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Seafood

Annual Seafood Report

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Report Highlights:

Total fish catch is expected to continue declining through 2000 as a consequence of depleted fish stocks and fishing restrictions. Seafood consumption is declining due to relatively high-prices and faltering demand for salted dry cod. Due to the lower fish catch, seafood imports are expected to continue growing. Imports from the U.S. are increasing due primarily to the growth in frozen cod sales. 1 USD = 192 Pte

Includes PSD changes: Yes

Includes Trade Matrix: Yes

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Lisbon[PO1], PO

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Executive Summary

Total CY-1998 catch was up 4 percent as a result of increased fishing activity. Out of the total 212,128 tons landed, the leading species were: sardines, 80,250 mt; Atlantic mackerel, 23,238 Mt; hairtails, 13,074 mt; and tuna fish, 12,622 mt. Due to fish stocks restrictions, total fish catch dropped during the first part of 1999 and full year levels are expected to remain below 1998's at about 200,000 mt. Due to further depletion of fish stocks and on-going reductions in the national fishing fleet, catch in 2000 is forecast to decline to 198,000 Mt, with continued reductions expected beyond.

Affected by the generally higher import prices of seafood, seafood consumption is expected to decline in CY-1999. The popular salted dry cod is expected to experience a major reduction in demand, depressed by soaring prices in leading cod supplying countries. Though not to such a great extent, fresh and frozen fish consumption is also expected to decline. Certain segments will continue to expand, however, including shrimp, salmon, monkfish, and processed seafood products. Total seafood consumption in 1999 is forecast at 538,500 tons, compared to 549,180 tons in 1998. Given current market conditions, total seafood consumption is expected to decline again in 2000 to 530,400 tons. Trends in seafood consumption will continue to be highly effected by prices, and any recovery in demand will hinge on price levels.

As a consequence of the lower fish catch, total seafood imports are expected to be up in 1999 to an estimated 461,500 Mt. Due to high prices, however, salted cod imports will remain depressed. Imports of fresh, frozen and minced as well as shell fish, on the other hand, are forecast to increase in 1999, encouraged by favorable market trends. Given prospects for declining catches, another moderate expansion is expected for 2000, and further expansion in imports is expected beyond 2000. Favored by the demand for reasonably-priced, alternative cod supplies, total frozen cod imports from the U.S. have risen substantially during 1999, while demand for other U.S. fish products like salmon and monkfish have also continued to grow. During Jan/April 1999, total seafood imports from the U.S. were up by 75%, with frozen cod, currently the most rapidly expanding U.S. seafood export product, accounting for 58% of the total.

1 USD = 192 Pte

Groundfish, Whole/Eviscerated

Production

In 1998, groundfish catch was down 26% as a result of restrictive fishing quotas and international bilateral agreements for deep water fish harvesting (see Policy). Under the effects of low fish stocks and fishing fleet reductions, total 1999 groundfish catch is expected to suffer another reduction, with a reported a 37% reduction in catch during the first semester of 1999. Increasingly tight fishing controls and the end of the EU-Morocco fishing Agreement in November 1999 (see Policy) will contribute to depressed groundfish catch in 2000. In this report, we include the following species under the "Groundfish" denomination: Haddock, cod, whiting, pollock and hake. For a detailed breakdown of fish catch by species during CY-1997, CY-1998 and 1st semester 1999, see the statistical section.

Hake, caught off Portugal's and North Africa's, is mostly sold fresh with a minimal amount being sold frozen or minced. Some is processed into fish sticks, one of the fastest growing fish segments. However, the frozen and processing fish industry is mostly sourced from imported hake. Cod is treated differently depending on its size. Large cod (greater than 1KG), which account for about 50% of the harvest, are salted aboard the ships and dried on land in ovens. Smaller cod is frozen aboard and sold to be minced. Other groundfish species are sold frozen. Production of processed products like minced fish, fish sticks or further-processed products has been expanding. This trend is expected to remain unchanged in the future.

Fresh fish is considered to be of relatively high quality, while the quality of frozen fish tends to be considered rather variable, though improving due the enforcement of EU health directives. Due to these regulations as well as the need to be more competitive commercially, quality of fresh and frozen ground fishes has also been upgraded, at least in appearance. Many in the sector believe that U.S. ground fish is of inferior quality, and believe this is because only the lower U.S. grades are price-competitive for exporting. Norwegian and Canadian cod types are considered to be at the upper-end of the market. Spanish hake is considered to be equal to the best hake of Portugal.

Consumption

Fresh/frozen groundfish consumption declined in 1998, due primarily to a major price increase in the Norwegian cod market, which depressed the local demand for salted dry cod, and consequently total cod use for processing. However, total groundfish consumption is expected to recover in 1999. The successful attempts at finding adequately-priced cod to replaced high-priced Norwegian cod, namely from the U.S., have led to an increased activity level from the local salted dry cod industry. Though at modest levels, consumption of frozen pollock and haddock from the industrial segment are also expected to continue to expand moderately. Given the expected continuation of current prices in 2000, another expansion in groundfish consumption is forecast.

Trade

Groundfish imports dropped 12% in 1998 due to a major reduction in frozen cod imports for processing. This resulted from a major price increase in international markets, which reportedly originated in Norway, but quickly spread to other northern European suppliers. A 50.6% recovery in total groundfish imports has occurred during Jan/April 1999, as frozen cod use by the local cod salting industry started to recover at the beginning of the year. The U.S. has increase its

presence in this segment due to export prices reportedly 10% below those of Norway.

