

FISHERY BY-PRODUCT REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



R1

FISHERY By-Product:	Monkfish (Anglerfish) (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i> / <i>L. budegassa</i>)
LOCATION:	Northeast Atlantic
DATE OF REPORT:	February 2017
ASSESSOR:	Deirdre Hoare

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1. APPLICATION DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT OUTCOME		
Name:		
Address:		
Country: UK & 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		
1. Scope of Assessment	IFFO RS By-Product surveillance year 2016	
2. Fishery By-Product		
2. Fishery By-Product	Monkfish (Anglerfish) (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i> / <i>L. budegassa</i>)	
3. Fishery By-Product Location		
3. Fishery By-Product Location	Northeast Atlantic	
4. Fishery Method		
4. Fishery Method	Beam trawls, Seines, Gill and Tangle Nets.	
5. Outcome of Assessment		
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 is not applied specifically to anglerfish to a sufficient extent to ensure the sustainability of the fishery. Management is supported by species-specific data collection and stock assessment but there is still room for significant improvement. 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	
<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, but the extent these frameworks are applied specifically to the byproduct stock under assessment is considered by ICES to be insufficient to ensure the sustainability of the fishery.

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 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), which began in selected fisheries, beginning in 2015 and will eventually encompass all commercial fisheries from 2019. Finally, the 2014 reform increased 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:

Joint quotas are set for the two anglerfish species in two stock units relevant to this assessment, as follows:

- VI, Vb, international waters of XII and XIV (2016 TAC = 6,375t; 2017 TAC = 7,650t)
- VII (2016 TAC = 33,516; 2017 TAC = 33,516t)

ICES states that the management of the two species under a single TAC prevents effective control of single-species exploitation rates and could lead to the over-exploitation of either species. There is no management plan in place for either stock, and the stock management units are not based on biological stocks. There is no minimum landing size for monkfish, although an EU marketing regulation sets a minimum sale weight of 500g. The assessment unit and the two TAC areas do not match. The first TAC area covers Subarea 4 and Division 2.a (EC); the second TAC

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area covers Division 5.b (EC) and subareas 6, 12, and 14. There is no TAC for Division 3.a. Because of this mismatch, there is a potential for catches to exceed the advice.

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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 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.

Determination: Species-specific research is conducted in support of the management of the fishery, but scientific understanding of the stocks remains limited.

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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.

ICES provides annual stock assessment and advice for two anglerfish stocks relevant to this assessment. ICES has begun to provide species-specific information for *L. budegassa* and *L. piscatorius* in Divisions VIIb-k and VIIIa, b, d. The assessments for both species are trend-based, and utilise commercial landings and one survey index. ICES continues to conduct a combined assessment for anglerfish in Division IIIa and Subareas IV and VI, which utilises international landings and dedicated anglerfish surveys in Subarea VI and Division IVa. All three stocks are categorised as data limited and no reference points have been defined.

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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.
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.

Determination: L. piscatorius has been categorized as Least Concern and L. budegassa as data deficient. No additional evidence to lead the assessment team to believe either species is at serious risk and so a high compliance rating is appropriate.

H

L. piscatorius has been categorized as Least Concern by the IUCN Redlist. L. piscatorius is restricted to the eastern Atlantic from Greenland to Mauritania, including the Mediterranean, however, there is some question as to whether it ranges even further south to Namibia. It is a demersal species that can occur from the shore to the continental slope. It is a long-lived, late-maturing, slow-growing species with fluctuating levels of recruitment that may make it susceptible to overfishing. It is heavily targeted by bottom trawl fisheries in the North Atlantic where overfishing and habitat destruction has been documented. It is regulated by ICES which recommends a moratorium.

L. budegassa, has been categorized as data deficient by the IUCN Redlist globally but least concern in Europe. Demersal fisheries in this region have experienced serious declines in catch. Even though there are no specific

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effort data for these species, it can be assumed that the effort of demersal trawl fisheries has not decreased and may have even increased. It is regulated by ICES and some areas have banned trawl operations which has allowed for some population increases. Therefore, it can be inferred that the FAO landings data are representative of current population trends

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5. REFERENCES

R1 –Image of *Lophius piscatorius* by Cambraia Duarte

<http://fishbase.org/photos/PicturesSummary.php?StartRow=7&ID=716&what=species&TotRec=14>

R2- About the Common Fisheries Policy: 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

R4 – CFP – Discarding and the Landing Obligation:

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/marine-management-organisation>

R7 – Marine Scotland (About): <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/About>

R8 – ICES advice, Anglerfish in the Northeast Atlantic, 2016:

- *L. piscatorius* and *L. budegassa* in Division IIIa and Subareas IV and VI: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/ang-ivvi.pdf>
- *L. piscatorius* in Divisions VIIb–k and VIIIa,b,d: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/anp-78ab.pdf>
- *L. budegassa* in Divisions VIIb–k and VIIIa,b,d: <http://www.ices.dk/sites/pub/Publication%20Reports/Advice/2016/2016/anb-78ab.pdf>

R9 – EU fishing quotas 2016, 2017: https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/fishing_rules/tacs_en

R10 – IUCN redlist: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

R11 – CITES appendices: <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

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