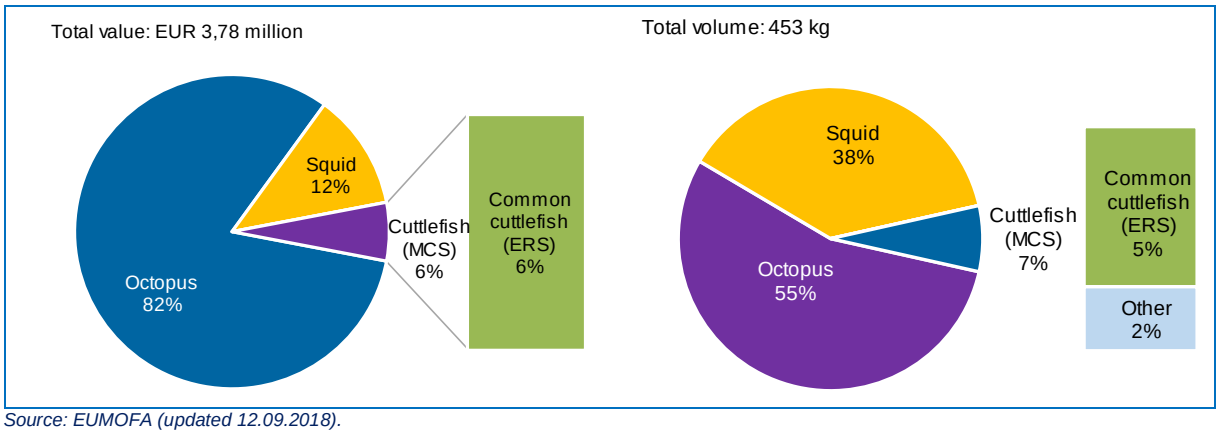
In **Italy** in January–July 2018, first sales of common cuttlefish declined in both value (−14%) and volume (−23%) from the same period in 2017. A similar trend occurred in 2016. In July 2018, first-sales value (EUR 0,30 million) and volume (24 tonnes) declined by 42% and 49%, respectively, from July 2017. The month with the highest catch in the 36-month period was December 2015, when 217 tonnes were sold for EUR 1,54 million. Over 50% of common cuttlefish first-sales value was registered at the port of Chioggia in the northern part of the Adriatic Sea.

Figure 25. **COMMON CUTTLEFISH: FIRST SALES IN ITALY**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

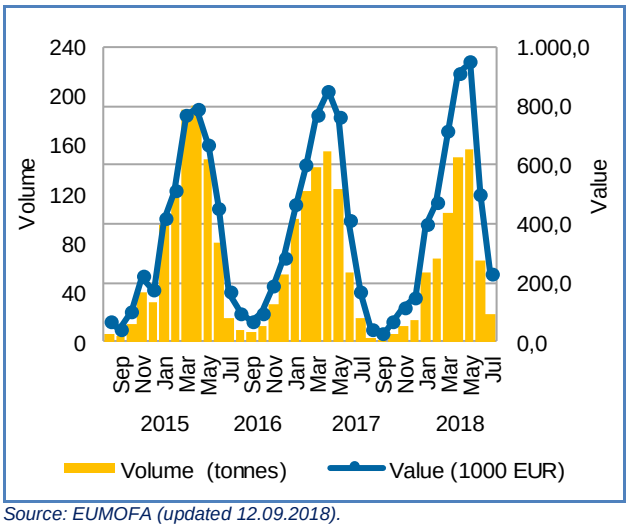
Figure 26. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON OF CEPHALOPODS IN ITALY IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JULY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

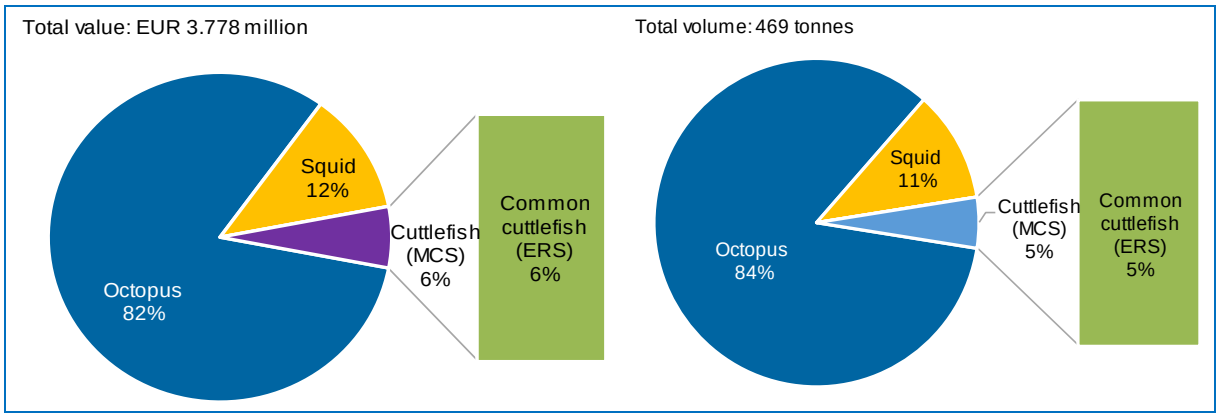
In **Portugal** in January−July 2018, in comparison with the similar periods in 2017 and 2016, first sales of common cuttlefish increased in value by 4% and 10%, whereas volume decreased by 13% and 26%, respectively. In July 2018, first sales increased about 30% over July 2017, with the average price at 9,73 EUR/kg. The cuttlefish fishery in Portugal is seasonal, with a low point during the summer period (July−August), and a peak in winter. In 2018, the most important ports for first sales of cuttlefish are in Setúbal, Sesimbra and Olhão.

Figure 27. **COMMON CUTTLEFISH: FIRST SALES IN PORTUGAL**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

Figure 28. **FIRST-SALES COMPARISON OF CEPHALOPODS IN PORTUGAL IN VALUE AND VOLUME, JULY 2018**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

Price trends

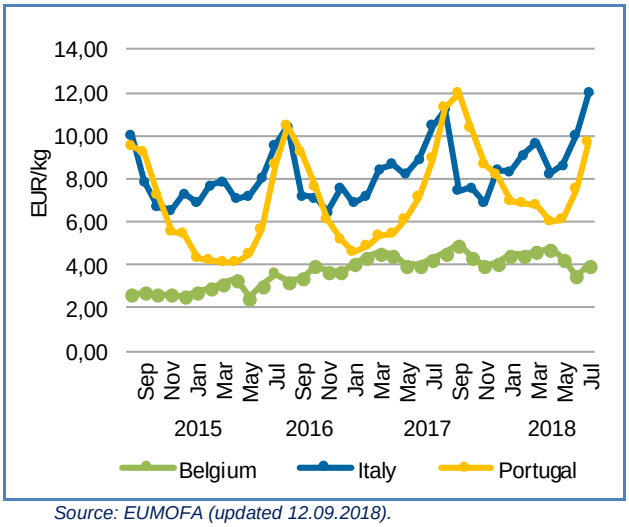
In the past three years, average first-sales prices of common cuttlefish generally increased in all surveyed countries, with the highest growth occurring in Belgium (+52%). Prices were far higher in Italy (8,27 EUR/kg), more than double (+122%) than in Belgium (3,73 EUR/kg) and 17% over the average price in Portugal (7,05 EUR/kg).

In **Belgium**, the volume of catches is the lowest among the surveyed countries. In the seven-month period of 2018, the average first-sales price (4,51 EUR/kg) increased by 6% and 52% over 2017 and 2016, respectively. The highest price occurred in September 2017 at 4,96 EUR/kg, with landings of 89 kg, whereas the lowest price was registered in May 2016, when the volume of only 5 tonnes of cuttlefish was sold for as little as 2,51 EUR/kg.

In **Italy** in January–July 2018, the average price of cuttlefish was 8,97 EUR/kg, representing an increase of 11% over 2017, and 20% over 2016. For the past three years, prices in Italy were highest in the summer period (July–August). They peaked in July 2018 at 11,97 EUR/kg for 25 tonnes, while the lowest first-sales price occurred in November 2016, at 6,46 EUR/kg for 202 tonnes. Average prices move in the opposite direction to volume, which is usually the lowest in summer and highest in winter.

In **Portugal**, during the first seven months of 2018, the average price of cuttlefish reached 6,63 EUR/kg, an increase of 19% over 2017, and 49% compared to 2016. In the past three years, peak prices have regularly occurred during the summer (July–August). The highest price of 11,97 EUR/kg was recorded in July 2018, when 23 tonnes were sold. Fluctuations in cuttlefish average prices are regular, with the highest prices in summer but lowest in winter when supply is limited. The lowest price in the 3-year period occurred in November 2016 when it fell to as little as 6,64 EUR/kg.

Figure 29. **CUTTLEFISH: FIRST-SALES PRICE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES**



Source: EUMOFA (updated 12.09.2018).

We have covered **common cuttlefish** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

First sales: France (6/2017, 6/2015, October 2013), Italy (6/2017), Portugal (6/2017, 8/2016), UK (6/2016).

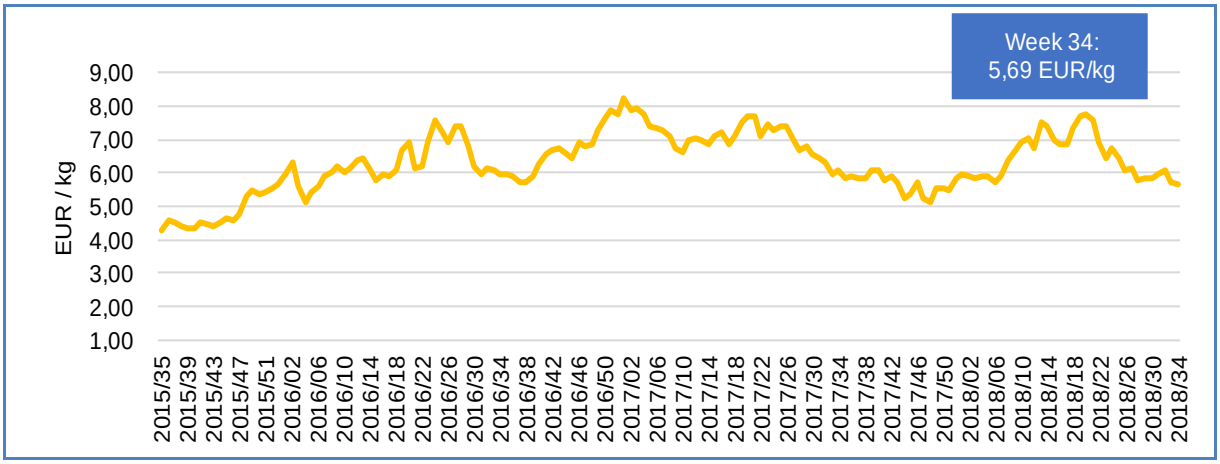
Consumption: Italy (7/2017).