Continuing high-price prospects for northern European frozen and salted n.d. cod supplies are expected to encourage another increase in total frozen cod, and consequently in total groundfish imports during 2000. The increased demand for frozen cod, and the successful use of Alaska cod by the local industry are expected to drive up frozen cod imports from the U.S. as well, provided that the price gap with Norwegian remains.

Policy

Portugal's resource management policy is controlled by the EU, who assigns member-States TACs and negotiates new Agreements. Fishing quotas in 2000 for most ground fishes, including cod and hake, will be negotiated within the EU, and between the EU and all other relevant international organizations between now and the end of the year. However, no significant changes in assigned fishing quotas are anticipated over 1999 levels.

In addition to the TACs, groundfish catch is also affected by a series of bi-lateral agreements which, Portugal being part of the EU, are also negotiated by the EU authorities. In this area, the EU-Morocco fishing agreement is of particular relevance for the Portuguese capture of hake. The current Agreement, ending in November of 1999, is based on a maximum ship tonnage reference, subjecting Portugal to a 40 Mt ceiling, a limit Portuguese authorities will try to raise during the negotiations, considering it is a mere tenth of that assigned to Spain. Among all other existing agreements, the one with Argentina is also important for the production of hake. Bi-lateral agreements are generally based upon the payment of a reduced licenses to host Governments or the establishment of joint-ventures.

Portugal applies the EU import tariff schedule. With the rest of the EU, local importers have access to zero or reduced-duty import quotas for ground fishes. Fresh/frozen cod can be imported under different types of quotas. For listing of cod import quotas, please check the Statistical Section of the Salted Cod chapter. There is also an EU-wide reduced-duty quota for hake which was established under the WTO. Member-countries of so-called European Economic Space profit from a preferential import regime which increases their competitiveness in cod supply relative to other non-EU competitors.

Marketing

Marketing prospects for the U.S. are limited by strong competition from European and FSU suppliers, as well as by the EU trade regime whose zero or reduced-tariff import quotas tend to be more favorably utilized by northern European members of the European Economic Space (EES). However, as noted in the trade section, the current cod shortage in Norwegian waters has created conditions for market penetration of U.S. Alaska cod suppliers. This has opened the market for Pacific cod in Portugal, and will continue to favor U.S. frozen cod imports, provided that the price gap with the other traditional suppliers does not narrow. The fact that Pacific cod is a different sub-species from traditionally-consumed Atlantic cod, higher transportation costs relative to importing from northern European suppliers, and reports of contamination of Pacific cod with a parasite from seals, are factors affecting the competitiveness of Alaska cod. Besides cod, other potential, if more difficult to explore market opportunities include silver hake and pollock. Frozen cod is mostly imported by the members of the Industrial Fisheries Association ADAMI, who are also the cod salting and drying companies.

Statistical section

Groundfish Production, Supply & Distribution Table

PSD Table						
Country	Portugal					
Commodity	Groundfish, Whole/Eviscerated				(MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Beginning Stocks	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
Total Production	7150	8862	6750	5600	0	5580
Intra-EC Imports	29082	30642	30000	32000	0	33000
Other Imports	35982	26763	37000	30000	0	31000
TOTAL Imports	65064	57405	67000	62000	0	64000
TOTAL SUPPLY	77214	71267	78750	72600	5000	74580
Intra-EC Exports	6184	7026	7000	7150	0	7200
Other Exports	159	444	200	1000	0	1100
TOTAL Exports	6343	7470	7200	8150	0	8300
Domestic Consumption	65871	58797	66550	59450	0	61280
Other Use/Loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Utilization	65871	58797	66550	59450	0	61280
Ending Stocks	5000	5000	5000	5000	0	5000
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	77214	71267	78750	72600	0	74580

PORTUGAL: GROUNDFISH CATCH

	CY-1997	CY-1998	Jan-April 98	Jan-April 99
	Units: Metric Tons			
Haddock	206.90	55.10	20.60	4.10
Atlantic Cod	9,078.80	6,042.50	957.40	460.60
Whiting	138.90	114.60	51.30	43.43
Pollock	17.80	70.10	34.70	24.16
Hake	2,599.70	2,579.70	1,389.40	1,037.49
Total	12,042.10	8,862.00	2,453.40	1,543.09

SOURCE: GENERAL FISHERIES DIRECTORATE

Trade Matrices

Groundfish Trade Matrix for Calendar Years 1997 & 1998

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Groundfish, Whole/Eviscerated		
Time period	Jan/Dec.	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	530	U.S.	3462
Others		Others	
Spain	25620	Spain	26625
U.K.	1584	U.K.	2382
France	504	Netherlands	501
Belgium-Lux	319	Denmark	469
Other EU	883	Belgium-Lux	347
Russia	24819	Other EU	317
S. Africa	5485	Russia	14162
Argentina	1675	S. Africa	5755
		New Zealand	1078
Total for Others	60889		51636
Others not Listed	3965		2307
Grand Total	65384		57405

