
FISHERY By Product SURVEILLANCE REPORT

IFFO GLOBAL STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY OF FISHMEAL AND FISH OIL



FISHERY By Product:	Red mullet (<i>Mullus surmuletus</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

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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		
		Red mullet (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)
3. Fishery By Product Location		
		UK & Ireland-Ices Area IVa-c, VI a, VIIa,b,d-h,j2 (R6)
4. Fishery Method		
		Gillnet, bottom trawler
5. Outcome of Assessment		

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

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.

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).

Inshore fisheries management in England and Wales is currently the primary responsibility of sea fisheries committees (SFCs). The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides for measures to reform inshore fisheries management and the protection of the marine environment. One aspect of this is provision for the replacement of SFCs in England with inshore fisheries and conservation authorities (IFCAs) and districts. On 1 April 2011, ten IFCAs will be established.

Management plans for Red mullet

Red mullet is a non-quota species of only moderate, but increasing, importance to the fisheries, especially given its high market value. According to ICES statistics, the main country catching red mullet, within the north-east

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Atlantic, is France. It is a target species for this country and is mainly caught (>90%) by bottom trawlers with a mesh size of 70–99 mm. Currently, other important countries are the Netherlands and the United Kingdom with regard to the English Channel (VIId,e) and the North Sea (IV) where the catches are concentrated in the south (IVb,c) (7-8). Managing red mullet falls under the inshore fisheries management in England and Wales, currently the primary responsibility of sea fisheries committees (SFCs). The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides for measures to reform inshore fisheries management and the protection of the marine environment. One aspect of this is provision for the replacement of SFCs in England with inshore fisheries and conservation authorities (IFCAs) and districts. On 1 April 2011, ten IFCAs will be established (R9).

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

Beare et al. (2004) showed that red mullet are among several species with southern biogeographic affinities that have recently become significantly more prevalent in North Sea bottom trawl surveys e.g. within division IVb, from near-absence during surveys between 1925 and 1990, to about 0.1–4 fish h⁻¹ between 1994 and 2004. During summer (quarter 3) surveys, red mullet has been mainly observed in the warmer, shallower waters of the south-eastern North Sea, from Belgium to the German Bight. By contrast during winter (quarter 1) surveys, they have mainly been observed off north-east Britain; in fact, all red mullet caught during surveys off Scotland have been taken in quarter 1, despite extensive sampling in quarter 3. It has been postulated that the red mullet observed in the northern North Sea are part of an **increasing**, southern North sea population that migrates northwards in winter, when water temperatures are higher there; and moreover that the southern North Sea may well have been colonised from the eastern English Channel during the first and second quarters of the year, with nursery areas being established by autumn (7).

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.

The red mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*) is not listed under the IUCN Red list and the stock has an established management structure (see section 4A).

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. RECLEAIM, Report of WP1Chapter 20 - Red mullet

<http://www.climateandfish.eu/default.asp?ZNT=S0T1O-1P194>

R8. Defra. December Council 2010 outcomes.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/foodfarm/fisheries/documents/fisheries/fishcouncilagree-jan11.pdf>

R9. Marine Management Organization; Inshore Fisheries Management.

http://marinemanagement.org.uk/fisheries/monitoring/regulations_inshore.htm

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