2 Extra-EU imports

Each month, weekly extra-EU import prices (average unit values per week, in EUR per kg) are examined for nine species. Three of them, which are the most relevant in terms of value and volume are examined every month: Atlantic salmon from Norway, Alaska pollock from China, and tropical shrimp (genus Penaeus) from Ecuador. Six other species change every month, and this issue of Monthly Highlights looks at shrimps and prawns, livers and roes, and surimi, along with three species products that are examined each month as part of the month's selected commodity group, which this month are octopus, squid, and cuttlefish.

For fresh whole **Atlantic salmon** (*Salmo salar*, CN code 03021400) imported from **Norway**, has continued an irregular decline that began in mid-May, when the price was 7,75 EUR/kg in week 20. A similar pattern was observed in 2016 and 2017. Recently, by **week 33** (mid-August), the price had fallen to 5,73 EUR/kg, down by 26%. Volume during this period generally rose, reaching around 14,5 thousand kg per week recently. Prices are still very much improved from lows during last winter, when prices fell as low as 5,11 EUR/kg in week 48 of 2017.

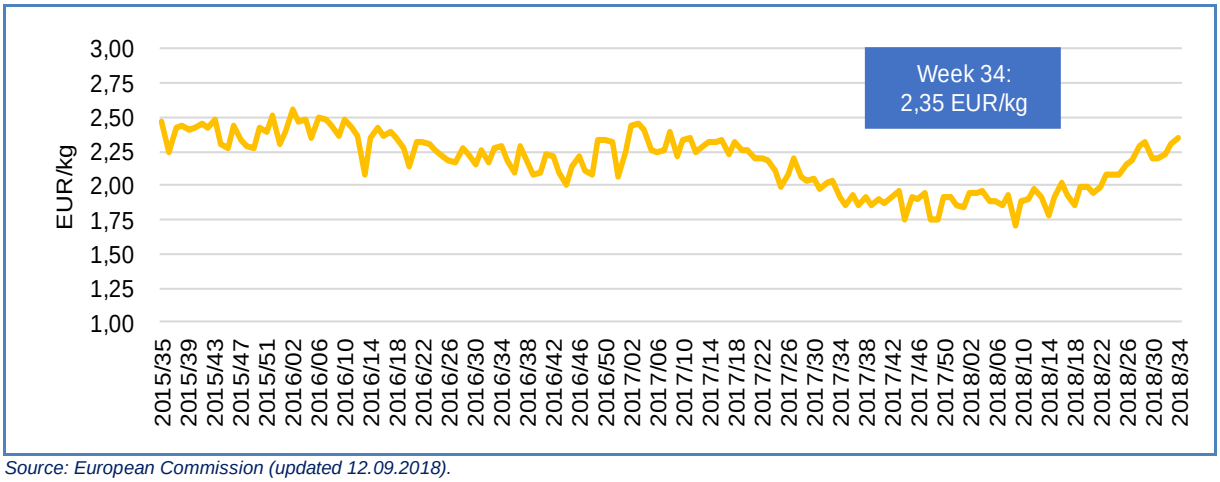
Figure 30. **IMPORT PRICE OF ATLANTIC SALMON, FRESH WHOLE FROM NORWAY**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

The weekly price of frozen fillets of **Alaska pollock** (*Theragra chalcogramma*, CN code 03047500) imported from **China** has continued to rise, reaching 2,30 EUR/kg in **week 33**, a price not previously seen since week 11 of 2017. Weekly supplies do not seem to explain the long wave-like trend in price, as volumes have been highly erratic during the three years prior to week 33, moving sharply up and down between about 1 and 5 thousand kilograms a week, with no long-run rise or fall.

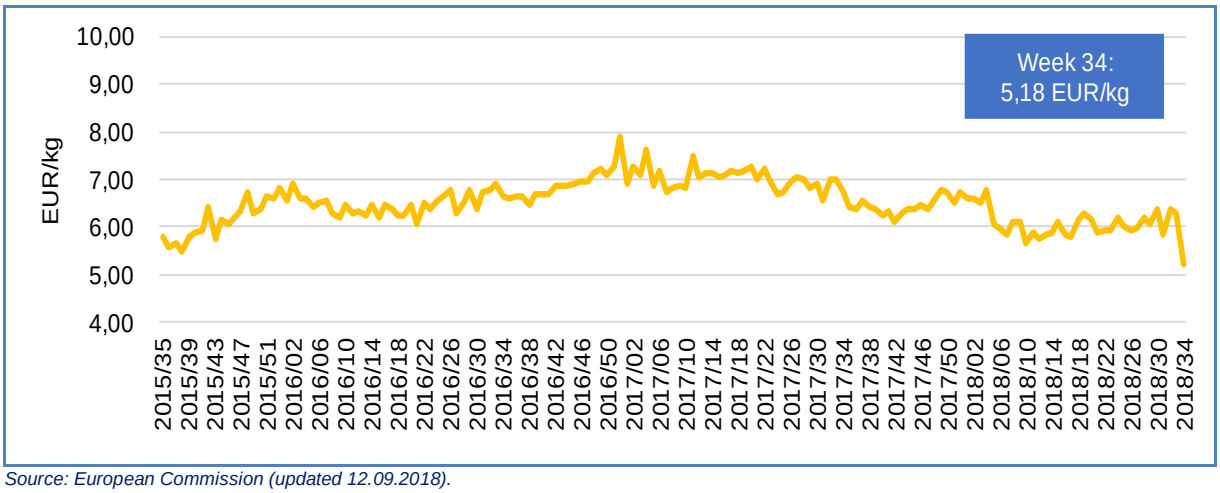
Figure 31. **IMPORT PRICE OF ALASKA POLLOCK, FROZEN FILLETS FROM CHINA**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

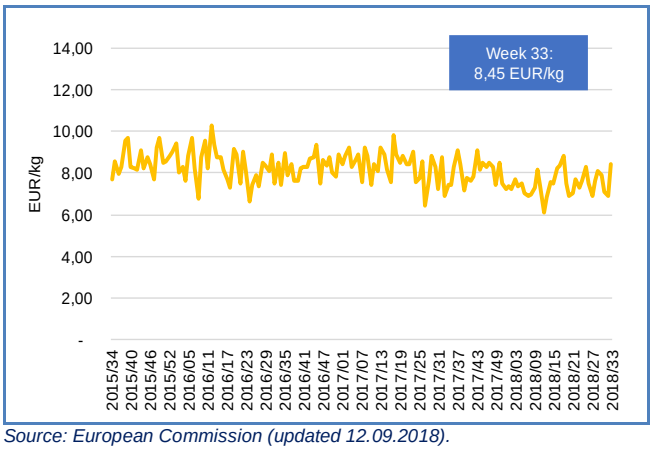
The price of frozen **tropical shrimp** (genus *Penaeus*, CN code 03061792) imported from **Ecuador** in **week 33** was 6,26 EUR/kg, down slightly from a week earlier, but up by 11% from the lowest point seen in almost the entire three -year period analysted, which was a price of 5,65 EUR/kg in week 10 of this year. Volumes have remained strong in 2018, as a supply glut in many markets in the world continues.

Figure 32. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN TROPICAL SHRIMP FROM ECUADOR**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

Figure 33. **IMPORT PRICE OF SHRIMPS AND PRAWNS FROM VIETNAM**

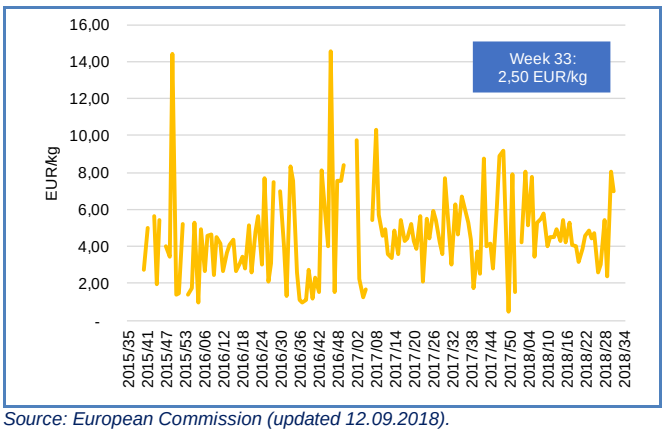


Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

The EU import price of **shrimps and prawns** not in airtight containers, prepared or preserved (CN code 16052110) imported from **Vietnam**, while somewhat fluctuating on a week-to-week basis, has been steady over the long period analysed here. The price in **week 33** of 2018 was 8,45 EUR/kg, up by 22% from the previous week but only 4% higher than the average price of 8,16 EUR/kg during the entire period. Volume is very erratic on a week-to-week basis, often changing by 100 tonnes in a week, or up to 100%, and quite seasonal, peaking around October of each year.

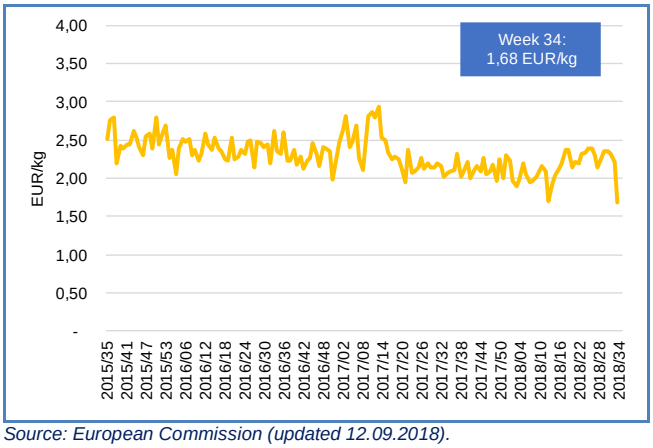
The price of **livers and roes**, frozen, for human food use (CN code 03039190), imported from **Iceland**, is quite volatile, as is the weekly volume, although the latter also contains a strong seasonal pattern not apparent in prices. The price in **week 33** of 2,50 EUR/kg was one of the lowest so far in 2018, which has seen a general downward trend in price.