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Groundfish, Whole/Eviscerated		
Time period	Jan/Dec.	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	23	U.S.	15
Others		Others	
Spain	6150	Spain	5874
France	725	France	607
U.K.	534	Belgium	200
Belgium-Lux	458	U.K.	189
Other EU	145	Other EU	156
Japan	150	Japan	180
Total for Others	8162		7206
Others not Listed	300		249
Grand Total	8485		7470

Groundfish Trade Matrix for Jan/April 1998 & 1999

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Groundfish, Whole/Eviscerated		
Time period	Jan/April	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	677	U.S.	2059
Others		Others	
Spain	9347	Spain	10094
U.K.	271	U.K.	414
Belgium-Lux	126	Denmark	224
Other EU	105	Other EU	96
Russia	2591	Russia	6685
S. Africa	2062	Norway	2225
New Zealand	302	S. Africa	1726
Argentina	248	Iceland	245
Total for Others	15052		21709
Others not Listed	488		652
Grand Total	16217		24420

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Groundfish, Whole/Eviscerated		
Time period	Jan/April	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	9	U.S.	5
Others		Others	
Spain	1543	Spain	1240
France	236	Denmark	347
U.K.	118	France	279
Belgium-Lux	101	U.K.	188
Other EU	49	Other EU	51
Total for Others	2047		2105
Others not Listed	99		272
Grand Total	2155		2382

Trade With the U.S.

PORTUGAL: GROUND FISH TRADE WITH THE U.S.

	JAN/DEC 97		JAN/DEC 98		JAN/APRIL 98		JAN/APRIL 99	
	100 KG	1000 PTE	100 KG	1000 PTE	100 KG	1000 PTE	100 KG	1000 PTE
IMPORTS								
FROZEN GROUND FISH								
30360900 Cod	4237	93689	30398	1170593	0	0	20389	1020323
30331900 Halibut	22	2714	268	23097	0	0	0	0
30378190 Hake	0	18	0	0	68	4581	0	0
30379550 Alaska Pollock	0	0	2675	39659	0	0	202	3403
MINCED, FROZEN								
30420580 Hake	0	7	0	0	17	1121	0	0
MINCED, NEITHER FRESH NOR FROZEN								
30490350 Cod	0	0	1278	25201	313	2895	0	0
30490610 Alaska Pollock	1045	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5304	96456	34619	1258550	398	8597	20591	1023726

EXPORTS

FROZEN								
30360900 Cod	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	346
30378110 Hake	5	437	0	0	0	0	0	0
30378190 Hake	61	3921	105	7572	68	4581	34	2842
MINCED, FROZEN								
30420210 Cod	76	5732	0	0	0	0	0	0
30420560 Hake	10	472	0	0	0	0	0	0
30420580 Hake	66	3904	43	2836	17	1121	12	795
30420590 Hake	10	577	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	228	15043	148	10408	85	5702	49	3983

SOURCE: NATIONAL STATISTICS INSTITUTE INE. 1 USD = 192 PTE.

Salted Cod, n.d.

Production

Salted cod n.d. production declined in CY-1998 due to higher import prices of frozen cod, currently the industry's main raw material. An output increase is expected for 1999, reflecting current cod trade trends (see trade). Rising prices of the finished products (salted dry cod) and some hyper-markets' desire to cut prices have encouraged the cod industry to look for lower priced raw-materials with acceptable quality standards to replace higher-priced salted cod n.d. imports from northern Europe. Given current import price trends, and reportedly successful use of salted n.d. cod from other origins, namely the US, total production of salted n.d. cod is forecast to continue to expand during 2000.

Quality of nationally produced salted cod n.d. is generally considered good, though variable with the type of cod used and inferior when produced from frozen fish. Salted cod produced from *Gadus morhua* which is imported from Norway, Iceland or Canada, is considered of reasonably good quality, while the processing techniques are generally considered inferior to the Portuguese. Salted cod produced from Alaska cod is considered inferior to that produced from *Gadus morhua*. However, the salted cod produced from recently imported Alaska cod is reported to be excellent due to the high quality of Pacific cod imported this year.

Consumption

Soaring 1998 cod prices induced a reduction in total domestic consumption of salted dry cod, and consequently of salted n.d. cod. In spite of new alternative strategies to increase the local supply of lower-priced cod types, the overall increase in domestic prices following the sharp September 1998 price increase in Norway will tend to depress total 1999 salted cod n.d. consumption. At retail, salted dry cod, still the most popular fish product in Portugal, will tend to be displaced in larger quantities by cheaper alternative protein sources like pork and poultry. Continuation of current salted cod price trends are expected to lead to another reduction in 2000. While salted dry cod will maintain an part of the food consumption pattern of the Portuguese population, there is concern that continued high prices will cause an unrecoverable reduction in demand from the public as consumers grow accustomed to alternative protein sources.

During CY-1998, the national salted dry cod market accounted for 42,178 million Pte, of which 30% were sold by hyper-markers, 28% by super-markets, and the remaining by the traditional retailers. Some 88% of the total is sold un-packed. Due to the perceived quality difference between Alaska cod and *Gadus morhua*, retail prices for Alaska cod are about 150 Pte/Kg lower.

