



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment *North Atlantic Albacore Tuna in FAO Areas 21, 27, 31, 34*

MarinTrust Programme

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Table 1 Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 21, 27, 31, 34 North and Central Atlantic
	Country of origin of the product:	Taiwan, Ivory Coast (Flag Country)
	Stock:	North Atlantic Albacore Tuna
Date	May 2022	
Report Code	THA18	
Assessor	Ivan Mateo	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Taiwan, Ivory Coast (Flag Country)	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	NA	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): Chotiwat Manufacturing Public Co., Ltd			
Country: Thailand			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		Global Trust Certification	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Ivan Mateo	Vito Romito	0.5	Initial
Assessment Period	To May 2022		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Albacore tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)
Stock	North Atlantic Albacore Tuna
Fishery Location	FAO 21, 27, 31 and 34 North and Central Atlantic
Management Authority (Country/ State)	ICCAT
Gear Type(s)	Trawl, Troll, Purse Seine, Longline, Baitboat
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Approve
Recommendation	Approve

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>If a 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 MarinTrust RS raw material. Albacore Tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) is listed on the IUCN Red List as globally Near Threatened (NT) and Least Concern (LC) in Europe and is not listed in CITES; therefore, byproducts derived for this stock are eligible for approval for use as MarinTrust RS by-product raw material.</p> <p>On the basis of currently available information, three albacore stocks are assumed to exist in the Atlantic:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Northern Atlantic stock (North of 5°N)2. Southern Atlantic stock (South of 5°N)3. Mediterranean stock. <p>This assessment will only include the Northern Atlantic Albacore Tuna stock, which occurs in FAO Areas 21, 27, 31, and 34.</p> <p>Fishery removals of this stock are considered in the stock assessment processes so it PASSES Clause C1.1. As of the latest assessment of stock status biomass for this stock is considered to be above the corresponding limit reference such that it PASSES Clause C1.2. As the stock passes both Clause C1.1 and C1.2, the by-products covered by this report is recommended for APPROVAL for the production of fishmeal and fish oil under the current MarinTrust RS v 2.2 by-product standard</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
Notes for On-site Auditor

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
Albacore tuna	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	North Atlantic	ICCAT	C	Globally: Near Threatened (NT) Europe: Least Concern (LC)	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		Albacore Tuna	
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.	PASS
	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.	PASS

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.

Fishery removals of the Northern Atlantic Albacore Tuna stock in the fishery under assessment are included in the ICCAT stock assessment process (FIGURE 1). Thailand is not directly responsible for any landings from the relevant stock with product instead being exported to Thailand for processing. Therefore, fishery removals of the species in the fishery under assessment are included in the stock assessment process and the fishery **PASSES** clause C1.1

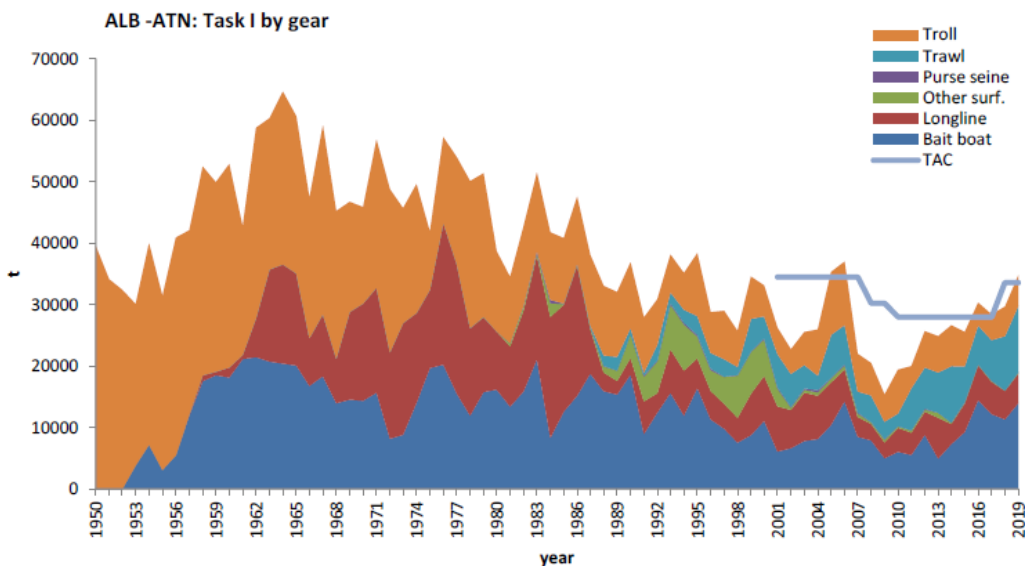


FIGURE 1. TOTAL ALBACORE CATCHES REPORTED TO ICCAT (TASK I) BY GEAR FOR THE NORTHERN ATLANTIC STOCKS.