Figure 34. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN LIVERS AND ROES FROM ICELAND**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

Figure 35. **IMPORT PRICE OF FROZEN SURIMI FROM THE USA**

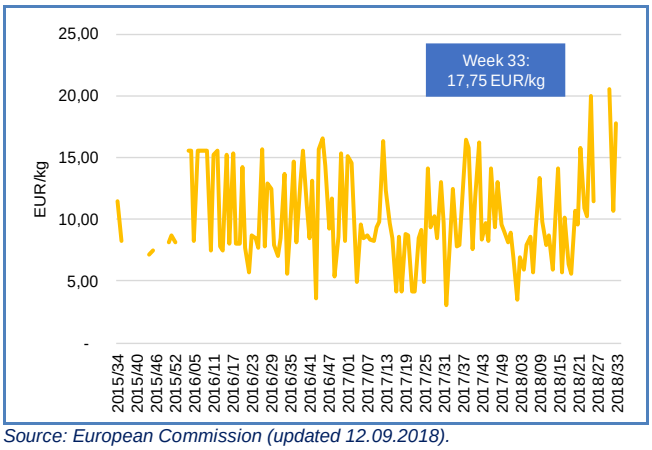


Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

The EU import price of **surimi** from Alaska pollock (*Theragra chalcogramma*), frozen (CN code 03049410), imported from the **USA**, has declined recently, reaching 1,68 EUR/kg in **week 34**, down by 29% from the price in weeks 30 and 31 of 2,36 EUR/kg. Volume in week 34 was sharply higher than in the preceding two weeks (106,6 tonnes in week 34 against 64,8 tonnes in week 32), probably contributing to the recent price drop. Through week 34, the average price was 2,14 EUR/kg in 2018, 2,35 EUR/kg in the same period in 2017, and 2,37 EUR/kg during the same weeks in 2016.

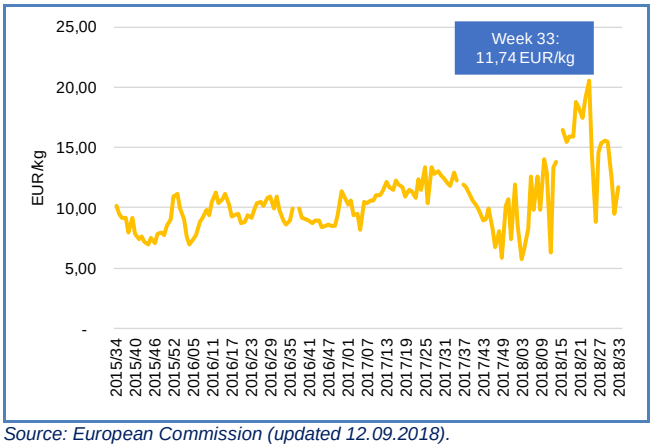
For **octopus**, prepared or preserved (CN code 16055500), imported from **Indonesia**, the weekly import price is very erratic. The price in **week 33** of 17,75 EUR/kg was 66% higher than the price in week 32, which itself was 48% lower than the previous week's price. However, until week 25, when the price reached 20,00 EUR/kg, price had been lower and showed no particular trend since at least week 34 of 2015. Volume supply of this product is equally volatile, ranging from week to week from near zero to as much as 35 tonnes and then back down again, with no seasonal or longer-term trend during the 156 weeks under review.

Figure 36. **IMPORT PRICE OF OCTOPUS FROM INDONESIA**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

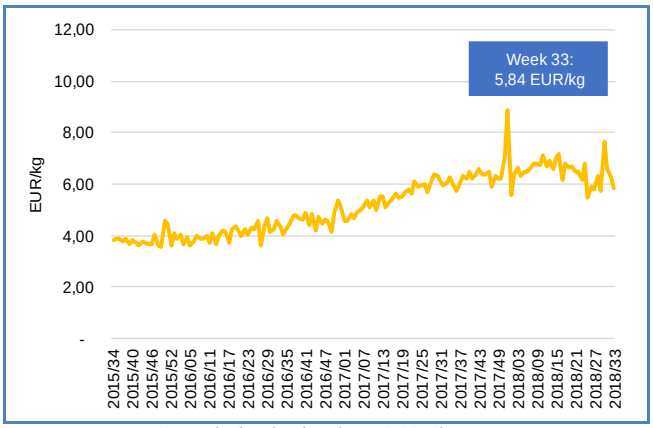
Figure 37. **IMPORT PRICE OF SQUID FROM MOROCCO**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

The price of live, fresh, or chilled **squid** (*Loligo* spp. CN code 03074220), imported from **Morocco**, has seen a substantial change in "behavior" in 2018 over previous years. In **week 33** the price was 11,74 EUR/kg, which was only slightly above the average during 2018 thus far. However, it was 23% higher than in week 32, which itself was 23% lower than in week 31. The price in 2018 has fluctuated between a low of 5,70 EUR/kg (week 3) and a high of 20,53 EUR/kg (week 24). But prior to 2018, the price rarely moved significantly from one week to the next, although there was a clear, if irregular, upward trend during that period. Volume from week 34 of 2015 showed a different pattern, being highly volatile prior to 2018, and then dropping sharply in volume through week 33 of 2018.

Figure 38. **IMPORT PRICE OF CUTTLEFISH FROM MOROCCO**



Source: European Commission (updated 12.09.2018).

For frozen **cuttlefish** (*Sepia officinalis, Rossia macrosoma*, CN code 03074329), imported from **Morocco**, the price in **week 33** of 5,84 EUR/kg was 24% lower than a recent high (in week 30) of 7,64 EUR/kg. That recent high, would have been in line with a long-run rise in this price that has occurred since later 2015. The price spike in week 30, and an earlier, large spike in week 52 of 2017, were tied to volumes much lower than average in those weeks.

3 Consumption

3.1. HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION IN THE EU

In June 2018, consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products increased in both volume and value in Germany, Hungary, Ireland and Spain compared with June 2017. The highest increase in value was registered in Hungary (+16%) and the highest increase in volume was observed in Ireland (+9%). In Italy, value increased 2%, while volume remained unchanged. The Netherlands was the only country where consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products remained stable in both volume and value. In the rest of the Member States surveyed, consumption decreased in both volume and value. The largest drop occurred in the UK, −22% in volume and −18% in value.

Compared with May 2018, consumption of fresh fisheries and aquaculture products increased in both volume and value in most of the Member States analysed. Only in Germany, Hungary, Poland and the UK volume and value decreased. In Denmark, volume decreased and value increased. The greatest increases were registered in Sweden (+61% in volume and +49% in value) and Ireland (+33% and +35%, respectively).

Table 3. **JUNE OVERVIEW OF THE REPORTING COUNTRIES (volume in tonnes and value in million EUR)**

Country	Per capita consumption 2015* (live weight equivalent) kg/capita/year	June 2016		June 2017		May 2018		June 2018		Change from June 2017 to June 2018	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Denmark	22,9	626	9,08	533	8,34	497	7,40	483	7,91	-9%	-5%
Germany	13,4	4.858	71,79	4.940	74,51	5.087	77,45	5.045	76,37	-2%	-2%
France	33,9	15.666	175,62	15.906	182,86	14.348	171,89	15.153	176,27	-5%	-4%
Hungary	4,8	335	2,16	193	1,12	302	1,58	223	1,16	-16%	-4%
Ireland	22,1	1.231	17,31	1.113	16,18	920	13,08	1.221	17,64	-10%	-9%
Italy	28,4	30.740	253,98	32.491	273,01	26.464	229,46	32.455	279,20	0%	-2%
Netherlands	22,2	2.782	43,95	2.658	43,97	2.086	35,62	2.652	44,12	0%	0%
Poland	13,6	3.285	17,90	2.894	17,23	2.884	17,58	2.672	16,39	-8%	-5%
Portugal	55,9	4.503	27,45	4.688	29,48	3.810	24,25	4.080	25,79	-13%	-13%
Spain	45,2	53.359	394,19	50.730	379,48	50.775	380,69	51.186	384,47	-1%	-1%
Sweden	26,9	739	9,74	890	11,43	521	7,24	839	10,78	-6%	-6%
UK	24,3	28.354	313,03	28.545	302,16	29.470	322,70	22.307	247,38	-22%	-18%

Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 07.09.2018).
**Data on per capita consumption of all fish and seafood products for all EU Member States can be found at: http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/108446/The+EU+fish+market+2017.pdf*

Generally, the consumption trend of fisheries and aquaculture products in the month of June during the past three years declined in both volume and value in Denmark, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the UK. However, in France, Ireland and the Netherlands volume decreased, while value increased. Only in Germany, Italy and Sweden both volume and value grew.

In the month of June for the past three years, household consumption of fresh fish products has been above the annual average in both volume and value in Ireland (+8% and +10%, respectively) and Italy (both +13%). In the Netherlands and Spain, household consumption in June was above the average in value; however, consumed volume remained below the average in these countries. In Sweden, value remained at the annual average level and volume was +3% above the average. In the rest of the Member States surveyed, both volume and value were below the annual average.

The most recent consumption data available on EUMOFA for **July 2017** can be accessed **here**.

3.2. Fresh mackerel

Habitat: a small pelagic species, inhabiting deeper waters during winter and warmer waters near the shore during spring [11].
Catch area: Northeast Atlantic from Norway to Morocco and the Canaries, and in the Mediterranean and Black seas.
Main producing countries in Europe: the UK, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway and Ireland.
Production method: caught.
Main consumers in the EU: Ireland, the UK, Sweden, Denmark.
Presentation: whole, gutted, filetted.
Preservation: fresh, frozen, smoked, canned.
Ways of preparation: grilled, baked.

3.2.1 General overview of household consumption in France, Portugal and the UK

France and Portugal are among the countries with the highest per capita consumption of fish and seafood products in the EU. In 2015, France registered per capita consumption of 33,9 kg, 35% higher than the EU average of 25,1 kg. However, it was 39% lower than the per capita consumption in Portugal of 55,9 kg. Portugal registered the highest per capita consumption in the EU, more than two times the EU average. See more on per capita consumption in the EU in Table 3.

During January 2015–June 2018, retail prices of fresh mackerel fluctuated considerably in France and remained relatively stable in Portugal. Volumes saw considerable monthly variations in both countries. Volumes sold were 40% bigger in Portugal, while prices were more than two times higher in France.

We have covered **mackerel** in previous *Monthly Highlights*:

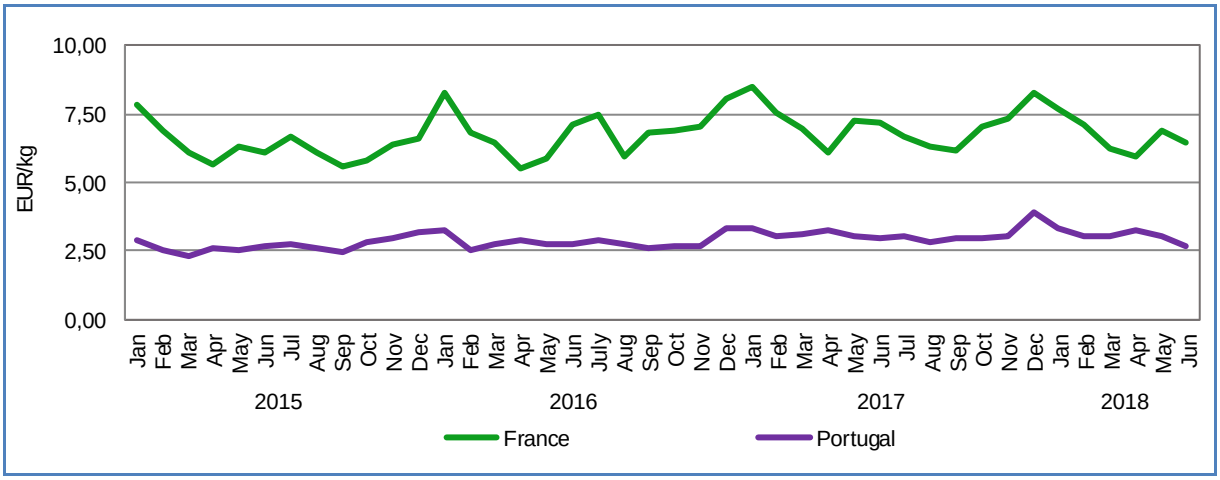
First sales: France (1/2018), Norway (8/2015, 5/2014), Portugal (1/2018, 3/2016, August – September 2013), Sweden (1/2018), the UK (9/2016, April 2013).