Trade

Total imports of salted cod n.d. decline 3.2% during CY-1998 as a consequence of a generalized import price increase in traditional cod export markets. Further increases in prices, reportedly up 50 percent in September 1999, will induce another reduction in imports in 1999. Jan/April 1999 salted n.d. cod imports were down by 10.4%. Given expectations for continued high prices, total salted cod n.d. imports are forecast to drop again in 2000. The current high-price situation is reportedly due to the warming up of Norwegian fishing waters, causing cod fish stocks to migrate to deeper depths where they are inaccessible to the smaller fishing vessels. These unusual circumstances have also reportedly delayed the filling up of zero/reduced-tariff import quotas. In particular, the 25,000 Mt WTO quota (see Policy) which usually is filled in February with Russian cod, remained open until May. Import patterns continue to reflect the EU's import quota regime which conveys preferential conditions to non-EU countries of the European Economic Zone and accounts for Norway's and Iceland's predominant role in Portuguese salted cod trade. For Portugal's trade matrices for both salted n.d. cod and salted dry cod, please see the statistical section of this report.

Salted n.d. cod imports from the U.S. rose 27.6% during 1998 as the local cod industry was forced to look for alternative suppliers. During CY-1999, salted n.d. cod imports from the U.S. should drop relative to 1998 levels. During Jan/April 1999, salted n.d. cod imports were down 10.8%, as the local cod industry started to displace U.S. salted cod n.d. with frozen cod for de-frosting, salting and drying. Reportedly the rise in European demand for Pacific cod, spurred by the high Norwegian cod prices, is tending to drive up prices for salted n.d. Alaska cod.

Policy

The EU tariff schedule, and all its preferential trade agreements are also in effect in Portugal. Of particular relevance for the cod sector, the EU import regime currently favors cod exports from countries belonging to the European Economic Space EES for an extensive range of cod products. Special access conditions exist for an extensive range of cod products, from fresh or frozen cod, which can be exported tariff-free without limit into the EU, to salted dry cod which can be exported tariff-free under a EU-set quota, and at reduced-tariff above the quota. The U.S. can also have access to the so-called "autonomous quotas". For a summary of EU 1999 cod import quotas, see the Statistical Section.

Marketing

Salted n.d. cod is one of the seafood products in which the US is in a comparatively better position to export, as it is generally considered a higher quality product than frozen cod. However, since transportation and fish scaling costs are paid by the Portuguese importers, export prices of US cod must be considerably lower than those of other origins. The current narrowing of U.S. and European salted n.d. cod prices will tend to limit total export potential of this product.

Salted cod n.d. is mostly sold to high seas fishing companies with installations and expertise to dry the cod, who are presently associated under the Industrial Fisheries Association ADAMI. Marketing channels of dry salted cod are different. Salted dry cod is mostly purchased by wholesalers who supply the local grocers. Some of these companies do the cod salting and drying as well. The larger hyper-markets also import directly.

Statistical section

Salted Cod Production, Supply & Distribution Table

PSD Table						
Country	Portugal					
Commodity	Cod, Salted				(MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Beginning Stocks	150	150	150	150	150	150
Total Production	32200	25000	32000	32000	0	35000
Intra-EC Imports	25000	13038	24500	10800	0	10000
Other Imports	154000	163364	152000	136200	0	130000
TOTAL Imports	179000	176402	176500	147000	0	140000
TOTAL SUPPLY	211350	201552	208650	179150	150	175150
Intra-EC Exports	900	1187	890	2900	0	3000
Other Exports	20	42	20	170	0	180
TOTAL Exports	920	1229	910	3070	0	3180
Domestic Consumption	210280	200173	207590	175930	0	171820
Other Use/Loss	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Utilization	210280	200173	207590	175930	0	171820
Ending Stocks	150	150	150	150	0	150
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	211350	201552	208650	179150	0	175150

Trade Matrices

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Cod, Salted		
Time period	Jan/Dec	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	5468	U.S.	6979
Others		Others	
Denmark	20245	Denmark	7986
Spain	2695	France	2005
France	1072	Netherlands	1103
Other EU	1420	Other EU	1939
Norway	60105	Norway	88192
Russia	45507	Iceland	42016
Iceland	30592	Russia	22060
Ships	10558	Canada	2418
Switzerland	2422	China	965
Faroe Islands	1461		
Total for Others	176077		168684
Others not Listed	751		739
Grand Total	182296		176402

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Cod, Salted		
Time period	Jan/Dec	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	0	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Spain	5917	Spain	792
Greece	262	Greece	128
France	104	France	107
Other EU	20	Germany	99
Mexico	178	Other EU	64
Angola	28	Switzerland	38
Total for Others	6509		1228
Others not Listed	32		1
Grand Total	6541		1229

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Cod, Salted		
Time period	Jan/April	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	1039	U.S.	927
Others		Others	
Denmark	3599	Denmark	3840
Spain	508	Other EU	66
France	366	Norway	26860
Other EU	331	Iceland	14327
Norway	38889	Russia	13209
Iceland	11996	Canada	1497
Russia	10438		
Canada	630		
Total for Others	66757		59799
Others not Listed	0		0
Grand Total	67796		60726

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Cod, Salted		
Time period	Jan/April	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	0	U.S.	0
Others		Others	
Spain	290	Spain	951
Greece	128	Greece	201
Other EU	45	Other EU	98
Switzerland	20		
Total for Others	483		1250
Others not Listed	6		3
Grand Total	489		1253

