

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
LOCATION:	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
DATE OF REPORT:	28/02/2014
ASSESSOR:	Sam Peacock

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country:	Zip:	
Tel. No.	Fax. No.	
Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact:	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Sam Peacock	David Garforth	Re-certification
1. Scope of Assessment		
		Byproduct re-certification
2. Fishery By-Product		
		Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
		UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)
4. Fishery Method		
		Pelagic trawl gear, purse seine nets and handlines.
5. Outcome of Assessment		
		Approve byproduct

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT
3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION
<p>There is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to mackerel in the assessment area. However, the internationally-agreed management plan appears not to be fully adhered to, and landings have often exceeded management advice. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment, but this is extremely limited. The assessment team recommends the approval of this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard with a medium compliance rating.</p>

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4. RATIONALE OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
A. THE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROCEDURE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>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.</i>		
LOW	There is no satisfactory legal and management framework for fisheries in the region.	
MEDIUM	An administrative and legal framework that underpins management of fisheries in the region is established, but it is not directly applied to the byproduct stock under assessment.	
HIGH	A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management for fisheries in the region is established and applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment.	
<p>Determination: <i>There are effective fishery management frameworks in place at the EU and national levels, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct species under assessment. However there is a significant discrepancy between scientific advice and final TAC, and the management plan does not appear to be implemented effectively. The assessment team considers a medium compliance rating appropriate.</i></p> <p>Fishery management framework:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The CFP has undergone a series of updates, including the most recent reform which was implemented from 1st 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), starting in 2015 and eventually encompassing 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.</p> <p>The primary authorities with responsibility for implementing the CFP are the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Ireland, and the Marine Management Organisation (in cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) in the UK.</p> <p>Species-specific management:</p> <p>Mackerel in the north-east Atlantic is managed as a combined stock due to its widely distributed and migratory nature. It is fished by Norway, the Faroe Islands and the EU, and a management plan was agreed between these countries in October 2008. ICES evaluated the plan and found it precautionary. However, since 2009 there has been no international agreement on TAC and a stock assessment required by the plan is currently unavailable. Total agreed TAC has considerably exceeded the TAC implied by the management plan, and landings have been approximately double the management plan recommendations since 2010.</p>		M
R1 – R7		

B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

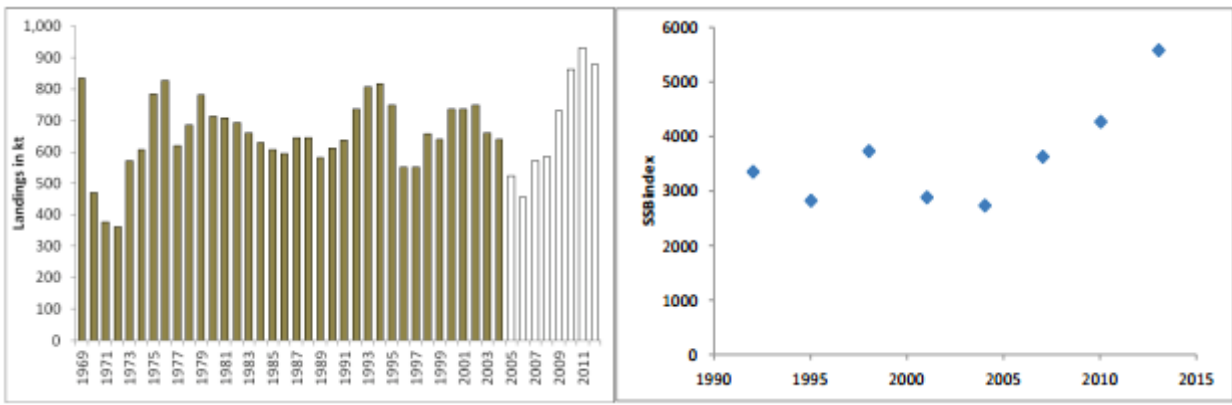
B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.

LOW	Research to support the management of regional fisheries does not exist.
MEDIUM	Research to support the management of regional fisheries exists; however research programmes are not specifically directed at the byproduct stock under assessment.
HIGH	Research specifically targeting the byproduct stock under assessment is carried out in support of sustainable fisheries management.

Determination: Research is carried out in support of the management of the species under assessment, but is not sufficient to enable an analytical stock assessment. M

ICES states that no analytical assessment is available for the stock; advice in 2013 was based on recent landings data. ICES reports the primary reason for the lack of analytical assessment as a change in the perception of the accuracy of catch data prior to 2005. Discards cannot be quantified accurately and therefore total catches cannot be calculated. Although reference points have previously been defined for the stock, the model basis for that assessment has now been rejected and ICES considers the reference points redundant.

A benchmark assessment is scheduled for 2014. At present, ICES considers mackerel to be a data-limited stock.



Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic. Landings in thousand tonnes (left) and SSB index from the triennial mackerel egg survey (right). Confidence intervals are currently not available for the egg survey index. In the catch plot the years prior to 2005 are shaded, indicating that the catch data are less certain in these years. From the ICES advice, October 2013.

R6

C. STOCK STATUS

LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

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.

LOW	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered by the IUCN.
MEDIUM	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. Alternatively if a species is listed as 'not assessed' or 'data deficient' by the IUCN and no additional information is available.
HIGH	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities. Alternatively if a species is listed as 'not assessed' or 'data deficient' by the IUCN but other sources of evidence (e.g. MSC certification) demonstrate that the species is not critically at risk.

Determination: Mackerel has been categorised a species of least concern on the IUCN redlist. H

The IUCN redlist has categorised *Scomber scombrus* as a 'species of least concern'.

R8

5. REFERENCES

R1 – About the Common Fisheries Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/index_en.htm

R2 – CFP – Managing fish stocks: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/index_en.htm

R3 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing

Obligation: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/discards/index_en.htm

R4 – Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Fisheries

Department: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/fisheries/>

R5 – Marine Management Organisation (About): <http://marinemanagement.org.uk/about/index.htm>

R6 – ICES advice, Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic (combined Southern, Western, and North Sea spawning components), October 2013: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2013/2013/mac-nea.pdf>

R7 – EU fishing quotas 2013: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/publications/poster_tac2013_en.pdf

R8 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>