



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment European sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in FAO 27, ICES Subarea 7 (Southern Celtic Sea, English Channel)

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	European sardine, <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>
	Geographical area:	FAO Area 27, Northeast Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Flag country: France
	Stock:	FAO 27, Subarea 7 (Southern Celtic Seas, English Channel)
Date	10 October 2022	
Report Code	FRA48	
Assessor	Léa Lebechnech	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	France	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Bioceval			
Country: France			
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 days	Initial
Assessment Period	To October 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	European sardine, <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>
Stock	European sardine, <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> in FAO 27, Subarea 7
Fishery Location	FAO 27, Northeast Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	European Commission (EC) / France Direction des pêches maritimes et de l'aquaculture (DPMA)
Gear Type(s)	Pelagic trawls, purse seine and others
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Agree with the assessor's recommendation of approval
Recommendation	APPROVED

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List, or if it appears in the CITES appendices, it cannot be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material. European sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) is neither listed as Endangered or Critically Endangered on IUCN’s Red List (“near threatened”), nor listed in CITES appendices; therefore, herring is eligible for approval for use as Marin Trust by-product raw material.</p> <p>ICES is not aware of an agreed precautionary management plan for sardine in this area although reference points are defined, and the stock status related to those reference points is known. Therefore, there is a management plan for the stock, and it has been assessed under category C.</p> <p>Fisheries removals are considered in the stock assessment and the stock is above biomass reference points, so clauses C1.1 and C1.2 are met.</p> <p>Therefore, European sardine (<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>) in FAO 27, ICES Subarea 7, is APPROVED for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust v 2.0 by-products standard.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The assessor correctly classified sprat in Area 27, subarea 7 (southern Celtic Seas and the English Channel) as Category C, the stock is subject to a specific management regime and proxy reference points are defined.</p> <p>Fishery removals are considered in the stock assessment process. The most recent stock assessment shows that the stock is above MSY $B_{trigger proxy}$. Therefore, the stock is considered to have biomass above the proxy limit reference point.</p> <p>European sardine in FAO Area 27, subarea 7 (southern Celtic Seas and the English Channel) passes both clauses (C1.1 and C1.2) and therefore should be approved under the MarinTrust Standard v.2.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>Determine which flag states the plant is sourcing its herring from.</p>

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 sardine	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	FAO 27, ICES Subarea 7	European Commission (EC), France Direction des pêches maritimes et de l'aquaculture (DPMA)	C	NT	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

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

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 sardine (<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																																																																																
<p>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.</p> <p>The current available ICES advice is from December 2021. ICES advises that when the precautionary approach is applied, catches in 2022 should be no more than 6906 tonnes.</p> <p>The assessment type in the most recent ICES advice is a survey trends-based assessment. The input data used in the last stock assessment were the following: Commercial catch, biomass estimates from the total area of the acoustic survey PELTIC [A6259]. Discards were not included as discarding is considered negligible (Figure 1).</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <table border="1"> <caption>Estimated data for Figure 1: Sardine in Subarea 7. Catches disaggregated by category since 2002.</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Landings (1000 t)</th> <th>Discards (1000 t)</th> <th>BMS Landings (1000 t)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2002</td><td>29</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2003</td><td>23</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>15</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2005</td><td>18</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2006</td><td>19</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2007</td><td>11</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2008</td><td>14</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2009</td><td>10</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>10</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2011</td><td>6</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2012</td><td>7</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2013</td><td>8</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2014</td><td>6</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>10</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2016</td><td>20</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2017</td><td>13</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2018</td><td>11</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2019</td><td>8</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>2020</td><td>13</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <p>Figure 1. Sardine in Subarea 7. Catches disaggregated by category since 2002. Source: ICES 2021.</p>				Year	Landings (1000 t)	Discards (1000 t)	BMS Landings (1000 t)	2002	29	0	0	2003	23	0	0	2004	15	0	0	2005	18	0	0	2006	19	0	0	2007	11	0	0	2008	14	0	0	2009	10	0	0	2010	10	0	0	2011	6	0	0	2012	7	0	0	2013	8	0	0	2014	6	0	0	2015	10	0	0	2016	20	0	0	2017	13	0	0	2018	11	0	0	2019	8	0	0	2020	13	0	0
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<p>Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process, so it PASSES clause C1.1.</p>																																																																																			
<p>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.</p> <p>No reference points are defined for this stock in terms of absolute values. The SPiCT-estimated values of fishing pressure and biomass are used to estimate stock and exploitation status relative to the proxy MSY reference points. The proxy reference points are a relative value from SPiCT model and are defined as follows:</p>																																																																																			

$$MSY\ B_{trigger\ proxy}: \frac{B}{B_{MSY}} = 0.5$$

$$F_{MSY\ proxy}: \frac{F}{F_{MSY}} = 1$$

Fishing pressure on the stock is below $F_{MSY\ proxy}$ and stock size is above $MSY\ B_{trigger\ proxy}$ (Figure 2).

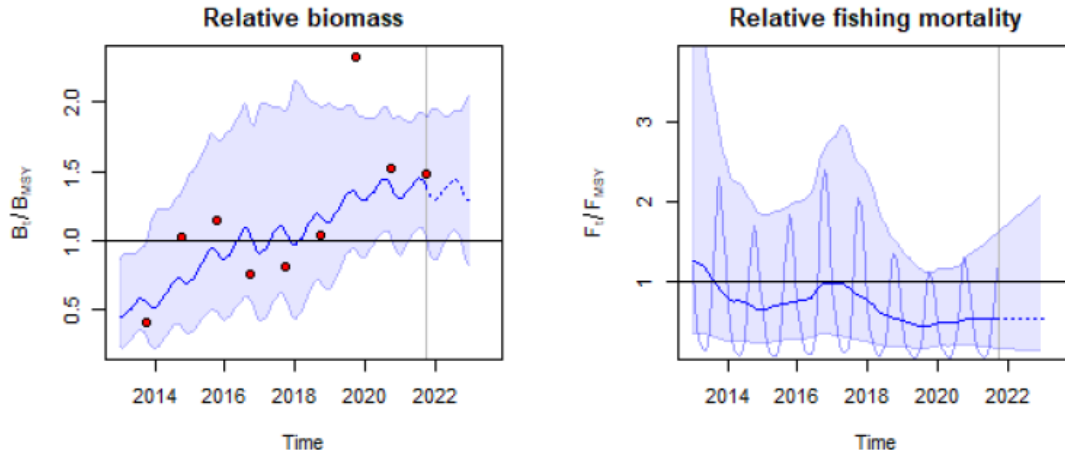


Figure 2. Sardine in Subarea 7. SPiCT analysis showing exploitable biomass relative to B_{MSY} and fishing mortality to F_{MSY} . The biomass index used was derived from the core area of the acoustic PELTIC. The shaded area in both plots indicate the 95% confidence intervals. The horizontal lines indicate levels relative to the F_{MSY} and B_{MSY} (defined above).

Source: ICES 2021

Therefore, the species is considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above the (proxy) limit reference point ($MSY\ B_{trigger}$), so it PASSES clause C1.2.

References

Cook, R., Fernandes, P., Florin, A., Lorange, P. & Nedreaas, K. 2015. *Sardina pilchardus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015: e.T198580A45075369: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/198580/45075369>.

ICES. 2021. Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in Subarea 7 (Southern Celtic Seas, English Channel). In Report of the ICES Advisory Committee, 2021. ICES Advice 2021, pil.27.7, <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7814>.

Links

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