PORTUGAL: DRY COD IMPORTS

	CY-1997		CY-1998		JAN/APRIL 1998		JAN/APRIL 1999	
	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE
Not Salted								
SPAIN	0	0	403	13099	0	0	0	0
Salted								
FRANCE	14258	354480	18330	517033	2845	73964	3614	112693
NETHERLANDS	25511	540563	3627	104993	0	0	1717	33854
GERMANY	47215	825898	46197	1082000	20627	428321	11953	382497
ITALY	1511	25814	0	0	0	0	0	0
U.K.	9210	242236	3275	100793	996	31336	107	3996
DENMARK	233356	4432294	114876	2837008	43575	1004173	15052	437223
SPAIN	169609	2993085	98451	2511597	24987	539858	22614	570008
ICELAND	15030	377956	15777	426590	7356	188018	1798	58176
NORWAY	234777	4234474	441468	10672690	145966	3254373	170536	4865535
SWEDEN	2824	47866	7056	154621	7056	154621	0	0
SWITZERLAND	0	0	120	3341	0	0	0	0
RUSSIA	37549	618378	7335	180241	2026	45600	43034	1182198
IVORY COAST	0	0	30	418	0	0	0	0
GHANA	4	45	0	77	0	0	0	0
CANADA	150	2822	11944	267387	5665	127509	3764	89535
CHINA	1322	10486	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHIPS	2738	54250	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHIPS	7275	161842	0	0	0	0	0	0
	802339	1492248	768888	1887188	261099	5847773	274189	7735715
		9		8				

PORTUGAL: DRY COD EXPORTS

	CY-1997		CY-1998		JAN/APRIL 1998		JAN/APRIL 1999	
	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE	100 KG (fresh weight basis)	1000 PTE
Not Salted								
FRANCE	0	0	47	1550	0	0	0	0
SPAIN	94	1269	197	4706	0	0	0	0
SWITZERLAND	30	334	43	340	0	0	43	360
ANDORRA	189	3918			0	0	0	0
C. VERDE	56	1461	94	3092	0	0	0	0
G. BISSAU	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANGOLA	60	1726	73	3194	0	0	0	0
BRAZIL	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
Salted								
FRANCE	8279	146903	13421	353770	6373	140214	3695	106161
BELG-LUX.	275	6187	506	13901	421	11496	56	1780
NETHERLANDS	43	982	236	6742	73	1822	43	1454
GERMANY	146	3489	210	6196	99	2758	103	3384
ITALY	9	230	4	135	0	13	0	64
U.K.	3155	19243	1013	32072	202	6491	322	10835
Denmark	0	0	485	12638	56	1589	0	0
GREECE	1416	17800	0	0	0	0	34	864
SPAIN	8820	111198	910	27658	258	7904	2773	46055
NORWAY	5150	150014	0	0	0	0	172	2201
SWITZERLAND	1536	31771	1712	44333	506	11903	506	18411
ANDORRA	412	8481	579	16053	146	3492	137	3988
Morocco	0	0	0	30	0	30	0	0
C. VERDE	558	13997	481	14856	82	2130	262	9726
G. BISSAU	82	2234	39	854	39	854	4	155
S. TOM. PR.	86	2014	69	2280	26	744	39	1636
GABAN	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
ZAIRE	30	989	17	556	9	185	0	0
ANGOLA	24202	584615	18270	714263	670	17831	820	27890
UGANDA	9	189	0	0	0	0	0	0
MOZAMBIQUE	781	17902	227	6537	4	81	0	32
S. AFRICA	9	242	0	0	0	0	0	0
NAMIBIA	4	208	4	94	0	0	0	0
USA	867	22662	0	0	0	0	0	0
VENEZUELA	129	2179	69	643	4	38	0	0
BRAZIL	23979	597747	10824	301743	3009	70640	2682	78011
MACAU	300	8608	790	20432	245	7193	56	1800
SHIPS	0	26	0	0	0	0	189	6250
	80704	1758662	50322	1588678	12219	287408	11936	321057

Import Quotas

Autonomous import quotas in 1998 & 1999

Tariff Code	Description	Amount of Quota (Mt)		Quota Period	Quota Duty (%)		Regular duty (%)
		1998	1999		1998	1999	
0302.50.10	Cod and <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , livers and roes excluded, fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing	57,500	67,500	April 1 to Dec. 31	3.7	3.0	12.00
0302.50.90							12.00
0302.69.35							12.00
0303.60.11							12.00
0303.60.19							12.00
0303.60.90							12.00
0303.79.41							12.00
0303.60.11	Cod and fish of the species <i>Borogadus saida</i> , excluding livers and roes, frozen, for processing.	9,000	8,000	item	3.7	2.5	12.00
0303.60.19							12.00
0303.60.90							12.00
0303.79.41							12.00
0305.62.00	Cod and fish of the species <i>Borogadus saida</i> , salted or in brine, but not dried or smoked, for processing	8,000	8,000	item	3.7	2.5	13.00
0305.69.10							13.00

WTO quotas

Tariff Code	Description	Amount of Quota (M.T.)	Quota Period	Quota Duty (%)	Regular duty (%)
0304.20.29	Cod of the species <i>Gadus morhua</i>	10,000	Jan-Dec	8	7.50
0305.51.10 0305.51.90 0305.62.00	Cod of the species <i>Gadus morhua</i> and <i>Gadus ogac</i> .	25,000	Jan-Dec	0	13.00 13.00 13.00
0305.59.11 0305.59.19 0305.69.10	Fish of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i>				13.00 13.00 13.00

Note: The US is naturally excluded from the WTO quotas since they exclude the Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*).