Topic of the month: Atlantic mackerel in the EU (7/2018).

Consumption: Denmark (9/2016), Ireland (9/2016), Italy (10/2015), Latvia (3/2014), Lithuania (3/2014), the Netherlands (5/2016), Poland (3/2014), Portugal (9/2016), Spain (9/2016, 10/2015), the UK (9/2016).

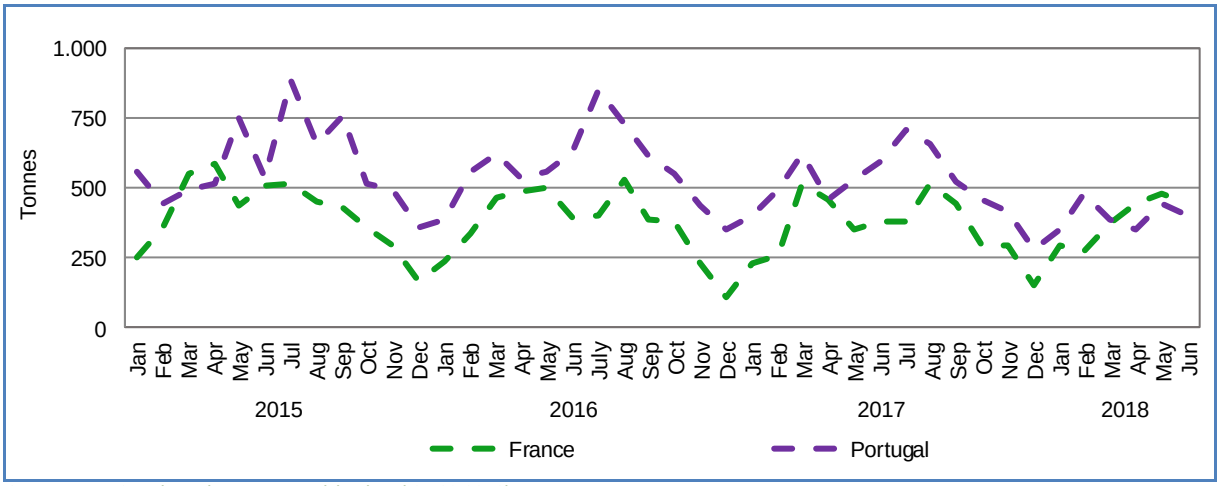
[11] http://www.eumofa.eu/documents/20178/111091/MH+1+2018+07.02..pdf

Figure 39. **RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH MACKEREL**



Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 07.09.2018).

Figure 40. **VOLUME SOLD OF FRESH MACKEREL**

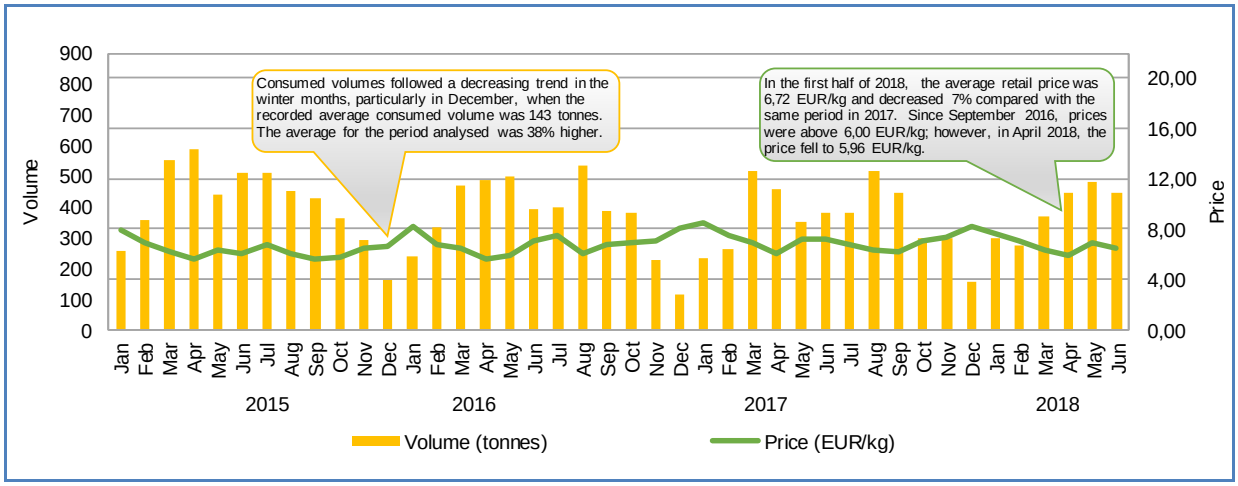


Source: EUMOFA based on Europanel (updated 07.09.2018).

3.2.2 Consumption trend in France

Long-term trend, January 2015–June 2018: decreasing in volume and increasing in price.
Yearly average price: 6,34 EUR/kg (2015), 6,85 EUR/kg (2016), 7,10 EUR/kg (2017).
Total yearly consumption: 4.910 tonnes (2015), 4.453 tonnes (2016), 4.287 tonnes (2017).
Short-term trend, January–June 2018: increasing in volume and decreasing in price.
Average price: 6,72 EUR/kg.
Total consumption, January–June 2018: 2.307 tonnes.

Figure 41. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME SOLD OF FRESH MACKEREL IN FRANCE**

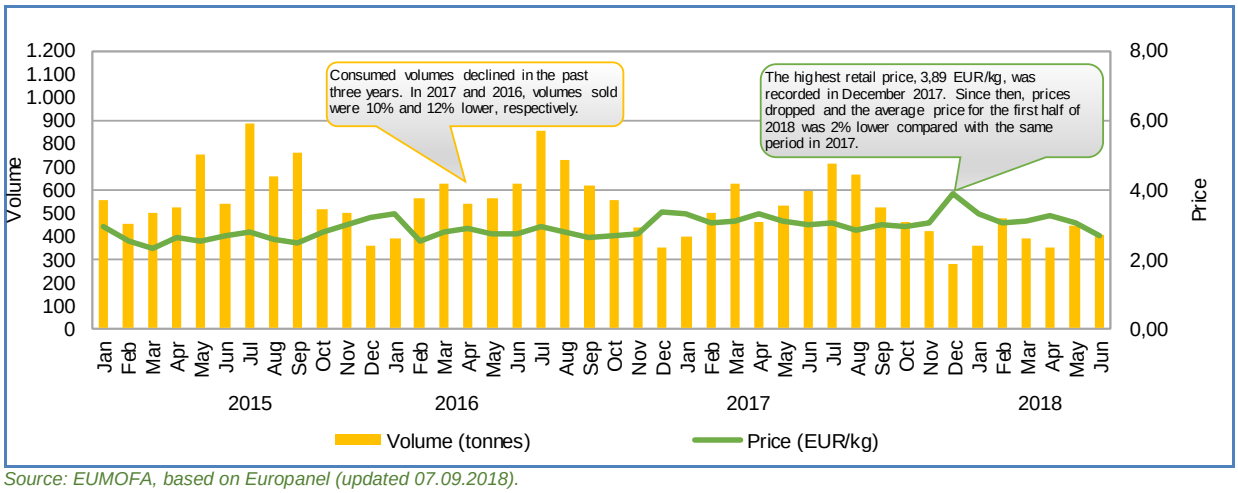


Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 07.09.2018).

3.2.3 Consumption trend in Portugal

Long-term trend, January 2015–June 2018: decreasing in volume and increasing in price.
Yearly average price: 2,69 EUR/kg (2015), 2,82 EUR/kg (2016), 3,12 EUR/kg (2017).
Total yearly consumption: 6.965 tonnes (2015), 6.835 tonnes (2016), 6.146 tonnes (2017).
Short-term trend, January–June 2018: increasing slightly in volume and decreasing slightly in price.
Average price: 3,05 EUR/kg.
Total consumption, January–June 2018: 2.413 tonnes.

Figure 42. **RETAIL PRICE AND VOLUME SOLD OF FRESH MACKEREL IN PORTUGAL**



Source: EUMOFA, based on Europanel (updated 07.09.2018).

4 Case study – Fisheries and aquaculture in Ghana

4.1 Introduction

Ghana is located along the Gulf of Guinea in west Africa, bordering Ivory Coast in the west and Togo in the East. It has a substantial fish stock and a strong tradition for both catch and consumption of seafood. As many as 2,2 million people are dependent on the fisheries sector for their livelihoods. The fish stocks are heavily overexploited, and they depend on imports to cover their annual demand[12].

Ghana has a territorial sea of 12 nautical miles (Nm), a contiguous zone of 24 Nm and an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 200 Nm, covering an area of 225.000 km^2. With this combination of valuable attributes, and a 550-kilometre coastline which stretches from Aflao in the East to Half Assini in the West, Ghana's fisheries sector contributes significantly towards sustainable livelihoods, food security and poverty reduction[13].

The fisheries sector in Ghana is estimated to contribute 3% to the total GDP and 5% of the value of agricultural production. About 10% of the country's population is engaged in various aspects of the fishing industry[14]. In 2016, the country had production of 379.000 tonnes from marine fisheries and inland waters. In 2017, they imported 357.000 tonnes. The imported species are mainly mackerel species and small pelagics imported from Mauritania, Morocco and Belgium among others[15]. Detailed information on the main importing countries can be found in table 11 and 12.

Source: Google maps.

The catch of marine fish and freshwater fish (from Lake Volta) dominates the fisheries industry.

Table 4. **FISHERIES IN GHANA 2000–2016 (volume in 1000 tonnes)**

Species	2000	2005	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Marine fish	371	287	266	202	190	239	229
Freshwater fishes	80	76	117	122	128	135	142
Crustaceans	1,6	4,2	3,6	2,8	1,3	0,9	0,9
Diadromous fishes	3,3	5,5	4,4	3,3	2,9	13,0	4,3
Molluscs	1,8	2,5	2,0	2,6	3,9	3,4	3,7
Total	**457**	**375**	**393**	**333**	**326**	**391**	**379**

Source: FAO.

