



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment
DNK09 - European pilchard/sardine
(*Sardina pilchardus*)
in FAO 27, ICES Divisions 8.a–b and 8.d
(Bay of Biscay)

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 - northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Denmark (Flag countries: France and Spain)
	Stock:	European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)
Date	08 th March 2024	
Report Code	DNK09	
Assessor	Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark (Flag countries: France and Spain)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	N/A	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Thyborøn, FF Skagen A/S			
Country: Denmark (Flag countries: France and Spain)			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Certification Trust/NSF	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/Re-approval
Ana Elisa Almeida Ayres	Matthew Jew	0.5	Reapproval
Assessment Period		March 2024 – March 2025	

Scope Details	
Main Species	European Pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)
Stock	European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 - northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union (Common Fisheries Policy-CFP), Danish Directorate of Fisheries (<i>Fiskeristyrelsen</i>)
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine and pelagic trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species - IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora - CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as MarinTrust raw material. European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) is not categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List and does not appear in CITES appendices; therefore, sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) is eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust by-product raw material.</p> <p>There is a species-specific management regime in place for this stock including a stock assessment with reference points defined and a TAC set and therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C.</p> <p>In the last stock assessment, removals are considered and the stock is just above its limit reference point Blim, therefore the stock PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.</p> <p>Therefore, European pilchard/ sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v2.3 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) as Category C, the stock is subject to a specific management regime and reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is below MSY $B_{trigger}$ and B_{pa}, but above B_{lim}. Therefore, because the stock has biomass above the limit reference point, it passes Category C.</p> <p>European pilchard/ sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) passes both clauses (C1.1 and 1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.3.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
N/A

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as a MarinTrust raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3 Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Sardine	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Sardine in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)	Yes	C	LC ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

² <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198580/15542481>

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

Clause C1 should be completed for each Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)																																																	
C1	Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements																																																		
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Pass																																																
	C1.2	The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Pass																																																
			Clause outcome: Pass																																																
<p>C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.</p> <p>ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2024 should be no more than 19,811 tonnes.</p> <p>The assessment type is an Analytical assessment (Stock Synthesis Model 3; SS3) that uses catches in the model and in the Forecast. The input data includes commercial catches (international landings; ages frequencies from catch sampling). Three survey indices: PELGAS (acoustic biomass, [A4150], 2000–2019, 2021–2023), BIOMAN (egg counts, [I9143], 2000–2023), and DEPM Triennial surveys (BIOMAN [I9143] and SP-DEPM [I9787], 2011, 2014, 2017; BIOMAN [I9143], 2020, 2023) and age composition in the PELGAS survey. Discarding and bycatch are considered negligible.</p> <div data-bbox="363 1182 1289 1704" data-label="Figure"> <table border="1"> <caption>Estimated data for Figure 1: Long term catches for European pilchard/sardine (Sardina pilchardus) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) from 2000 to 2022 (ICES, 2023).</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Catches (in 1000 t)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2000</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>2001</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>2002</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>2006</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>2007</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>2008</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>2009</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>2011</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>2012</td><td>31</td></tr> <tr><td>2013</td><td>33</td></tr> <tr><td>2014</td><td>35</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>31</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>33</td></tr> <tr><td>2019</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>2020</td><td>31</td></tr> <tr><td>2021</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>2022</td><td>26</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>Figure 1. Long term catches for European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) from 2000 to 2022 (ICES, 2023).</p> <p>Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process. C.1.1 is met.</p> <p>C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.</p>				Year	Catches (in 1000 t)	2000	15	2001	15	2002	18	2003	17	2004	14	2005	16	2006	17	2007	18	2008	22	2009	21	2010	20	2011	23	2012	31	2013	33	2014	35	2015	29	2016	30	2017	31	2018	33	2019	25	2020	31	2021	26	2022	26
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ICES defines the reference points in accordance with the MSY (target) and precautionary (target/limit) approaches. MSY $B_{trigger}$ and B_{pa} are set at 78,700 tonnes, B_{lim} is set at 56,300 tonnes, F_{MSY} and F_{pa} is 0.45, and F_{lim} is 0.76.

Fishing pressure on the stock is above F_{MSY} and F_{pa} and below F_{lim} ; spawning-stock size is below $MSY B_{trigger}$ and B_{pa} , but above B_{lim} .

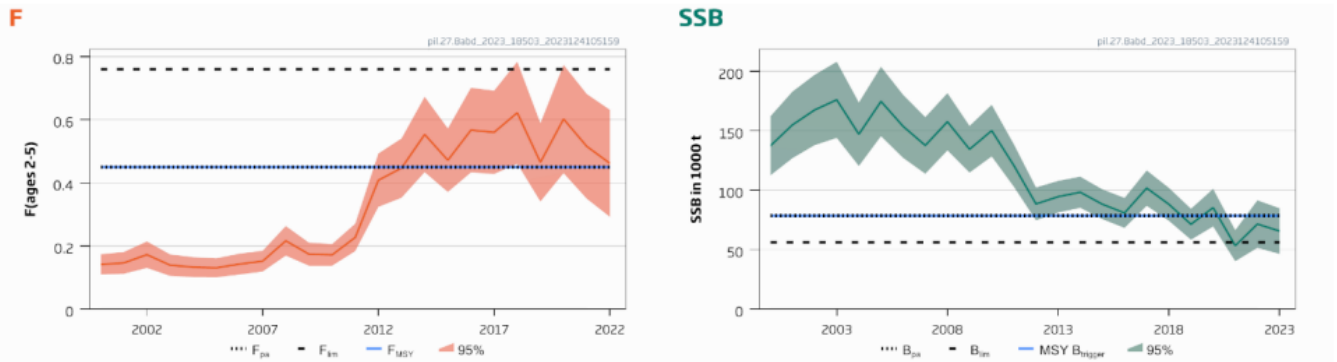


Figure 2. European pilchard/sardine in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d. Summary of the stock assessment (ICES, 2023).

The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy). C.1.2 is met.

References

ICES. 2023. Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in divisions 8.a-b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2023. ICES Advice 2022, pil.27.8abd. Published 08 December 2023 <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.21975206>

Links

MarinTrust Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01