USDA Foreign Agricultural Service
GAIN Report
Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 1/24/2005

GAIN Report Number: RS5008

Russian Federation

FAIRS Product Specific

Fish and Seafood Products

2005

Approved by:
Allan Mustard
U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:
Marina Muran, OAA and ATO

Report Highlights:
U.S. fish and seafood product exports will continue to grow and may reach $30 million in 2005, up from $23.1 million in 2004. High-quality fish, in particular for sale at retail and in the hotel/restaurant sector, are growing in demand. Russia's domestic production and international catch are finding it more difficult to keep up with market growth and imported product is growing in popularity. U.S. seafood exporters interested in the market should contact USDA's Trade Show Office or FAS/Moscow offices to participate in the seafood pavilion at the World Food Moscow exhibition in September 2005.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Moscow [RS1]
[RS]

Table of Contents

Executive Summary **4**
Section II. Labeling Requirements **4**
General labeling and consumer information requirements 4
Group 4.5. Fish, Seafood and Seafood Products 4
Group 4.6. Canned and preserved fish and seafood 5
Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants **5**
Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) Information 5
Hygienic Requirements for Safety and Nutritional Value of food 7
1.3. Fish, non-fish seafood and products 7
3.1.5.1 Canned fish 8
Section IX. Import Procedures **9**
Import Requirements and Certification 9
Tariffs and Duties **10**
Table 1. Import duties for selected fish and seafood products 10
Selected Trade Data **11**
Table 2. Fish and seafood imports by Russia from all countries, 2001-2003, MT 11
Table 3. Selected seafood imports by Russia from all countries, 2001-2003, MT 11
Table 4. Imports of fish and seafood from the United States, 2002-2003 12
Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts **13**

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs and the Agricultural Trade Office of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Moscow, Russia for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. Exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Executive Summary

To assist exporters and potential exporters of fish and seafood products to the growing Russian Federation market, this report provides specific data on documentation and certification, labeling, health requirements, and tariff rates. For further information on the market and general food safety regulations that govern food product trade, please see GAIN reports RS4305, RS4051 and RS4040.

Section II. Labeling Requirements

General labeling and consumer information requirements

The following specific information must be on the label:

- Name of the product
- Name, country, address of producer, packer, exporter and importer of the product
- Weight (net and gross) or volume of the product
- Storage conditions
- Shelf-life of the product

Also, any fish and seafood item packaged for retail sale must have labeling in the Russian language. To avoid problems, U.S. suppliers should always confirm all labeling and documentation requirements with their Russian importers, In addition, the U.S. exporter must provide Russian language labeling for each product package (such as box or bag).

The following requirements, by product group, are taken from GOST R-51074-2003 enacted December 29, 2003.

Group 4.5. Fish, Seafood and Seafood Products

- product name (trade or biological);
- name of the fishing region may be indicated in the product name. For instance, "Pacific Ocean sea-trout", "Far East Navaga";
- length and weight of the fish (large, medium, small);
- type of preparation (beheaded, gutted, splitted, sliced, etc.);
- type of processing (salted, smoked, dried, etc.);
- salinity level (slack-salted, light-salted, medium salted, hard-cured);
- grade (if any) or categories (for frozen fish filet);
- name, location (address) of the manufacturer [legal address, including the country and, in case the manufacture's address differs from the legal address, manufacturing address(es)] and the company in the Russian Federation, authorized by the manufacturer to process consumer claims on its territory (if any);
- manufacturer's trade mark (if any);
- net weight (except for telescoping-top cans with sturgeon caviar);
- nutritional value, vitamin content (for vitamin-enriched products);
- storage requirements;
- storage life of live and frozen fish, non-fish seafood and fats;
- use by date for food products included into the approved by the Russian Federation Government list of goods considered unsuitable for intended use;
- an indication of the regulation or technical document, in accordance with which the product was manufactured and can be identified;
- manufacturing and packaging dates;
- product ingredients, including any food and aromatic additives, biologically active substances, non-traditional ingredients;
- certification information;
- cooking instructions for ready-to-eat meals (for semi-finished products);

- If the product is vacuum packed, this should be indicated.