[12] https://www.mofad.gov.gh/projects/west-africa-regional-fisheries-programme/warfp-ghana-project-overview
[13] http://www.fao.org/fishery/facp/GHA/en
[14] http://gipcghana.com/21-investment-projects/agriculture-and-agribusiness/fishing-and-aquaculture/300-investing-in-ghana-s-fishing-industry.html
[15] EUMOFA.

4.2 Marine fisheries production

The structure of the marine fishing industry in Ghana can be categorized into four identifiable groups, namely the artisanal, semi-industrial (inshore sector), industrial (deep sea) and tuna-targeting fleets[16]. The pelagic species mainly go for local consumption, while a large share of tuna is exported. Ghana's catches from marine fisheries have declined in recent years. The catch of pelagic species has especially been reduced, probably due to problems with managing stocks as well as illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing (IUU). Between 2000 and 2016, total catches fell by 37%, from 364.000 tonnes to 229.000 tonnes.

The EU distant-water fishing fleets have been targeting tropical tunas in the Gulf of Guinea since the 1950s, today they catch about 10% of their global tuna catches in the Atlantic Ocean. Although the EU has never concluded a fisheries agreement with Ghana, the EU fleet has been fishing in Ghana's waters under private licences since 2007[17].

Table 5. **GHANA MARINE FISHERIES CATCHES, MAIN SPECIES (volume in 1000 tonnes)**

Species	2000	2005	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Round sardinella	102	64	25	26	21	23	27
European anchovy	84	36	50	8	6	5	13
Skipjack tuna	35	54	56	45	49	61	51
Yellowfin tuna	12	13	10	9	12	13	19
Bigeye tuna	5	9	9	11	10	12	5
Atlantic chub mackerel	28	6	8	4	4	4	2
Bigeye grunt	10	17	13	7	7	13	15
Madeiran sardinella	15	14	9	7	5	6	2
Other	72	73	85	86	76	101	94
Total	**364**	**287**	**266**	**202**	**190**	**239**	**229**

Source: FAO.

Illegal fishing

In November 2013, Ghana was issued a "yellow card" sanction from the European Commission due to their failure to take sufficient actions against IUU fishing activities[18]. Following the sanction, Ghana has made progress in improving the governance of the fisheries sector and in combating IUU.

Through the West Africa Regional Fisheries Program (WARFP), the country has put in place fisheries legislative measures, international collaboration and resources to manage and regulate the fisheries sector. In October 2015, the "yellow card" sanction was lifted as the European Commission (EC) removed Ghana from their IUU watch list[19] and recognized the country for their strong commitment against IUU[20]. After 2015, Ghana has expressed an interest in concluding a sustainable fisheries partnership agreement with the EU. An evaluation report for the EC was made in 2016, assessing the feasibility of setting up a Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement (SFPA) and Protocol between the European Union (EU) and Republic of Ghana[21].

[16] http://gipcghana.com/21-investment-projects/agriculture-and-agribusiness/fishing-and-aquaculture/300-investing-in-ghana-s-fishing-industry.html
[17] https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/0750e79f-fff2-11e6-8a35-01aa75ed71a1
[18] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5736_en.htm
[19] https://www.modernghana.com/news/822962/ghana-makes-progress-in-combating-illegal-fishing.html
[20] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5736_en.htm
[21] https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/0750e79f-fff2-11e6-8a35-01aa75ed71a1

4.3 Inland fisheries production

The inland fishery is considered as small-scale/artisanal. The Lake Volta reservoirs and coastal lagoons are the main sources of inland or freshwater fish. There are about 80.000 fishermen and 20.000 fish processors and traders engaged in the Lake Volta fishery. There are 17.500 canoes actively fishing in the Lake Volta. The fishing gears used are: cast and gillnets, hook and line, traps, spears and atidja (brush park)[22]. The inland fisheries catch was 142.000 tonnes in 2016[23].

4.4 Aquaculture production

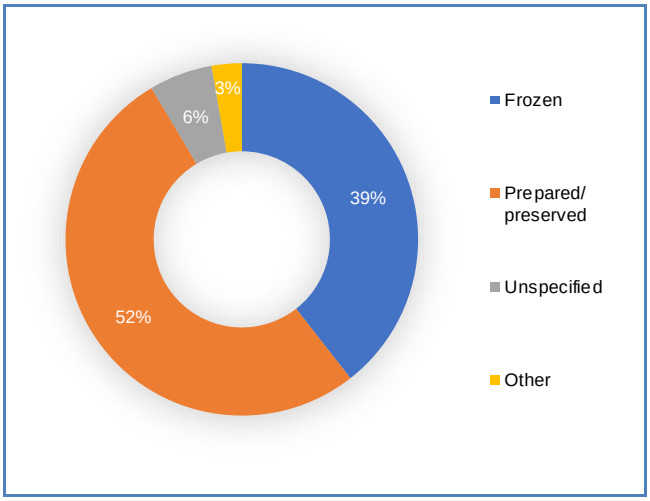
Aquaculture has only recently emerged as an assured way of meeting the deficit in Ghana's fish demand. It is seen as the more sustainable way to bridge the gap between domestic demand and supply[24]. The aquaculture sub-sector comprises mainly small-scale subsistence farmers who practice extensive aquaculture in earthen ponds[25]. The species produced in Ghanaian aquaculture is mainly Nile tilapia, and North African catfish and African bonytongue in small volumes. Nile tilapia is the main species produced through aquaculture with a harvest volume of 50.900 tonnes, which represents 97% of the total aquaculture production (52.480 tonnes) in 2016. The aquaculture production of tilapia has grown steadily, since 2010 when only 9.400 tonnes were harvested.

4.5 Trade

Export

Tuna represents the main fisheries product currently exported from Ghana. Stocks, managed by the ICCAT, can sustain current catch levels from industrial purse seiners and pole-and-line vessels.
The export of fisheries products from Ghana has fluctuated in recent years, with a large increase from 2016 to 2017. The largest EU importer of products from Ghana is currently the UK which imports mostly canned tuna.
Tuna is mainly exported as frozen whole or in cans to China, Iran, Thailand and the EU.

Figure 43. **GHANA'S EXPORTS OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS – BREAKDOWN BY PRESERVATION STATE IN VALUE IN 2017**



Source: EUMOFA.

[22] Research gate- value chain analysis Ghana fisheries.
[23] FAO.
[24] https://www.mofad.gov.gh/projects/west-africa-regional-fisheries-programme/warfp-ghana-project-overview/
[25] http://gipcghana.com/21-investment-projects/agriculture-and-agribusiness/fishing-and-aquaculture/300-investing-in-ghana-s-fishing-industry.html

Table 6. **GHANA EXPORT VOLUME BY MAIN COMMERICAL SPECIES (volume in tonnes)**

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Tuna, yellowfin	987	1.119	9	6.566	8.271	15.250
Other flatfish	0	4.068	4.178	2.719	6.641	4.310
Tuna, miscellaneous	1.915	1.307	151	565	356	14.041
Other marine fish	7.719	2.529	1.506	1.892	1.624	1.238
Other	1.824	2.893	5.279	2.405	5.338	16.899
Total	**12.445**	**11.915**	**11.124**	**14.147**	**22.229**	**51.738**

Source: EUMOFA.

Table 7. **GHANA'S EXPORT VOLUME OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS, BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION (volume in tonnes)**

Markets	2012	2013	2014	2015Is	2016	2017
China	3.673	6.074	5.411	5.446	12.188	10.914
Ivory Coast	880	2.168	0	6.566	5.254	1.137
Iran	815	111	0	0	806	9.533
Thailand	833	0	0	0	0	7.285
United Kingdom	11	10	10	5	4	5.896
Spain	1.139	847	1.530	694	591	438
Japan	58	3	0	0	141	4.605
Italy	695	426	555	0	74	2.272
France	214	754	76	0	0	2.496
Portugal	1.031	175	334	466	132	759
Other	3.096	1.347	3.207	969	3.040	6.404
Total	**12.445**	**11.915**	**11.124**	**14.147**	**22.229**	**51.738**

Source: EUMOFA.

Table 8. **GHANA'S EXPORT VALUE OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS, BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION (value in EUR 1000)**

Markets	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
United Kingdom	8	12	13	3	1	23.325
China	1.917	3.126	2.115	1.717	4.020	6.505
Iran	738	43	0	0	707	12.038
France	308	1.020	83	0	0	11.108
Ivory Coast	741	3.055	0	3.740	2.326	1.932
Thailand	604	0	0	0	0	8.800
Germany	0	4	7	0	0	9.194
Italy	279	206	95	0	432	7.940
Portugal	1.545	253	431	1157	420	3.308
Spain	1.444	814	1.471	853	813	537
Other	3.179	1.344	3.347	882	1.887	12.001
Total	**10.764**	**9.877**	**7.562**	**8.352**	**10.606**	**96.688**

Source: EUMOFA.

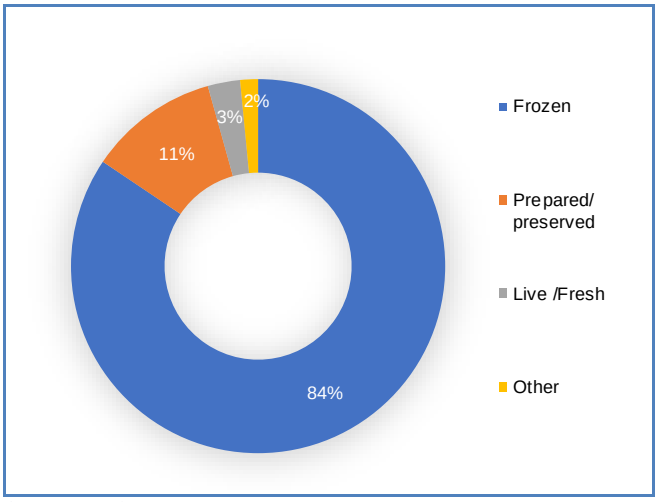
Table 9. **GHANA'S EXPORT OF TUNA SPECIES (volume 1000 tonnes and value EUR 1000)**

	2015		2016		2017	
Preservation	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**	**Volume**	**Value**
Tuna, miscellaneous	565	476	356	471	14.041	52.272
Tuna, yellowfin	6.566	3.740	8.271	4.429	15.250	20.252
Tuna, skipjack	0	0	182	245	7.008	10.490
Tuna, bluefin	0	0	0,4	0,4	1.703	1.265
Tuna, bigeye	0	0	0	0	548	772
Tuna, albacore	0	0	0	0	101	260
Total	**7.131**	**4.216**	**8.809**	**5.146**	**38.651**	**85.310**

Source: EUMOFA.