Total Edible Fishery Products

Production

Total CY-1998 fish catch was up 4% as a consequence of an increased fishing activity, which enabled a moderate increase in capture of several fish types like sardines and mackerel. Depleted fish stocks will tend to curtail total 1999 fish catch though, with a 11% reduction reported during January/April of 1999. Current fish stock problems, the effects of the end of the current EU-Morocco fishing Agreement in November 1999 (see Groundfish, Policy) and the overall trend for increasingly restrictive fishing practices are expected to lead to another reduction in fish catch in 2000.

In addition to efforts to improve the national fleet, a significant number of vessels has been transferred from the national fleet to those of other countries in which they form partnerships. Since the beginning of the decade, as many as 50 ships have formed mixed capital ventures abroad, especially in Mauritania and the Falklands, in order to secure stable fish supplies. In 1998, the national fleet was composed of 11,189 vessels (11,440 in 1997) with a total power of 394,048 Kw (396,625 Kw in 1997). Output of main species (with 1997 in brackets) were: sardines, 80,250 Mt (76,402 Mt), Atlantic mackerel, 23,238 (21,919 Mt), Hairtails, 13,074 Mt (15,093 Mt) and tuna fish, 12,622 Mt (12,664 Mt).

Virtually all the fish catch is sold fresh. Only some of the sardines and octopus are frozen (5-10,000 MT of sardines and +/- 1,000 MT of octopus). Production of minced and pre-cooked products has been on the rise. Most used species are, by order of importance: hake, flatfish and red fish, cod, and red porgy. Canned fish production expanded 10.6% during CY-1998 due to a recovery in sardine canning enabled by the larger catch, as well as in tuna fish canning through a higher use of imported tuna fish. Outputs of the canned sardines and canned tuna fish in 1998 (raw basis) totaled 29,744 Mt (25,153 Mt in 1997) and 13,767 Mt (17,912 Mt in 1997) respectively. Production of all other canned fishes totaled 4,384 Mt (5,216 Mt in 1997). Total production of canned fish continued to show a moderate recovery during the first part of the year, encouraged by a consumption diversion from very high-priced fresh and frozen fish products, with the general fisheries directorate reporting a 13.3% output increase during the Jan/April 1999 period over the similar period in 1998. There are currently 20 to 30 canning units producing sardines, tuna and horse mackerel. Quality of both fresh and frozen fish sold in the market is good.

Consumption

Total seafood consumption remained mostly unchanged in CY-1998, sustained by a moderately higher demand from the processing industry. Due to generally high prices, fresh & frozen seafood at retail dropped moderately. Sales of frozen seafood as a whole dropped by 7% in volume, while expanding by 5% in value during CY-1998 relative to 1997 levels.

Due to relatively high-prices, total seafood consumption is expected to decline in 1999. In addition to the current depression of the cod market (see Salted cod section), high prices are also negatively impacting the sales of fresh/frozen seafood in general. As tends to happen when prices are high, fresh fish consumption will tend to be more affected than frozen, which maintains greater price stability. Consumption patterns will continue to reflect increasing diversification, while cod, sardine and mackerel will continue to dominate. In particular, salmon and monkfish use will tend to continue to expand, favored by the development of the restaurant business. After a slight contraction in 1998, consumption of

prawn and shrimp have also been expanding during the current year. Processed fish, especially frozen minced fish and pre-cooked products, will also continue to expand, profiting from changing lifestyles. Given the continuation of the current price conjuncture, total fish consumption will tend to be moderately reduced again in 2000.

Trade

After a 2.5 reduction in 1998, imports of total edible fishery products increased 1.9% in volume and 16.4% in value during Jan/April 1999, spurred by the dropping levels of national catch. Fresh fish (harmonized tariff schedule code 0302) went up 8% in volume, frozen fish (HTC 0303) by 20.4%, minced fish (HTSC 0304) by 13.7%, crustaceans by 1.5%, and canned fish by 67%. Cured fish dropped by 5.7% in volume while rising by 21.9% in value, in association with current trends of the cod market (see Salted Cod section). Mollusk was also down by 5.3%. Total seafood imports are expected to increase moderately again in 2000 as a consequence of the lower forecast national fish catch.

After an increase in 1998, U.S. seafood exports into Portugal expanded again during the first part of 1999. In addition to cod, most significantly expanding seafood products include monkfish, salmon and loligo. For a detailed breakout of recent U.S. seafood exports into Portugal, see the Statistical Section. The predominant role played by Norway, Russia and Iceland in the Portuguese total seafood imports is due to their leadership as cod suppliers (see Groundfish and Salted cod sections). As a whole, the EU continues to account for increasing share of the Portuguese seafood trade, with Spain playing a large role not only as a direct supplier but also as the port of entry of seafood products imported from other origins, including the U.S.

