
FISHERY By Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By Product:	Seabass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>)
LOCATION:	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2
DATE OF REPORT:	18/02/2011
ASSESSOR:	Vito Ciccia Romito

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864

Form No: 9	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: United Fish Industries/Welcon	
Address: [REDACTED]	
Country: Ireland	Zip:
Tel. No. [REDACTED]	Fax. No.
Email address: [REDACTED]	Applicant Code
Key Contact: [REDACTED]	Title: [REDACTED]

Certification Body Details

Name of Certification Body:	Global Trust Certification Ltd.	
Assessor Name	Peer Reviewer	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-certification
Vito Ciccia Romito	Mike Platt	Surveillance

1. Scope of Assessment	By product surveillance
2. Fishery By Product	Seabass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>)
3. Fishery By Product Location	UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)
4. Fishery Method	Fixed and drift nets, long-lines, trolling and bottom trawls.
5. Outcome of Assessment	approved

2. GUIDANCE FOR ONSITE ASSESSMENT

Auditor to check that the fish by products used by the factory have had a fish by product surveillance.

3. ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Seabass by products are approved for IFFO RS.

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: A legal and administrative framework that ensures an efficient management of the fishery is established and works efficiently. H

Administrative and legal management framework EU/UK

The Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) is the fisheries policy of the European Union (EU). It allocates quotas from which member states are allowed to catch different amounts and species of fish. England, Scotland, Wales and the Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are member states and respond to the CFP. The most important areas of action of the common fisheries policy are: laying down rules to ensure Europe's fisheries are sustainable and do not damage the marine environment (fishing effort limitations, catch limits, technical measures). The CFP provides national authorities with the tools to enforce these rules and punish offenders, as well as monitoring the size of the European fishing fleet to prevent it from expanding in an unrealistic way. The CFP provides, funding and technical support for initiatives that can make the fishing industry efficient. The CFP will also negotiate on behalf of EU countries within international fisheries organisations and with non-EU countries around the world, therefore helping producers, processors and distributors get a fair price for their seafood. The final function of the CFP is to provide funding for scientific research and data collection, to ensure a sound basis for policy and decision making (R1).

Compliance

Enforcement is the responsibility of each member state, but there is a community level inspection service to ensure that each member state enforce the rules within their own country (R1). **The Marine Management Organization (MMO) is responsible for enforcing the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) in England.** Their role includes active management of fishery quotas within the overall limits set each year by the European Commission (R2). **Marine Scotland is the directorate of Scottish Government (SG) responsible for marine and fisheries issues in Scotland** including the **enforcement of marine and fisheries law and world class scientific and research work** (R3). **The Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority in Ireland** ensures that the marine fish and shellfish resources from the waters in **Ireland's EEZ** are exploited legally. The authority's main mission is to apply Sea Fisheries Conservation and Seafood Safety legislation in a fair and consistent manner (R4). Finally, the **Welsh Assembly Government assumes full responsibility for the management and enforcement of sea fisheries that surround Wales** (R5).

Management plan for Seabass

Sea bass catches are not regulated by Total Allowable Catch (TAC), and there are no other direct controls on either the catch or fishing effort in sea bass fisheries. Although there has been no requirement for annual catch forecasts, ICES has used the results of monitoring and research in the UK to conclude that stocks in the North Sea, the English Channel, and on the west coast of England and Wales are **being harvested sustainably**. The status of sea bass stocks elsewhere in Europe is not known. The only research on conservation of sea bass has been conducted in the UK, where growth overfishing was identified in the mid- 1980s. The scientific

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 3 of 5	CCM Code:

recommendation was to increase the size and age at which sea bass were first exploited, and in 1990 a package of technical measures was implemented in England and Wales. This included: a 36cm minimum landing size (MLS); closure of 37 key sea bass nursery areas to boats fishing for sea bass; and a ban on stretched mesh sizes between 65 and 89mm in gill nets. **Two of these measures were adopted internationally in EU waters:** the MLS of 36cm total length in Regions 2 and 3, and a banned mesh size range of 70–89mm for fixed nets in Regions 1 and 2. Together, these measures protect juvenile sea bass from over exploitation and have raised the age at which sea bass are first exploited to age five or six (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 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: Research to support the management of the stock exists, and research programmes for provision of scientific advice are considered adequate.

Stock Assessment

The only research on conservation of sea bass has been conducted in the UK, where growth overfishing was identified in the mid- 1980s. ICES does not conduct formal, analytical assessments of sea bass stocks, but a ‘yield per recruit’ analysis has been carried out using UK data. This used catch data from three gear groups - trawls, nets and lines - in ICES Divisions IVb and c; VIId and e; and VIIa, f and g over the period 1985-2004. The assessment shows how young fish entering the stock (recruits) are being exploited by the fishery as they grow. The same data set has been used in more quantitative assessments of the evolution of the stocks through time, which suggest that the package of technical conservation measures introduced in 1990 **has been effective in directing fishing activity away from vulnerable juveniles**. Trends and levels of fishing mortality are relatively consistent between areas and the biomass of adult sea bass around the coasts of England and Wales approximately doubled between 1985 and 2004, associated with a higher level of recruitment of young fish from 1989 onwards. ICES have concluded that sea bass fisheries in UK coastal waters are sustainable. Because there is no relationship between spawning stock size and reproductive success in sea bass, it has not been possible to set absolute or even relative reference points based on the level of parent stock, to assess when there is a risk of reproductive failure (R7).

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: The fish by product comes from a fishery that is not deemed to be at risk of over exploitation from fishing activities.

Seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) is classified as Least Concern under the IUCN Red list and the stock comes from a fishery that is not deemed at risk of overexploitation.

5. REFERENCES

R1. European Commission, Fisheries, Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/reform/intro/index_en.htm

R2. Marine Management Organization, Monitoring and Enforcement.

<http://www.marinemanagement.org.uk/fisheries/monitoring/index.htm>

R3. Scottish Government. Marine and Fisheries Compliance.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Compliance>

R4. The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority.

<http://sfpa-ie.access.secure-ssl-servers.biz/index.php?q=about-us>

R5. Welsh Assembly Government. Fisheries.

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/environmentcountryside/foodandfisheries/fisheries/?lang=en>

R6. ICES Areas.

http://www.ices.dk/aboutus/icesareas/ICES_areas_Arc9_Weuro_300.pdf

R7. Seafish Responsible Sourcing Guide Seabass 2009.

http://www.seafish.org/media/Publications/SeafishResponsibleSourcingGuide_seabass_200906.pdf

Global Trust Certification Ltd, Rivercourt Business Centre, Riverlane, Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland Tel: 042 932 0912 Fax 042 938 6864			
Form No: 9	Report Ref:	Page 5 of 5	CCM Code:

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