



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment European pilchard (*Sardina pilchardus*) in FAO 27, ICES Divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27 Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Denmark (Flag countries: France and Spain)
	Stock:	European pilchard in ICES divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)
Date	20 March 2023	
Report Code	DNK09	
Assessor	Léa Lebechnech	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Denmark (Flag countries: France and Spain)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL		

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Marine Ingredients Denmark; FFSkagen, TripleNine			
Country: Denmark			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Léa Lebechnech	Matthew Jew	0.5	Surveillance 2
Assessment Period	To March 2023		

Scope Details	
Main Species	European pilchard/sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)
Stock	European pilchard in ICES divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)
Fishery Location	FAO Area 27 Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Union (Common Fisheries Policy-CFP), Danish Directorate of Fisheries (<i>Fiskeristyrelsen</i>)
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine and pelagic trawls
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with assessor's recommendation
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination

Note on country of origin of product: only France and Spain fish this stock so these are identified as the countries of origin of the product.

If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. European pilchard/sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) does not appear as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, nor does it appear in the CITES appendices; therefore, European pilchard in ICES Divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust raw material.

There is a species-specific management regime in place for this stock including a stock assessment with reference points defined and a TAC set and therefore, the stock was assessed under Category C. In the last stock assessment, removals are considered and the stock is just above its limit reference point B_{lim} , therefore the stock PASSES clauses C1.1 and C1.2.

Consequently, European sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in ICES Divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the Marin Trust Standard v.2.

Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments

The assessor correctly classified European sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in ICES Divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) as Category C, the stock is subject to a specific management regime and reference points are defined. Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above $MSY B_{trigger}$, B_{pa} , and B_{lim} . Therefore, the stock is considered to have biomass above the limit reference point. European sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in ICES Divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay) passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.

Notes for On-site Auditor

N/A

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as a MarinTrust raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3 Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
European pilchard	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	European pilchard in ICES divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)	European Union (CFP), Danish Directorate of Fisheries (<i>Fiskeristyrelsen</i>)	C	LC ³	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

² <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

³ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198580/15542481>

CATEGORY C SPECIES

In a by-product assessment, Category C species are those which are subject to a species-specific management regime and are usually targeted species in fisheries for human consumption.

Clause C1 should be completed for each Category C species. If there are no Category C species in the fishery under assessment, this section can be deleted. Where a species fails this Clause, it should be assessed as a Category D species instead.

Species Name		European pilchard (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>)	
C1	Category C Stock Status - Minimum Requirements		
	C1.1	Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Yes
	C1.2	The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.	Yes

Clause outcome: PASS

C1.1 Fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, OR are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.

ICES advises that when the MSY approach is applied, catches in 2023 should be no more than 21 497 tonnes.

The assessment type is an Analytical assessment (Stock Synthesis Model 3; SS3) that uses catches in the model and in the forecast.

The input data considered in the last stock assessment are the following: Commercial catches (international landings; ages and length frequencies from catch sampling). Three survey indices: PELGAS (acoustic biomass, [A4150], 2000–2019, 2021–2022), BIOMAN (egg counts, [I9143], 2000–2022), and DEPM Triennial surveys (PT-DEPM [I7533] and SP-DEPM [I9787]; 2011, 2014, 2017, 2020). Age composition in the PELGAS survey.

Discards and bycatch are not included; they are considered negligible.

Catches are presented in the figure below:

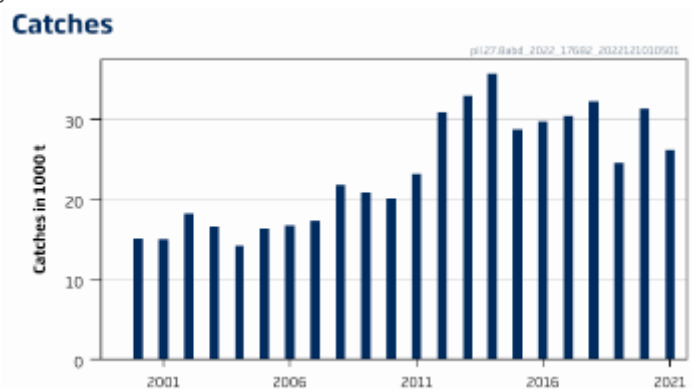


Figure 1. Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in divisions 8.a–b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)
Source: ICES 2022.

Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and therefore the stock PASSES clause C1.1.

C1.2 The species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point (or proxy), OR removals by the fishery under assessment are considered by scientific authorities to be negligible.

Fishing pressure on the stock is above F_{MSY} and F_{pa} and below F_{lim} ; spawning-stock size is below $MSY B_{trigger}$ and B_{pa} , but above B_{lim} .

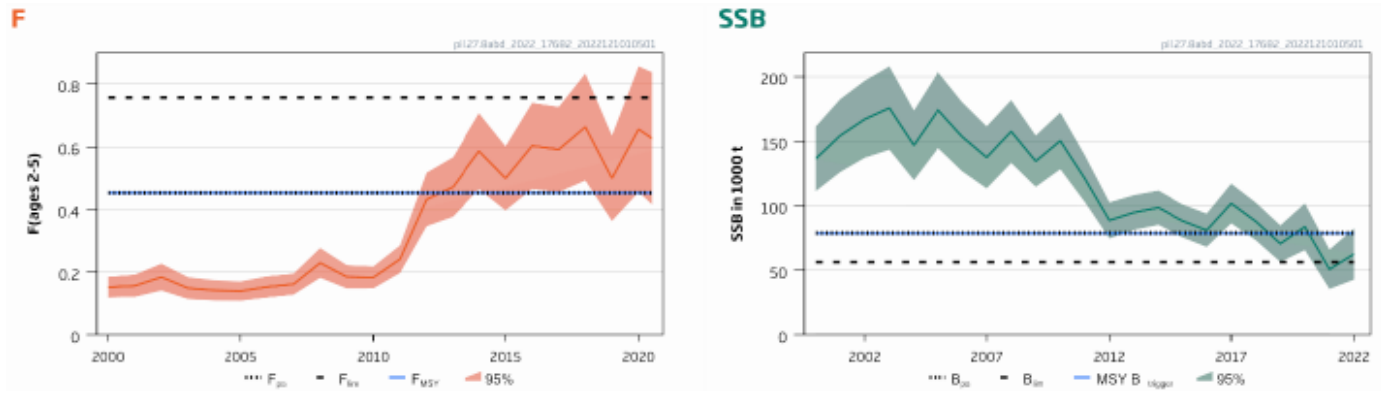


Figure 2. Sardine in divisions 8.a-b and 8.d. Summary of the stock assessment.

Source: ICES 2022.

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the limit reference point and it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

ICES. 2022. Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in divisions 8.a-b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2022. ICES Advice 2022, pil.27.8abd, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772452>.

Links

MarinTrust Standard clause	1.3.2.2
FAO CCRF	7.5.3
GSSI	D.3.04, D5.01