Import

Figure 44. **GHANA'S IMPORTS OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS – BREAKDOWN BY PRESERVATION STATE IN VALUE IN 2017**



Source: EUMOFA.

Ghana's fish demand is presently higher than domestic supply, making Ghana a net importer of fish. With a high fish consumption per capita (25 kg/year per capita), Ghana imports fish from countries worldwide[26].

In 2017, 357.000 tonnes of fish, valued at EUR 244 million, were imported to supplement local supply. The import volume has increased in recent years. In 2010, Ghana imported 216.000 tonnes, and in 2016 the import had reached 372.000 tonnes.

The large volumes of mackerel that were imported to Ghana in 2017 mainly came from Japan (22.000 tonnes), Mauritania (21.000 tonnes) and China (18.000 tonnes). Horse mackerel was mostly imported from Mauritania (35.000 tonnes), Belgium (23.000 tonnes) and Morocco (16.000 tonnes).

Ghana's imports mainly consist of frozen whole/gutted mackerel (104.000 tonnes).

[26] https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Pierre_Failler/publication/277329183_Value_chain_analysis_of_the_fishery_sector_in_Ghana_with_focus_on_quality_environmental_social_sustainable_food_safety_organic_requirements_and_its_compliance_infrastructure/links/5568776808aeab777 2 1fd7ab/Value-chain-analysis-of-the-fishery-sector-in-Ghana-with-focus-on-quality-environmental-social-sustainable-food-safety-organic-requirements-and-its-compliance-infrastructure.pdf

Table 10. **GHANA'S IMPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS (volume in 1000 tonnes)**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mackerel	71	119	94	118	125	123
Horse mackerel, other	0	75	71	87	118	111
Miscellaneous small pelagics	52	74	74	52	83	78
Other marine fish	104	52	25	36	31	23
Hake	1	2	2	3	6	12
Herring	0	4	1	1	2	3
Other species	14	14	13	8	7	8
Total	**243**	**340**	**279**	**306**	**372**	**357**

Source: EUMOFA.

Table 11. **GHANA'S IMPORTS OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (volume in 1000 tonnes)**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mauritania	68	53	83	53	83	83
Morocco	39	69	44	53	43	49
Belgium	4	17	12	31	67	47
China	9	23	17	19	23	22
Guinea-Bissau	0	47	15	20	18	10
Angola	0	1	20	33	15	29
Senegal	45	9	2	5	5	3
Japan	7	14	6	4	13	23
Other countries	72	107	81	87	104	92
Total	**243**	**340**	**279**	**306**	**372**	**357**

Source: EUMOFA.

Table 12. **GHANA'S IMPORTS OF FISHERIES PRODUCTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (value in EUR million)**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Mauritania	56	40	64	45	65	50
Morocco	24	46	31	45	30	34
Belgium	3	10	8	26	50	34
Japan	6	13	6	4	11	18
China	6	15	11	13	15	17
Angola	0	1	13	23	9	16
United States	1	2	1	4	2	12
Sierra Leone	0	0	3	2	4	6
Other countries	88	123	61	70	101	56
Total	**184**	**251**	**198**	**233**	**288**	**244**

Source: EUMOFA.

4.6 Consumption

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture has recognised fish as a preferred source of animal protein in Ghana, and about 75% of the total domestic production of fish is consumed locally. The Ministry estimates that fish contributes about 60% of the population' animal protein intake. The per capita consumption is estimated at approximately 25 kg per year[27]. With a population of 28 million (2016) that has an estimated growth of 2,1% per year[28], and a strong tradition for eating fish, Ghana's import dependency on seafood will likely increase in the future.

4.7 Strategies and policies in Ghana fisheries sector

Ghana's Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) was established in 2013 to accelerate development in the fisheries sector. In addition to combating IUU, developing fisheries infrastructure to modernize the sector, and promoting aquaculture development, Ghana chairs the West Africa Regional Fisheries programme (WARF) and the Sustainable Fisheries Management programme (SFM).

Both these programmes aim at improving sustainable management in the fisheries sector. The WARF programme focuses on reducing illegal fishing, increasing the value and profitability generated by the fish resources and developing aquaculture for increased national food security, economic development and poverty reduction. The SFM programme's goal is to rebuild targeted marine fish stocks that have seen major declines in landings over the last decade, particularly the small pelagic fisheries that are important for food security in Ghana.

[27] http://mofa.gov.gh/site/?page_id=244
[28] The World Bank.

5 Case study – Lobster in the EU

Lobster is one of the most valued seafoods in the world and has a global market. In the EU, the European lobster in caught mostly by using traps and EU landings amounted to 4.150 tonnes in 2016. However, significant quantities of American lobster, a similar species, are imported from both Canada and the USA. In 2017, extra-EU imports reached 15.309 tonnes for a value of EUR 229 million. Lobster is most often marketed alive and its price may experience high seasonal variations.

5.1 Biology, resources and exploitation

On the EU market two species are marketed as lobster. The species locally produced is the European lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) but substantial quantities of American lobster (*Homarus americanus*) are also marketed in the EU[29].

Biology

Homarus gammarus, known as European lobster or common lobster, is a species of clawed lobster from the eastern Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea and parts of the Black Sea. It is closely related to the American lobster, *Homarus americanus.* Lobsters may grow to a length of 60 cm and a mass of 6 kg and bear a pair of large claws. They are blue (European lobster) or brown (American lobster) in colour and turn red only when cooked.

Adult *Homarus gammarus* live on the continental shelf at depths up to 150 metres, although not normally deeper than 50 m. They prefer hard substrates, such as rocks or hard mud, and live in holes or crevices, emerging at night to feed. Mating occurs in the summer, producing eggs which are carried by the females for up to a year before hatching into planktonic larvae. Lobsters can live for at least 20 years and possibly up to 50 years. At the minimum landing size (MLS) of 87 mm carapace length, lobsters are generally between 4 and 8 years old[30].

Resources, exploitation and management in the EU

Although there are still some data needed to fully assess European stocks status, lobster is highly monitored and highly regulated because of its economic importance at regional level. The species was previously considered to be relatively migratory with regional or local populations constituting as many sub-stocks. Current studies show that the movements are more numerous than one might think, thus, North Brittany and part of Granville Bay would constitute a single stock. For some stocks, declining catches of individuals which have not reached sexual maturity would consolidate the spawning stock and production yields[31]. Except for the minimum landing size, most management measures are implemented at regional level: fishing licenses, fishing closures, fishing areas, limitation on the number of pots by vessels, etc[32]. Concerning American lobster, the main Canadian stocks are intensively exploited and several management measures aiming to reduce fishing effort have been enforced. The status of exploitation of American stocks varies depending on fishing areas[33]. Several fisheries of American lobster have obtained the Marine Stewardship Council certification (e.g. Gaspésie, Gulf of Maine, etc). In the EU, the Normandy and Jersey lobster fisheries have been certified by MSC since 2009 (437 tonnes in 2016)[34].

Homarus gammarus is a highly praised food, and is widely caught using lobster pots, and to a lesser extent as bycatch for bottom trawlers, mostly around the British Isles. European lobster, much rarer than the American lobster, is mostly marketed alive. American lobster is marketed in Europe, mostly during the Christmas season, either frozen, whole, cooked or alive. Depending on fishing areas, it is caught at different periods of the year, then it is kept alive in pounds, in order to be sold during the high consumption season.

[29] Rock lobster (*Jasus* spp.) and tropical or spiny lobster (*Palinurus* spp.) are excluded from this case study due to the focus on *Homarus* species.
[30] http://www.bim.ie/media/bim/content/downloads/BIM,Lobster,Handling,and,Quality,Guide.pdf
[31] http://www.guidedesespeces.org/fr/homard
[32] http://www.pdm-seafoodmag.com/guide/crustaces/details/product/Homard_europ%C3%A9en.html
[33] http://www.guidedesespeces.org/fr/homard
[34] https://fisheries.msc.org/en/fisheries/normandy-and-jersey-lobster/@@view

5.2 Production

World catches of *Homarus* species amounted to 167.260 tonnes in 2016[35] (of which 97% was American lobster and 3% European lobster), up by 92% from 2007, mostly attributed to the strong increase of American lobster over the period (+96%), while catches of European lobster experienced a moderate increase (+13%).

In 2016, catches of American lobster reached 162.547 tonnes. The leading producers were Canada (56%) and the USA (44%). European lobster catches reached 4.713 tonnes in 2016. The main producer was the EU, accounting for 89% of the total European lobster catches. Inside the EU, the UK is the main producer, accounting for 70% of the total EU lobster catch. Other main producers are France (12%) and Ireland (3%).

During the past decade (2007–2016), Canadian and American fisheries almost doubled their catches, whereas major EU producing countries have experienced lower but still significant increases in lobster catches, +18% in the UK and +40% in France.

EU lobster landings amounted to 4.150 tonnes in 2016 for an estimated value of EUR 65 million[36]. The UK and France were the major Member States for lobster landings, accounting for 79% and 14%, respectively, of the EU lobster landings. The estimated average price for lobster in the EU at first-sale stage was 15,73 EUR/kg in 2016, with high variability among Member States.

From 2007 to 2016, EU lobster landings experienced fluctuations with a peak reached in 2011 at 4.829 tonnes. Among major producers, over the period, landings increased in the UK (+18%), soared in France (+123%) and strongly decreased in Ireland (-54%), potentially highlighting changes in landing strategies among EU fleets targeting lobster in the Channel and Celtic Sea.

Table 13. **WORLD CATCHES OF LOBSTER, *HOMARUS SPP.* (volume in tonnes)**

Country	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Canada	48.870	58.984	58.342	67.277	66.978	74.790	74.686	92.779	90.875	90.624
USA	34.107	37.120	43.949	52.360	57.298	67.835	67.732	67.035	66.189	71.923
EU28	3.840	4.018	4.117	4.721	5.117	4.080	4.090	4.722	4.358	4.176
Channel Islands	227	230	245	305	333	338	305	358	366	367
Other	128	113	106	144	157	166	142	114	151	170
Total	87.172	100.465	106.759	124.807	129.883	147.209	146.955	165.008	161.939	167.260

Source: FAO –Fishstat.

Table 14. **EUROPEAN LOBSTER, EU LANDINGS (volume in tonnes)**

Country	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
United Kingdom	2.761	2.758	2.763	2.717	3.177	3.134	2.958	3.383	3.094	3.260
France	264	312	319	564	804	593	562	649	570	589
Ireland	308	500	427	476	735	251	374	451	372	142
Netherlands	20	23	26	26	27	40	47	81	82	64
Denmark	7	11	17	32	30	27	24	27	30	35
Other	43	51	61	58	55	39	43	49	53	60
Total	3.403	3.654	3.612	3.874	4.829	4.084	4.008	4.641	4.201	4.150[37]

Source: Eurostat.

[35] FAO.
[36] Eurostat.
[37] The slight difference in volume of EU catched and EU landings (26 tonnes in 2016) can be due to landings in non-EU countries or losses.

