

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By-Product:	Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)
LOCATION:	Northeast Atlantic
DATE OF REPORT:	February 2016
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name: UFI		
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Country: UK & Ireland	Zip:	
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Email address:	Applicant Code	
Key Contact: :	Title:	
Certification Body Details		
Name of Certification Body:		
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Deirdre Hoare	Giles Bartlett	Surveillance
1. Scope of Assessment		
IFFO RS By-Product surveillance year 2015		
2. Fishery By-Product		
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)		
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
Northeast Atlantic		
4. Fishery Method		
Pelagic trawl gear, purse seine nets and handlines.		
5. Outcome of Assessment		
Conditional byproduct approval		

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

As at the time of the 2015 surveillance, there is a robust fishery management framework at the EU and UK & Ireland levels, which is applied specifically to the mackerel stock in the assessment area (although there continues to be considerable difference between the advised and applied quotas). Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment, which has improved considerably since the last assessment. The assessment team grants conditional approval of this byproduct material against the IFFO RS standard, based on agreement and adherence to the management plan by the next re-assessment.

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	An administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is not established.
MEDIUM	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.
HIGH	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, and these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment. However, the international management plan has not been adhered to and there remains a considerable difference between the ICES advice and the management approach applied. The assessment team grants conditional approval based on agreement and adherence to the management plan by the next re-assessment.

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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 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 included a gradual roll-out of a landing obligation (prohibiting discards), which began in selected fisheries in 2015 (including mackerel) 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:

Mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic is subject to quotas in the following management units:

- IIIa and IV, EU waters of IIa, IIIb+c, Subdivisions 22-32 (2015 TAC = 254,736t)
- VI, VII, VIIIa,b,d,e, Vb, IIa, XII, XIV (2015 TAC = 479,368t)
- VIIIc, IX, X, EU waters of CECAF 34.1.1 (2015 TAC = 48,138t)
- Norwegian waters of IIa and IVa (2015 EU TAC = 16,521t)

These TAC areas do not match the ICES advice stock unit. The stock 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, as at the time of the 2015 surveillance, there has been no international

<p>agreement on TAC since 2009. 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> <p>R1 – R8</p>		
B. STOCK ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES AND MANAGEMENT ADVICE		
LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE		
<i>B. Research in support of fisheries management should exist.</i>		
LOW	Research to support the management of the stock does not exist	
MEDIUM	Research to support the management of the stock exists, however research programmes could be significantly improved to decrease scientific advice uncertainty.	
HIGH	Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.	
<p><i>Determination: Research to support the management of the stock is conducted and is now considered by ICES to be adequate. The compliance rating of this clause has been upgraded from medium to high.</i></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>At the time of the 2014 re-assessment, mackerel was categorised by ICES as a data-limited stock. Since that time the stock has been benchmarked and is now subject to an age-based analytical assessment. The input data include catch data, tagging data and three survey indices. Reference points have been determined based on the MSY and precautionary approaches, and in relation to the international management plan. Time series estimates of fishing mortality and SSB are available. The new assessment was designed to take into account the uncertainty in the available data, including historical catches prior to 2000 and the lack of egg survey data prior to 1992.</p> <p>R7, R8</p>		H
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>		
LOW	The fish By-Product must not come from a species that is listed as extinct, or critically endangered.	
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. 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.	
HIGH	The fish By- Product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.	
<p><i>Determination: Mackerel has been categorised by the IUCN as a species of least concern, and therefore a high compliance rating is appropriate.</i></p> <p>The IUCN has categorised <i>Scomber scombrus</i> as a species of least concern, and it does not appear in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>R9, R10</p>		H

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

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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): <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/marine-management-organisation>

R6 - Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>

R7 – ICES advice, mackerel in the Northeast Atlantic:

- September 2015: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2015/2015/mac-nea.pdf>
- May 2014: http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2014/2014/mac-nea_update_2014.pdf

R8 – EU fishing quotas 2015: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2015.022.01.0001.01.ENG

R9 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R10 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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