The name of the fishing region, the length and weight of the fish, the type of preparation, the type of processing, the level of salinity, product ingredients and the cooking instructions and/or directions for use are indicated when necessary, depending on the type of packaged product.

Group 4.6. Canned and preserved fish and seafood

- product name;

If saline caviar is produced from frozen raw materials or natural canned products are produced from fish liver the label should bear the mark "Produced from frozen raw materials";

- name, location (address) of the manufacturer [legal address, including the country and, in case the manufacture's address differs from the legal address, manufacturing address(es)] and the company in the Russian Federation, authorized by the manufacturer to process consumer claims on its territory (if any);

It is permitted not to indicate the name of the manufacturer if the name and location (legal address) of its parent company is indicated;

- manufacturer's trade mark (if any);
- grade (if any);
- net weight;
- manufacturing date;
- use by date;
- an indication of the regulation or technical document, in accordance with which the product was manufactured and can be identified;
- nutritional value (the vitamin content must be indicated for canned or preserved fish and seafood which contain vitamins more than 0.1 mg of B1 and B2 and more than 2.0 mg of PP per 100 grams of the product);
- the weight of the fish without the brine for preserved fish in bulk containers, out of which the fish is sold by weight at the retail level;
- storage requirements for products that need special storage requirements (for example, for preserved products, there should be a sign of the label, written in large script "the preserved product may be stored at a temperature between … and … degrees, for up to … months");
- directions for use (if required);
- product ingredients;
- food and aromatic additives, biologically active substances, non-traditional ingredients;
- certification information.

4.6.2 For products manufactured in the Russian Federation the manufacturing and use by date, shift (crew) number, assortment number, industry code and the number of manufacturing plant are indicated on the can as established.

Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants

Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) Information

On September 1, 2002 the new official hygiene norm for all food products produced, imported and sold on the territory of the Russian Federation will come into effect. The document, titled "Hygiene Requirements for Safety and Nutritional Value of Food Products" (Sanitary-Epidemiological Rules and Norms. SanPiN 2.3.2.1078 - 01)" (hereinafter SanPiN-01) replaces the previous SanPiN of 1996 (SanPiN-96) and changes approaches and

requirements for safety of food products in general and for some specific foods. For more information on SanPin, please refer to GAIN report RS2020 dated 08/15/02. The NMFS issues health certificates for U.S. exports of fish and seafood products based on these Russian standards.

Hygienic Requirements for Safety and Nutritional Value of food

1.3. Fish, non-fish seafood and products

Product group	Indicators	Not to exceed permitted levels, Mg/kg	Notes
1	2	3	4
	Toxic elements:		
1.3.1. Fish, including live, fresh, chilled, frozen, fillet, mince, meat of sea mammals	Lead	1.0	Tuna, white sturgeon (beluga), swordfish
		2.0	Freshwater fish
	Arsenic	1.0	Freshwater fish
		5.0	Sea-fish
	Mercury	0.3	Freshwater nonpredatory
		0.6	Freshwater predatory
		0.5	Sea-fish
	ercury	1.0	Tuna, swordfish, beluga
	Cadmium	0.2	
	Histamine	100.0	Tuna, mackerel, salmon, herring
	Nitrosamines: The total of NDMA and NDEA	0.003	
	Pesticides:		
	Hexachlorine-cyclohexan (a ß ?-isomers)	0.2	Sea-fish, meat of sea animals
		0.03	Freshwater fish
	DDT and its metabolites	0.2	Sea-fish
		0.3	Freshwater fish
		2.0	Sturgeon, salmon fishes, herring (rich)
		0.2	Meat of sea animals
	2,4-D Acid, its salt and esters	Is not permitted	Freshwater