Lobster is a relatively easy species to rear in aquaculture and the lobster biology is well understood. The main limitation for lobster aquaculture has been high production costs due to the duration of the production cycle, the demand for 18-22°C water to get acceptable growth rates, and the need for individual rearing compartments to avoid cannibalism and uneven growth rates due to hierarchies. Moreover, the lack of a high quality formulated feed has been a limiting factor[38].

However, during the last decade rising prices of lobster and development of new recirculation technology have again made lobster a promising candidate for closed cycle aquaculture. Lobster aquaculture has been experimented on for several years in Norway, Iceland and the UK, but has not reached commercial production levels yet[39].

In addition, the aquaculture of juvenile lobsters has been developed in both American and European regions for seeding purposes where wild stocks had declined[40].

5.3 Trade

Lobster is traded live, frozen (raw or cooked, whole or tail) and to a lesser extent processed (soup, bisque). In 2017, the EU had a trade deficit of EUR 220 million for lobster. The deficit is mainly attributable to the imports of live whole lobster (EUR 167 million in 2017). Extra-EU imports of frozen lobster are also significant (27% of total extra-EU imports).

The main extra-EU suppliers of live lobster are the USA and Canada (56% and 43% in value, respectively). Imports from these countries respectively reached 6.227 tonnes and 4.838 tonnes in 2017.

The main extra-EU supplier of frozen lobster is Canada (93% in value) with 3.864 tonnes imported by the EU in 2017.

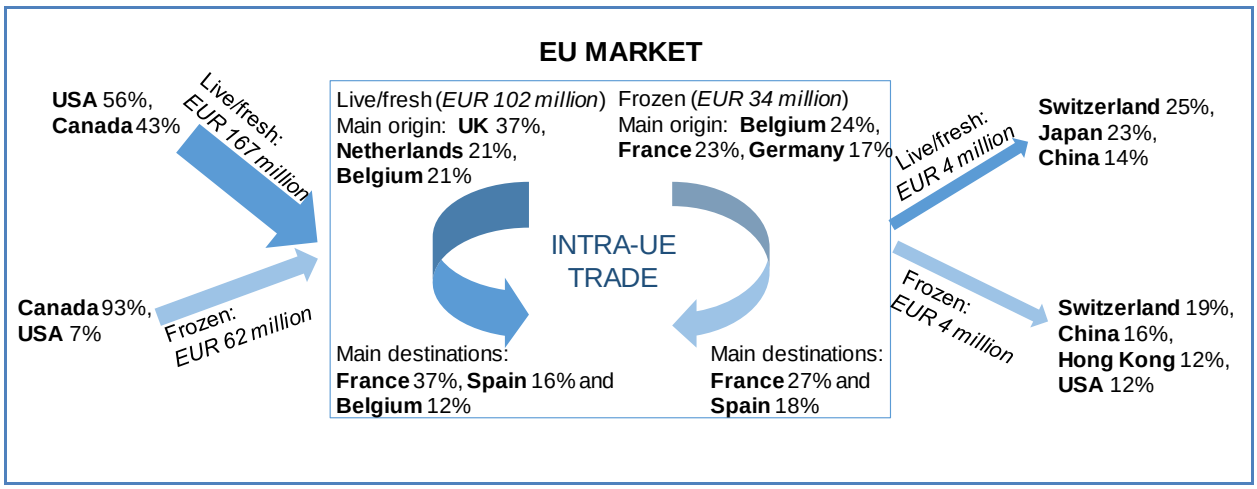
Intra-EU trade is active for each preservation state, but live lobster accounted for 75% of intra-EU exports value in 2017. The UK (37%), the Netherlands and Belgium (both 21%) are the main suppliers of live lobster intra-EU exports in value terms. The main destinations were France (37% of live and 27% of frozen intra-EU lobster exports) and Spain (16% and 18%, respectively).

Extra-EU exports are relatively limited. They were 459 tonnes in 2017 of which 54% frozen products. The main destinations were Switzerland and China for frozen products and Switzerland and Japan for fresh/live products.

Spain, Italy and France are by far the main markets for lobster in the EU with apparent markets (landings + imports - exports) exceeding 4.000 tonnes in 2016 (net weight).

[38] https://www.norwegian-lobster-farm.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/AE_34_4_p5-9.pdf
[39] http://www.guidedesespeces.org/fr/homard
[40] https://www.acadienouvelle.com/actualites/2017/04/13/lelevage-homard-pratique-rentable/

Figure 45. **THE EU TRADE MARKET FOR LOBSTER IN 2017**



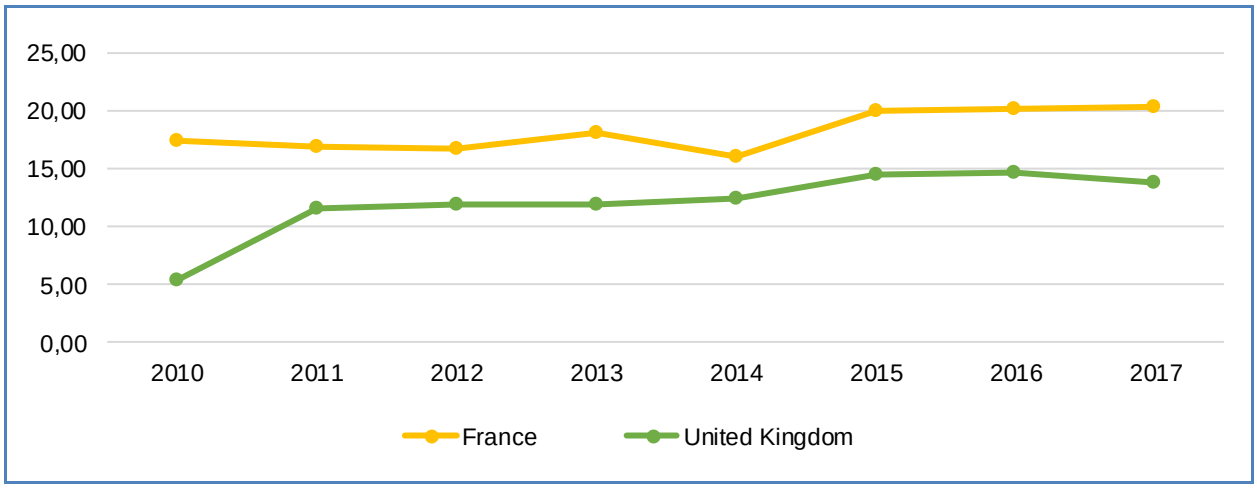
Source: EUMOFA.

However, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the EU, which went into effect in late 2017 and gives Canada zero duty access to the EU28 market, is expected to have negative effects on US exports of lobster to Europe. US exporters might lose market share, and US prices might decline[41].

5.4 First-sales prices

For the two largest producers in the EU, average yearly first-sale price show significant differences. Over the 2010–2017 period, in the UK, average first-sale prices varied from 5,00 EUR/kg to 14,67 EUR/kg in 2016. In France, over the same period, the average first-sale prices have been much higher: from 16,11 EUR/kg in 2014 to 20,34 EUR/kg in 2017. Overall, lobster yearly first-sale prices have been rising in recent years.

Figure 46. **AVERAGE LOBSTER FIRST-SALES PRICE IN THE UK AND FRANCE (IN EUR/KG)**

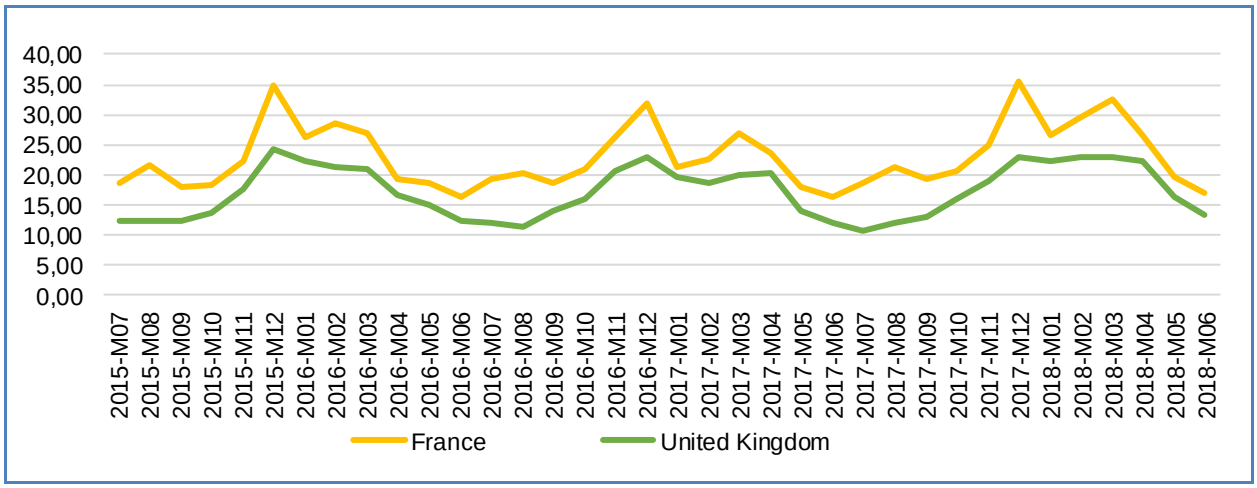


Source: EUMOFA.

[41] http://www.fao.org/in-action/globefish/market-reports/resource-detail/en/c/1107044/

Monthly average first-sale price shows clear seasonality in both UK and French fish auctions. A strong peak is observed in December (Christmas season): up to more than 35,00 EUR/kg in France and 23,00 EUR/kg in the UK. Then prices fall in January and increase again but to a lesser extent in March. In addition, a slight increase is also observed in July–August in France.

Figure 47. **MONTHLY LOBSTER FIRST-SALES PRICE SEASONALITY IN THE UK AND FRANCE (IN EUR/KG)**



Source: EUMOFA.

6 Global highlights

EU / China / Sustainability: On 16 July, the European Union signed an ocean partnership agreement with China. The two ocean economies will work together to improve the international governance of the oceans in all aspects, including combating illegal and unreported fishing as well as promoting a sustainable blue economy. The partnership also contains commitments to protect the marine environment and tackle climate change in accordance with the Paris Agreement[42].

EU / Tuvalu / IUU: This summer, the European Commission has lifted its "yellow card" for Tuvalu. By lifting the card, the European Commission recognises the important progress of Tuvalu in addressing the shortcomings in its fisheries governance and the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing. Tuvalu has amended its fisheries legislation in line with international law of the sea instruments, reinforced its monitoring and surveillance systems, and updated its system for management of fishing resources following the best scientific advice and precautionary approach practices[43].

