MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment

Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in FAO 27.3, subdivisions 22-32, Baltic Sea

MarinTrust Programme
Unit C, Printworks
22 Amelia Street
London
SE17 3BZ
E: standards@marin-trust.com
T: +44 2039 780 819

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Sprat, *Sprattus sprattus*
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27, Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Flag country: Denmark, Poland
	Stock:	FAO 27.3, subdivisions 22-32, Baltic Sea
Date	7 October 2022	
Report Code	DNK33	
Assessor	Léa Lebechnech	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark (Flag country: Denmark, Poland)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Scanbio Ingredients AS			
Country: Denmark			
Email address: pal.rostad@scanbio.com		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Léa Lebechnech	Matthew Jew	0,5 days	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	To October 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Sprat, *Sprattus sprattus*
Stock	Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in subdivisions 22–32 (Baltic Sea)
Fishery Location	FAO 27, Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Commission (EC), Danish Directorate of Fisheries (*Fiskeristyrelsen*), and Polish Fisheries Department (Department *Rybołówstwa*)
Gear Type(s)	Most of the catch is taken by pelagic trawlers
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's determination of approval
Recommendation	**APPROVED**

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Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in FAO 27.3, is neither listed as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN's Red List ("least concern"), nor listed in CITES appendices; therefore, sprat is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material. This stock is shared between the EU and Russia. An EU multiannual plan (MAP) in place for stocks in the Baltic Sea includes sprat (EU, 2016, 2019). The advice, based on the F_{MSY} ranges used in the management plan, is considered precautionary. Russia does not have a management plan for this stock. As there is a management plan and defined reference points for the stock, it has been assessed under category C. Fisheries removals are considered in the stock assessment and the stock has been above proxy biomass reference points, so clauses C1.1 and C1.2 are met. Therefore, Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in FAO 27.3, subdivisions 22-32 (Baltic Sea), is **APPROVED** for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standard.
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
The assessor correctly classified sprat in Division 27.3, subdivisions 22-23 as Category C, the stock is subject to a specific management regime and reference points are defined. Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above MSY $B_{trigger}$, B_{pa}, and B_{lim}. Therefore, the stock is considered to have biomass above the limit reference point. Sprat in Division 27.3, subdivisions 22-32 passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.
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 an 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]
Sprat	*Sprattus sprattus*	Sprat in subdivisions 22–32 (Baltic Sea)	European Commission (EC), Danish Directorate of Fisheries (*Fiskeristyrelsen*), and Polish Fisheries Department (Department *Rybołówstwa*)	C	LC	No

[1] https://www.iucnredlist.org/
[2] https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php

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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	**Sprat** (*Sprattus sprattus*)	
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.	Yes
	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.	Yes
	Clause outcome:	**PASS**

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.

ICES advises that when the EU multiannual plan (MAP) for the Baltic Sea is applied, catches in 2023 that correspond to the F ranges in the plan are between 183 749 tonnes and 317 905 tonnes. According to the MAP, catches higher than those corresponding to FMSY (249 237 tonnes) can only be taken under conditions specified in the plan, whilst the entire range is considered precautionary when applying ICES advice rule.

The most recent stock advice uses an age-based analytical assessment, XSA (ICES, 2022) that uses catches in the model and forecast. The input data used in the last stock assessment were the following: Commercial catches; two acoustic surveys (BASS [A7041], BIAS [A1588]); natural mortalities from multispecies model (SMS) until 2018, 2019 =2018 , 2020–2021 from regression with eastern Baltic cod biomass of individuals ≥ 20 cm, fixed maturity ogive. Discards and bycatch are not included, considered negligible (Figure 1).

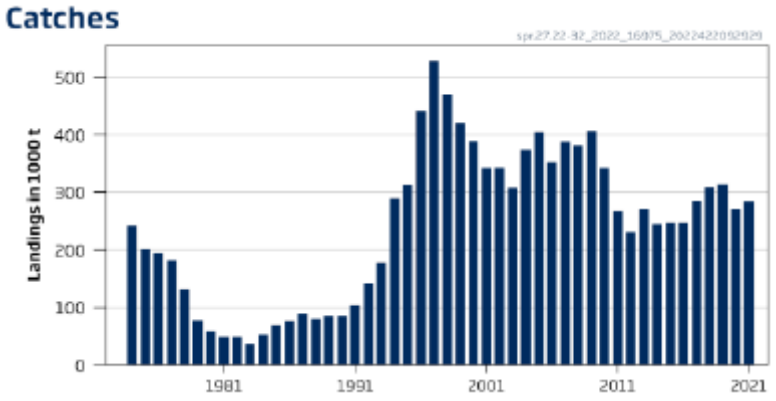

Figure 1. Catches of Sprat in FAO division 27.3, subdivisions 22–32.
Source: ICES 2022.

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, so it PASSES clause C1.1.

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.

Fishing pressure on the stock is above F_{MSY} and between F_{pa} and F_{lim} and spawning-stock size is above MSY $B_{trigger}$, B_{pa}, and B_{lim}, (Figure 2).

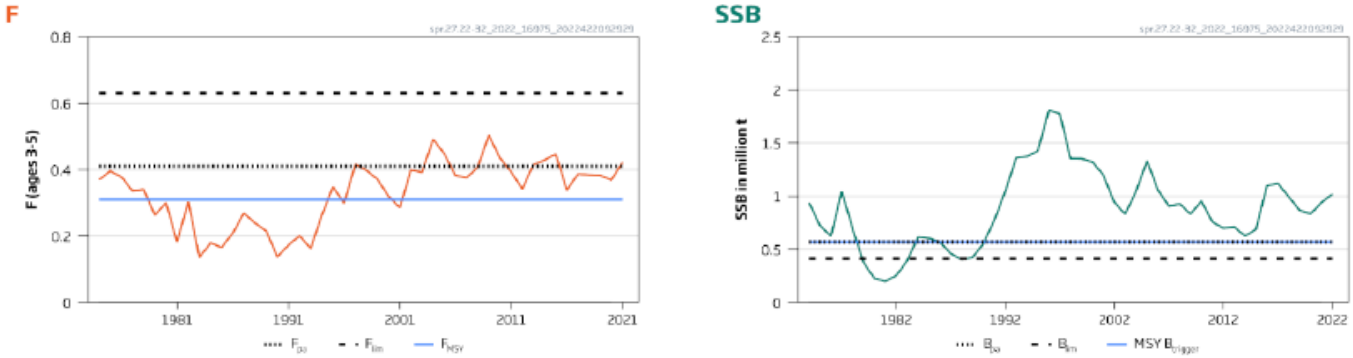

Figure 2. Sprat in subdivisions 22–32. Left panel: Long-term fishing pressure (F) trends with target (F_{MSY} and F_{pa}) and limit reference points (F_{lim}). Right panel: Long-term spawning stock biomass (SSB) trends at spawning time is predicted for 2022.
Source: ICES 2022

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), so it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

Nedreaas, K., Florin, A., Cook, R., Fernandes, P. & Lorance, P. 2015. *Sprattus sprattus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T198583A45077260: https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198583/45077260.

ICES, 2022. Sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) in subdivisions 22–32 (Baltic Sea). ICES Advice: Recurrent Advice. Report. https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19453856.v1.

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

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