	Polychlorinated Biphenyl	2.0	

	Radio-nuclides:		
	Cesium-137 Strontium-90	130 100	Bk/kg Bk/kg

3.1.5.1 Canned fish

Product group	Indicators	Not to exceed permitted levels, Mg/kg	Notes
1	2	3	4
	Toxic elements:		
Canned Fish	Lead	0.5	
	Arsenic	0.5	
	Mercury ercury	0.15	
	Cadmium	0.1	
	Tin	100.0	
	Histamine	100.0	
	Nitrosamines: The total of NDMA and NDEA	Is not permitted	<0.001
	Pesticides:		
	Hexachlorine-cyclohexan (a ß ?-isomers)	0.02	
	DDT and its metabolites	0.01	

	Polychlorinated Biphenyl	0.5	
	Radio-nuclides:		
	Cesium-137 Strontium-90	100 60	Bk/kg Bk/kg

Microbiological indicators should comply with industrial sterile requirements for canned products of Group "A" according to Attachment 8 of Sanitary Requirements (SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01)

Section IX. Import Procedures

Import Requirements and Certification

All imports of fish and seafood products require the following certificates:

- Certificate of Origin (in English)
- Health Certificate (in English and Russian, issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service)
- Packing List (this document is especially important for mixed cargo and must include the quantity of fish and/or seafood products, plus pallets and other containers)

The following certificates are not required, but may be requested by the importer/end user:

- Certificate of Conformity/Hygiene (in Russian)
- Quality Certificate from U.S. producer

Russian officials require the ***Certificate of Origin*** as proof of the country of origin for all imported food products. The Certificate of Origin is also used to determine duties and tariffs.

As noted above, a ***Health Certificate*** issued by the U.S. government-approved authority must accompany all imports of fish and seafood products. The Certificate confirms that the product meets all specified health and sanitary specifications. Fish products exported from the United States are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Regional NMFS offices issue health certificates for all U.S. exports of fish that meet the Russian Federation requirements. When the shipment arrives at Russian customs, the importer must exchange the ***Health Certificate*** for a Russian ***Veterinary Attestation***.

The ***Certificate of Conformity*** is issued when a product is found to conform to Russian Government Standards or "GOST". In some cases, GOST recognizes other countries' certifications. For example, if the products have already met U.S. standards, these will be compared to the Russian standards and may be judged to be sufficient. Certifications issued previously may exempt products from testing and may speed up the application procedure for the Certificate of Conformity.

For additional information on Russian import regulations and standards, please see GAIN report RS4040 *Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards* at **www.fas.usda.gov** under **Attaché Reports**.

Tariffs and Duties

The standard import duty for most fish and seafood products is ten percent. The following table provides the duties for some products that are exceptions to this rate.

Table 1. Import duties for selected fish and seafood products

HS Code	Product Description	Import Duty
0303.50.0000	Herring (Cluaea harengus, Cluaea aallasii), excluding livers and roes	10%, but not less than 0.04 Euros/kg
0303.74.3000	Scomber – (Scomber scombrus and Scomber japonicus)	10%, but not less than 0.06 Euros/kg
0303.74.9000	Scomber – (Scomber australasicus)	10%, but not less than 0.06 Euros/kg
0303.79.2100	Fish of the genus Euthynnus – Whole	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.2300	Fish of the genus Euthynnus -- Gilled and gutted	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.2900	Fish of the genus Euthynnus -- Other (for example 'heads off')	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.3100	Fish of the genus Euthynnus – Other	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.3500	Redfish – (Sebastes marinus)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.3700	Redfish – Other	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.4100	Fish of the species Boreogadus saida	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.5100	Ling (Molva spp.)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.5500	Alaska pollack (Theragra chalcogramma) and pollack (Pollachius pollachius)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.7100	Sea bream (Dentex dentex and Pagellus spp.)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.7500	Ray's bream (Brama spp.)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.8300	Blue whiting (Micromesistius poutassou or Gadus poutassou)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0303.79.9100	Horse mackerel (scad) (Caranx trachurus, Trachurus trachurus)	10%, but not less than 0.05 Euros/kg
0305.10.0000	Flour, meal and pellets of fish, fit for human consumption	5%
0305.20.0000	Liver and roe, dried, smoked, salted or in brine	20%
0305.41.0000	Pacific salmon (Oncorhynchus spp), Atlantic salmon (Salmon salar) and Danube salmon (Hucho hucho)	20%, but not less than 4 Euros/kg