NASCO / Fisheries / Sustainability: During the meeting held this summer in Maine, USA, The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) adopted two key measures to regulate fisheries - one around the Faroe Islands and the other off West Greenland. Fisheries in the Faroe Islands will be managed from 2019–2022, while taking into account scientific advice. The three-year measure adopted for fishery at West Greenland strengthens monitoring and control and sets a total catch of 30 tonnes[44].

Slovenia / Aquaculture / Supply: In 2017, aquaculture production decreased by 5% from 2016. In the same period the total purchase value of aquaculture products was down by 8% compared to 2016. In inland waters 1.004 tonnes of freshwater fish were bred in 2017, a decrease of 14% from 2016. Mariculture represented 42% of total aquaculture production in Slovenia and 726 tonnes of marine animals or 9% more than in 2016 were farmed[45].

UK / Fisheries / Supply: The total quantity of reported landings by the UK fleet in January –June 2018 was 321.000 tonnes. This is 10% lower than in the same period of 2017. The value of fish sold was EUR 435 million or 13% lower than last year. Of the 26.000 tonnes landed into the UK, 11% were caught by the 10 metre and under vessels[46].

Iceland / Fisheries / Supply: The overall catch of Icelandic vessels in August was 104.000 tonnes, a 13% decrease from August 2017. Demersal catch was just over 37.000 tonnes, a decrease of 18% from August 2017. The pelagic catch was 62.000 tonnes, a decline of 19%. The flatfish catch was 3.352 tonnes, and the shellfish catch was 2.150 tonnes[47].

Finland / Fisheries / Supply: In 2017, the marine catch totalled 155.000 tonnes. The total value of catch was EUR 36 million. Most of the catch comprised of Baltic herring (134.000 tonnes) and sprat (16.000 tonnes). The total catches of herring and sprat remained at the same level as last year but increased in the southern Baltic and in the Gulf of Finland, whereas they decreased in the Bothnian Sea[48].

FAO / Fisheries / Aquaculture: Of the 171 million tonnes of total fish production in 2016, about 88% was utilized for direct human consumption, a share that has increased significantly in recent decades. The greatest part of the 12% used for non-food purposes was reduced to fishmeal and fish oil. Live, fresh or chilled is often the most preferred and highly priced form of fish and represents the largest share of fish for direct human consumption (45%) followed by frozen (31%)[49].

[42] https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/content/eu-and-china-sign-landmark-partnership-oceans_en
[43] https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/fighting-illegal-fishing-authorities-tuvalu-pacific-reform-their-fisheries-management-following-eu_en
[44] http://www.nasco.int/pdf/2018%20papers/CNL_18_46_Press%20Release.pdf
[45] https://www.stat.si/StatWeb/en/News/Index/7599
[46] https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/736002/Monthly_UK_Sea_Fisheries_Statistics_-_June_2018.pdf
[47] https://www.statice.is/publications/news-archive/fisheries/fish-catches-in-august-2018/
[48] http://stat.luke.fi/en/commercial-marine-fishery
[49] http://www.fao.org/state-of-fisheries-aquaculture

7 Macroeconomic Context

7.1 Marine fuel

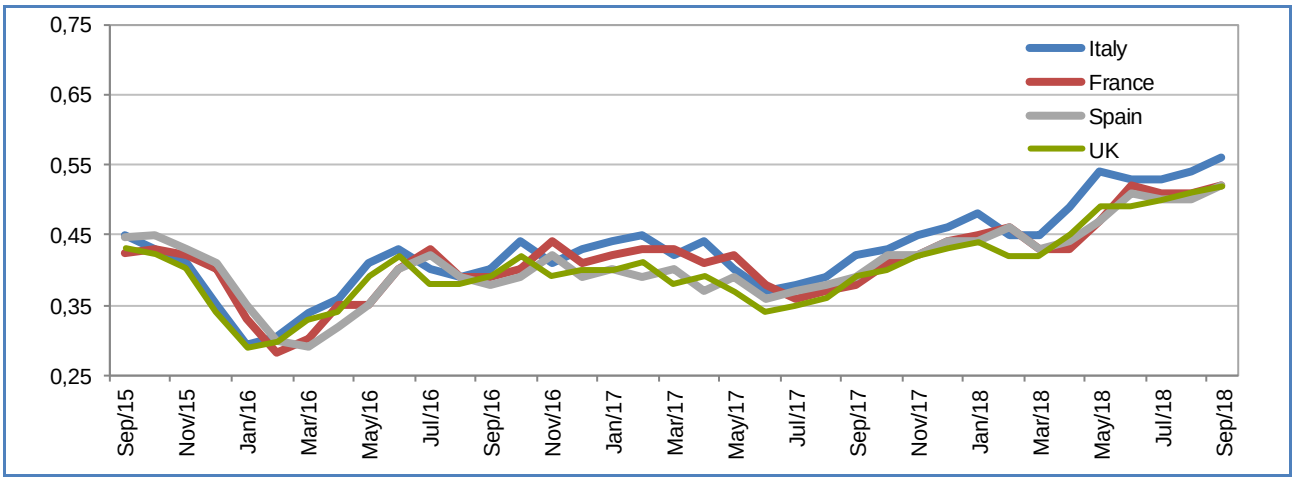
Average prices for marine fuel in **September 2018** ranged between 0,52 and 0,56 EUR/litre, in ports in **France, Italy, Spain,** and the **UK**. These prices were about 3% higher than in the previous month, but from September 2017, the increase was much larger, as much as 33% higher in ports in Italy and the UK.

Table 15. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**

Member State	Sep 2018	Change from Aug 2018	Change from Sep 2017
France *(ports of Lorient and Boulogne)*	0,54	4%	32%
Italy *(ports of Ancona and Livorno)*	0,56	4%	33%
Spain *(ports of A Coruña and Vigo)*	0,54	4%	29%
The UK (ports of Grimsby and Aberdeen)	0,52	2%	33%

Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

Figure 48. **AVERAGE PRICE OF MARINE DIESEL IN ITALY, FRANCE, SPAIN, AND THE UK (EUR/litre)**



Source: Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy; DPMA, France; MABUX.

7.2 Consumer prices

The EU annual inflation rate was at 2,1% in August 2018, down from 2,2% in July 2018. A year earlier, it was 1,7%.

Inflation: lowest rates in August 2018, compared with July 2018.

Inflation: highest rates in August 2018, compared with July 2018.

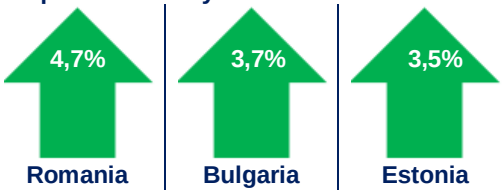


Table 16. **HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES IN THE EU** (2015 = 100)

HICP	Aug 2016	Aug 2017	Jul 2018	Aug 2018	Change from Jul 2018		Change from Aug 2017	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	100,19	101,88	104,06	103,99	↓	0,07%	↑	2,07%
Fish and seafood	103,83	107,68	108,87	109,28	↑	0,38%	↑	1,49%

Source: Eurostat.

7.3 Exchange rates

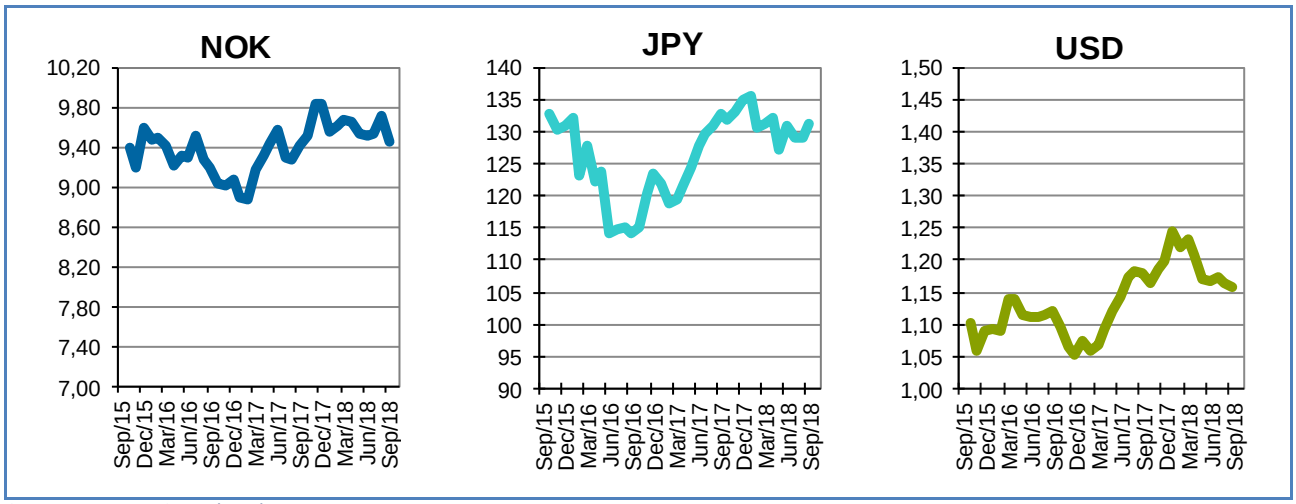
Table 17. **EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES**

Currency	Sep 2016	Sep 2017	Aug 2018	Sep 2018
NOK	8,9865	9,4125	9,7148	9,4665
JPY	113,09	132,82	129,05	131,29
USD	1,1161	1,1806	1,1651	1,1576

Source: European Central Bank.

In September 2018, the euro depreciated against the Norwegian krone (–2,6%), the US dollar (–0,6%) and appreciated against the Japanese yen (+1,7%) from August 2018. For the past six months, the euro has fluctuated around 9,57 against the Norwegian krone. Compared with a year earlier (September 2017), the euro has depreciated 1,9% against the US dollar, 1,2% against the Japanese yen, and appreciated 0,6% against the Norwegian krone.

Figure 49. **TREND OF EURO EXCHANGE RATES**



Source: European Central Bank.

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Global highlights: European Commission – DG MARE, NASCO, Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, Office for National Statistics (UK), Statistics Iceland, National Resource Institute Finland, FAO.

Macroeconomic context: EUROSTAT, Chamber of Commerce of Forlì-Cesena, Italy: DPMA, France: ARVI, Spain: MABUX, European Central Bank.

The underlying first-sales data is in a separate Annex available on the EUMOFA website. Analyses are made at aggregated (main commercial species) level and according to the EU Electronic recording and reporting system (ERS).

In the context of this Monthly Highlights, analyses are led in current prices, expressed in nominal values.

The **European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture Products (EUMOFA)** was developed by the European Commission, representing one of the tools of the new Market Policy in the framework of the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy. [Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 art. 42].

As a **market intelligence tool**, EUMOFA provides regular weekly prices, monthly market trends, and annual structural data along the supply chain.

The database is based on data provided and validated by Member States and European institutions. It is available in 24 languages.

EUMOFA website is publicly available at the following address: www.eumofa.eu.