Policy

Portuguese resource management policies are coordinated by the EU, which sets TACs on national waters and negotiates bi-lateral agreements. A special fishing regime was also created in recent years to protect sardine stocks on national waters. Most significant bi-lateral fishing agreements are with Morocco (swordfish, hairtails and red porgy), Mauritania (same species and craw-fish), Guinea-Bissau (shrimp), Mozambique (shrimp), and Angola (swordfish). These agreements operate on the basis of payment of fishing licenses to the local Governments or the formation of joint-ventures abroad.

Among most significant short-term challenges for Portugal is the end of the EU-Morocco fishing agreement in November 1999, of special importance for the catch of hake and hairtails, whose re-negotiation is expected to be concluded under the Portuguese Presidency of the EU during the first semester of 2000. Other important dossiers falling under the Portuguese EU Presidency are the negotiations of the Denmark-Greenland fishing agreement and separate negotiations with several African, Portuguese-speaking countries.

Portugal is subject to the EU import regime for all fish types. EU quality and health directives are also effective in the country. In accordance with the legislation, labels of all imported products as well as the product's sanitary certificates need to be translated into Portuguese. All fish imports from non-EU countries must originate from an establishment which is part of an approved list of exporters.

Marketing

In addition to cod, frozen and salted n.d., a few other seafood products have good prospects of penetrating the

Portuguese market, profiting from an increasingly diversified consumption pattern. Salmon, monkfish and squid in particular continue to profit from expansion in demand, while more intense business contacts could widen the successfully-marketed U.S. product range in this market.

Fresh fish is imported directly by wholesalers. Importers of frozen fish are basically grouped in two organizations: The "Comercio Europeu de Congelados" (CEC - European Trade of Frozen Products) with ten members, headquartered in Lisbon, and the GRUPOGEL, located in the northern town of Matosinhos. Frozen fish importers are also fish processors. The hyper-markets and the restaurants tend to buy either from the wholesalers or in local markets. Direct imports by these entities are rare and tends to be done only when special promotions take place. There are different marketing channels for salted cod (see SALTED COD Section).

Statistical Section

Total Seafood Production, Supply & Distribution Table

PSD Table						
Country	Portugal					
Commodity	Total Edible Fishery Products				(MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1998		01/1999		01/2000
Landings/Comm'l Catch	200000	212128	195000	200000	0	198000
Fresh/Frz Production	119900	121148	120097	108000	0	104400
Canned Production	36100	45530	32000	50000	0	52000
Cured Production	4000	3022	3900	2000	0	2000
Total Production	160000	169700	155997	160000	0	158400
Fresh/Frozen Imports	210000	192719	219000	210500	0	215000
Canned Imports	3500	3733	3400	6000	0	7000
Cured Imports	260000	256057	258000	245000	0	240000
TOTAL Imports	473500	452509	480400	461500	0	462000
Fresh/Frozen Exports	67000	53388	68000	60000	0	65000
Canned Exports	13000	12680	14000	13000	0	14000
Cured Exports	8000	6961	8000	10000	0	11000
TOTAL Exports	88000	73029	90000	83000	0	90000
Domestic Consumption	545500	549180	546397	538500	0	530400

Trade Matrices

Total Edible Fishery Product Trade Matrix for Calendar Years 1997 & 1998

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Total Edible Fishery Products		
Time period	Jan/Dec.	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	9163	U.S.	11669
Others		Others	
Spain	119129	Spain	114809
Denmark	45864	Denmark	21188
Netherlands	7144	France	7683
France	6929	U.K.	5661
Other EU	14984	Other EU	14064
Norway	83649	Norway	133236
Russia	74215	Iceland	46022
Iceland	34192	Russia	37227
Mauritania	6583	Ghana	9395
S. Africa	6373	S. Africa	6914
Total for Others	399062		396199
Others not Listed	55664		44641
Grand Total	463889		452509

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Total Edible Fishery Products		
Time period	Jan/Dec.	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	1997		1998
U.S.	1746	U.S.	1881
Others		Others	
Spain	47732	Spain	42266
France	7360	France	6535
U.K.	3678	U.K.	4251
Italy	3019	Italy	3146
Greece	1135	Germany	1183
Other EU	2884	Belgium-Lux	1040
Angola	3095	Other EU	2425
Brazil	3029	Angola	2332
Canada	1730	Canada	1735
Israel	422	Brazil	1590
Total for Others	74084		66503
Others not Listed	4682		4645
Grand Total	80512		73029

Total Edible Fishery Product Trade Matrix for Jan/April 1998 & 1999

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Total Edible Fishery Products		
Time period	Jan/April	Units:	Metric Tons
Imports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	2018	U.S.	3541
Others		Others	
Spain	36716	Spain	41088
Denmark	8359	Denmark	6130
Germany	2210	Other EU	5548
Other EU	5609	Norway	46197
Norway	53724	Russia	24498
Iceland	13705	Iceland	14998
Russia	13359	Ghana	2634
Ghana	3759	S. Africa	2122
S. Africa	2519	Canada	2030
Mauritania	2065	Mauritania	2028
Total for Others	142025		147273
Others not Listed	12603		8767
Grand Total	156646		159581

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Portugal		
Commodity	Total Edible Fishery Products		
Time period	Jan/April	Units:	Metric Tons
Exports for:	1998		1999
U.S.	632	U.S.	543
Others		Others	
Spain	9297	Spain	11060
France	2538	France	1428
U.K.	1057	U.K.	1355
Italy	900	Italy	969
Other EU	1411	Other EU	2736
Canada	594	Canada	512
Brazil	499	Switzerland	323
Switzerland	339	Brazil	315
Total for Others	16635		18698
Others not Listed	906		1572
Grand Total	18173		20813