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.

The 2020 Atlantic Albacore tuna biomass dynamic model implemented by ICCAT resulting in the kobe plot shown below suggests a biomass drop between 1930 and the 1990s and a recovery since then, while fishing mortality decreases. Relative to MSY benchmarks, the base case scenario estimates that the stock remained slightly overfished with $B < B_{MSY}$ between the late 1970s and the 2000s, but has now recovered to levels well above B_{MSY} (Figure). Peak relative fishing mortality levels in the order of 1.66 were observed in the early 1980s but overfishing stopped in the early 2000s, with the current F_{2018}/F_{MSY} ratio being 0.62. The uncertainty around the current stock status has a clear shape determined by the strong correlation between parameters estimated by the production model. The probability of the stock currently being in the green area of the Kobe plot (not overfished and not undergoing overfishing, $F < F_{MSY}$ and $B > B_{MSY}$) is 98.4% while the probability of being in the yellow area (overfished, $B < B_{MSY}$) is 1.66%. The probability of being in the red area (overfished and undergoing overfishing, $F > F_{MSY}$ and $B < B_{MSY}$) is 0%. (Figure 2).

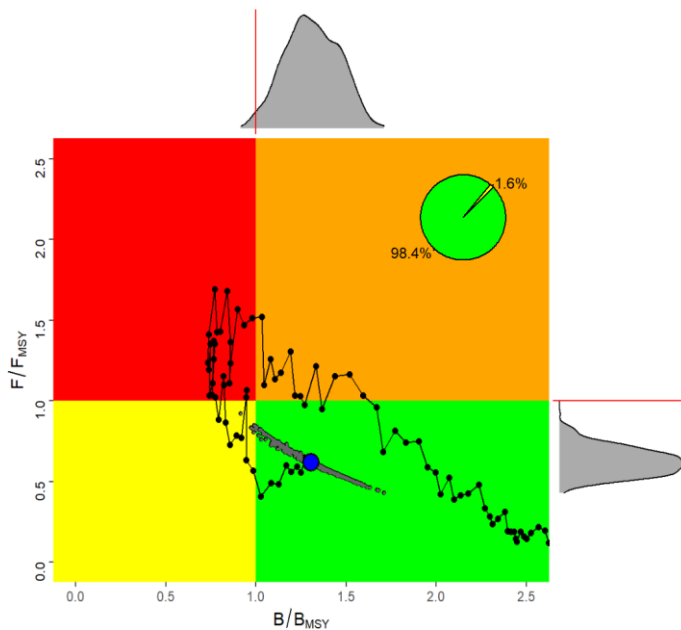


FIGURE 2. NORTH ATLANTIC ALBACORE (KOBÉ PLOT). STOCK STATUS TRAJECTORIES OF B/B_{MSY} AND F/F_{MSY} OVER TIME (1930-2018), AS WELL AS UNCERTAINTY (GREY DOTS) AROUND THE CURRENT (F_{2018}/F_{MSY} , B_{2018}/B_{MSY}) ESTIMATE (BLUE POINT) BASED ON SURPLUS PRODUCTION MODEL WITH PROBABILITY OF BEING OVERFISHED AND OVERFISHING (RED, 0%), OF BEING NEITHER OVERFISHED NOR OVERFISHING (GREEN, 98.4%), AND OF BEING OVERFISHED (YELLOW, 1.6%).

With respect to the status of the stock with respect to its limit reference point (or proxy), an official limit reference point is not defined but with $B_{current}$ comfortably above B_{MSY} the stock can be considered, in its most recent stock assessment, to have a biomass above any limit reference point (or proxy); therefore, the stock achieves a **PASS** against C1.2

References

ICCAT Atlantic Albacore tuna stock assessment summary. https://www.iccat.int/Documents/SCRS/ExecSum/ALB_ENG.pdf

Links

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