Selected Trade Data

Table 2. Fish and seafood imports by Russia from all countries, 2001-2003, MT

HS	Description	2001	2002	2003	% Change 03/02
	--All Countries--				
	03 FISH AND SEAFOOD	448998	499339	612329	22.63
0303	FRZN FISH,NOT FILLETS	392516	413885	490880	18.6
0304	FILLET,OTHR FISH MEAT	18249	34501	54583	58.2
0302	FRESH FISH,NOT FILLET	8657	12746	22596	77.27
0306	CRUSTACEANS	12827	18021	26510	47.11
0307	OTHER SEAFOOD	4442	6133	6454	5.23
0305	FISH,DRIED,SALTED ETC	12268	13998	11221	-19.84
0301	LIVE FISH	37	52	83	60.08

Source: Customs Committee of Russia

Table 3. Selected seafood imports by Russia from all countries, 2001-2003, MT

HS	Description	2001	2002	2003	% Change 03/02
	--All Countries--				
	03 FISH AND SEAFOOD	448998	499339	612329	22.6
	0307 OTHER SEAFOOD	4442	6133	6454	5.2
030710	OYSTERS	143	224	283	26.1
030721	SCALLOP LIVE,FR/CHL	3	6	7	19.6
030729	SCALLOP NT LIV/FRSH	35	41	76	84.2
030731	MUSSELS LIVE,FR/CHL	33	72	94	31
030739	MUSSEL, N LIVE/FRSH	430	434	489	12.6
030741	SQUID,ETC,LIV,FR/CH	14	17	29	65.4
030749	SQUID,ET,N LIV/FRSH	3586	4874	4652	-4.6
030751	OCTOPUS,LIVE,FR/CHL	2	4	8	81.8
030759	OCTOPUS,N LIVE/FRSH	94	165	393	137.9
030760	SNAILS, N SEA SNAIL	13	7	2	-66.4
030791	OTH 0307 LIVE,FR/CH	9	18	25	35.9
030799	OT 0307 N LIVE/FRSH	76	266	390	46.7

Source: Customs Committee of Russia

Table 4. Imports of fish and seafood from the United States, 2002-2003

HS Code	Fishery & Seafood Products	MT 2002	$1,000 2002	MT 2003	$1,000 2003
0303	Fish, frozen, excluding fillets and other fish of heading 0304	5,697	2,430	5,463	4,586
030311	Sockeye salmon (red salmon) (Oncorhynchus nerka)	33	41	17	23
030322	Atlantic salmon (Salmon salar)	19	31	25	67
030378	Hake (merluccius spp.)	n/a	1,432	2.8	1.3
030379	Other	148	199	43	118
030380	Livers and roes	768	722	906	522
0304	Fish fillets/other (whether or not minced), fresh/chilled/frozen	870	893	2,319	2.5
030420	Frozen fillets	52	223	179	339
030490	Other	809	433	2,127	1.8
0305	Fish, dried, salted or in brine; smoked fish, whether or not cooked before or during the smoking process; flours, meals and pellets of fish, fit for human consumption	200	287	463	719
0306	Crustaceans, whether in shell or not, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted, brine or cooked	8	68	7.7	81
0307	Mollusks, whether in shell or not, live, fresh, chilled, frozen, dried, salted, brine or cooked	26	127	30	88
1604	Preserved fish and roe	216	222	557	692
TOTAL		**7,017**	**4,032**	**12,139**	**7,240**

Source: Customs Committee of Russia

Note: Columns do not add due to sub-categories

Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts

For the detailed tariff schedule for fish and seafood, please refer to Russian Government Resolution #830 dated, November 30, 2001. This Resolution can be found on the Internet at the following site: http://npa-gov.garweb.ru:8080/public/default.asp?no=12024984 - 3

More general information can be found at: http://www.government.ru/

The contact point for certification documents for US exporters is:

U.S. Department of Commerce
Inspection Services Division
National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS)
http://www.noaa.gov/
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: (301) 713-2355, Fax: (301) 713-1081