TOTAL SEAFOOD IMPORTS FROM THE US

		1997		1998		Jan/April 98		Jan/April 99	
		100 Kg	1000 PTE	100 Kg	1000 PTE	100 Kg	1000 PTE	100 Kg	1000 PTE
FRESH/CHILLED FISH									
30269550	Anchovees	0	0	3	79	0	0	0	0
30269810	Monkfish	20	1390	64	6690	14	1174	0	0
30269680	Hake	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	574
30269990	Seabream & oth.	241	15838	219	24788	212	23808	24	2532
30270000	Liver & eggs	0	875	0	0	0	0	0	0
FROZEN FISH									
30310000	Pacific Salmon	3134	124191	1439	65926	633	29667	368	13621
30331900	Pacific Halibut	22	2714	268	23097	0	0	0	0
30332000	Plaice	196	8196	0	0	0	0	0	0
30339800	Miscell. Flatfishes	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
30341110	Tuna fish	0	0	952	25884	0	0	0	0
30342900	Yellow FinTuna	20	1659	38	3517	38	3517	0	0
30360900	Cod	4237	93689	30398	1170593	5318	207694	20389	1020323
30371100	Sardines	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0
30378190	Hake	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
30379550	Alaska Pollock	0	0	2675	39659	1143	16853	202	3403
30379810	Monkfish	4022	275723	6323	353671	1327	73324	1774	69776
30379870	Swordfish	10	1225	36	4587	36	4587	0	0
30380900	Liver & eggs	203	5099	13	863	0	0	0	0
MINCED FISH									
30420580	Frozen Hake	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
30420830	Frozen Monkfish	111	10259	110	12485	30	3545	93	13205
30490350	Prepared Cod	0	0	1278	25201	313	2895	0	0
30490570	Prep. Monkfish	1661	117878	460	41701	240	23112	0	0
30490610	Prep. Alaska Pollock	1045	28	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRY/SALTED FISH									
30510000	Fish meal	0	0	10	2498	0	0	35	3691
30530110	Minced cod	66	1177	0	0	0	0	0	0
30562000	Salted cod n.d.	54679	916420	69787	994691	10390	146934	9267	137259
30569900	Tuna & others	0	0	2071	43142	0	0	1429	17347
CRUSTACEANS									
30614100	Crabs	0	4	2	730	2	730	0	0
30614900	"	2	767	0	0	0	0	0	0
30619900	Crawfish	0	0	1	69	0	0	0	0
30621000	Crawfish, not frozen	10	3343	0	0	0	0	0	0
30622100	Live lobster	23	4711	18	3960	0	0	5	907

(Continued on following page)

TOTAL SEAFOOD IMPORTS FROM THE US (Continued)

		1997		1998		Jan/April 98		Jan/April 99	
		100 Kg	1000 PTE	100 Kg	1000 PTE	100 Kg	1000 PTE	100 Kg	1000 PTE
MOLLUSK									
30741910	Fresh squid	0	0	4	471	4	471	0	0
30741990	"	0	0	1	119	1	119	0	0
30749310	Frozen Squid	1257	30793	0	0	0	0	0	0
30749330	"	62	2664	259	10130	230	9495	0	0
30749380	"	20374	415605	253	7341	250	7274	1589	46177
30749590	"	231	4965	0	0	0	0	221	7489
30760000	Snails	0	0	2	2748	0	0	0	0
30791000	Miscellaneous	0	0	0	126	0	0	0	0
30799900	"	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	0
PROCESSED SEAFOOD (Fresh weight basis)									
160420100	Frozen salmon prep.	0	0	4	726	0	0	0	0
160420500	Frozen sardine prep.	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0
		91626	2039342	116684	2865453	20181	555199	35406	1336304

SOURCE: NATIONAL STATISTICS INSTITUTE INE. All numbers have been converted to fresh weight basis.

Fish Producer and Retail Prices in 1998 and 1999 (January /April) (Pte/Kg)

	1998			1999		
	Producer	Retail		Producer	Retail	
		Lisbon	Oporto		Lisbon	Oporto
Mackerel	195.5	680.3	485.4	267.4	732.7	504.2
Sole Fish	2,315.0	3,028.7	2,858.3	2,308.3	2,660.8	2,712.5
Loligo	1,425.8	1,792.7	1,875.0	1,306.1	1,536.7	1,983.3
Hake	903.7	1,939.4	1,475.0	1,068.0	1,865.0	1,550.0
Source: General Directorate for Fisheries; 1 USD = 192Pte						

Consumer Price Index

January to March 1998, 1999			
	January to March, 1998	January to March, 1999	Variation (%)
			(99-98)
TOTAL, except Housing	101.2	104.1	2.8
TOTAL Food Products	102.1	105.7	3.6
TOTAL Fishery Products	109.2	123.8	13.4
Fresh/Chilled Fish/Frozen	105.7	111.9	5.9
Cured Fish or in Brine	115.6	148.0	28.0
Crustaceans & Mollusk	110.4	109.4	- 0.9
Canned Fish	105.4	107.9	2.3
Base (100): Average 1991 Prices; Source: National Statistics Institute (INE)			