

# FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

## IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

<b>FISHERY By-Product:</b>	<b>Lemon sole (<i>Microstomus kitt</i>)</b>
<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>ICES Areas IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j</b>
<b>DATE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>February 2017</b>
<b>ASSESSOR:</b>	<b>Deirdre Hoare</b>

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 1 of 5	CCM Code:
-------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

**This report shall not be reproduced in full or in part without the permission of Global Trust Certification Ltd.**

1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: UFI		
Address:		
Country: UK and Ireland	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	SAI Global (Ireland)	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Virginia Polonio	Re-certification
1. Scope of Assessment	By-Product re-certification year 2016	
2. Fishery By-Product	Lemon sole ( <i>Microstomus kitt</i> )	
3. Fishery By-Product Location	ICES Areas IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j	
4. Fishery Method	Beam trawl, otter trawl, gillnet	
5. Outcome of Assessment	Approve byproduct	

**2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT**

**3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION**

**There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, but there is limited evidence that this is applied specifically to the lemon sole stock in the assessment area. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment but significant improvements in the understanding of the stock could be made. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard.**

**4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME**

**A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE**

**LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE**

*The management of the fishery used to produce the By- Product must include a legal and administrative basis for the implementation of measures and controls to support the management of the fishery.*

<b>LOW</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
<b>MEDIUM</b>	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is somehow established, but there is evidence of not being efficient to ensure the management of the stock.
<b>HIGH</b>	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently.

***Determination: There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels. There is also some evidence that current management measures are not sufficient to ensure the long-term sustainability of the fisheries.***

**M**

**Fishery management framework:**

The UK & Ireland are members of the European Union and therefore in Community waters implement the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). In force since 1983, the CFP aims to reconcile resource conservation with the preservation of income and jobs in coastal zones that offer few alternatives in terms of production or employment. It therefore covers not just resources but also markets and structures.

The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014. The principal aim of the new CFP is to achieve maximum sustainable yield (MSY) for all stocks by 2015 where possible, and at the latest by 2020. The 2014 reform also details the gradual roll-out of a landing obligation (prohibiting discards), which began in selected fisheries in 2015 and will eventually encompass all commercial fisheries from 2019. Finally, the 2014 reform increases the role and importance of management at the regional level, and encourages more intensive stakeholder engagement.

The primary authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in England and Wales, and Marine Scotland, a Directorate of the Scottish Government, in Scotland.

**Species-specific management:**

Lemon sole in the area relevant to this assessment is subject to annual quotas which include witch under a combined species TAC. These management areas, and the associated TACs for 2016 and 2017, are as follows:

- EU waters of IIa and IV: TAC 6,391t

These areas do not fully match the stock units for which ICES provides advice (see section B, below). There is no specific management plan for lemon sole in this area. All European sole fisheries are subject to a minimum landing size. Lemon sole is mainly a bycatch species in mixed fisheries. Management of lemon sole and witch under a combined species TAC prevents effective control of the single-species exploitation rates and could potentially lead to overexploitation of either species.

R2 – R8

Global Trust Certification Ltd, 3rd Floor, Block 3, Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
Form No: 9a	Report Ref:	Page 3 of 5	CCM Code:

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>		
<b>LOW</b>	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.	
<b>HIGH</b>	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.	
<p><b><i>Determination: Some stock-specific research and stock assessment activities are conducted, but there is significant room for improvement to reduce uncertainty.</i></b></p> <p>Fisheries management in EU waters is supported by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). ICES utilises the best available scientific information collected by 20 member countries and others, and develops advice for the majority of commercially fished stocks in European waters.</p> <p>ICES provides biennial advice for lemon sole (<i>Microstomus kitt</i>) in Subarea IV and Divisions IIIa and VIId (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat, Eastern English Channel).</p> <p>The most recent full assessment was conducted in 2015. The assessment is valid for 2016 and 2017 and shows a variable but relatively stable trend in recent years with the advice being that landings in 2016 and 2017 do not exceed 5,655 t in each year. ICES considers the stock to be data-deficient and no reference points have been defined.</p> <p>ICES advice is based on a survey trends based assessment. Data from commercial catches (international landings and discards), one survey index (IBTS Q1), annual maturity data from surveys are used to conduct the assessment. Information on stock structure, biological data, and catch-at-age information would be needed to be able to perform an analytic assessment. Age readings and maturity status evaluation techniques are still uncertain and under development.</p> <p>R8 - R9</p>		<b>M</b>

C. STOCK STATUS		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>C. The fish used to produce the fish By- Product is not considered to be critically at risk of over exploitation in accordance with the IUCN guidance.</i>		
<b>LOW</b>	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.	
<b>MEDIUM</b>	The fish By- Product is from a species that is classified as vulnerable, but has a management regime in place that will control the level of fishing permitted. Or if a species is deemed to be endangered but the sub-group from where the fish By- Product is harvested is deemed scientifically to be at no risk of over exploitation.	
<b>HIGH</b>	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.	
<p><b><i>Determination: Lemon sole has not been categorised by the IUCN; however there is no additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe the species is at serious risk and so a medium compliance rating is appropriate.</i></b></p> <p>The IUCN has not categorised <i>Microstomus kitt</i> and the species does not occur in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R10 - R11</p>		<b>M</b>

## 5. REFERENCES

- R1** – Image of *Microstomus kitt* by Andrey Dolgov  
<http://fishbase.org/photos/PicturesSummary.php?StartRow=0&ID=1382&what=species&TotRec=4>
- R2** – About the Common Fisheries Policy: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm)
- R3** – CFP – Managing fish stocks: [http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/index_en.htm)
- R4** – CFP – Discarding and the Landing Obligation:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing\\_rules/discards/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm)
- R5** – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries Department:  
<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>
- R6** – Marine Management Organisation (About):  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marinemanagement-organisation>
- R7** – Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>
- R8** – ICES advice library: <http://www.ices.dk/publications/library/Pages/default.aspx>
- R9** – EU fishing quotas 2016, 2017 :  
[http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/mare/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=27996&subweb=343&lang=en](http://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/mare/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=27996&subweb=343&lang=en)
- R10** – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- R11** – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>