

Norway, Herring exports down, mackerel up

The value of Norwegian pelagic fish exports during the first six months of 2014 totalled NOK 2.6 billion (USD 420.6 million), up one per cent compared to the first six months of 2013. Herring exports totalled NOK 1.3 billion (USD 210.3 million), a decrease of 10 per cent, while mackerel exports were up 41 per cent, to a total of NOK 900 million (USD 145.6 million).

The value of pelagic fish exports in June 2014 totalled NOK 319 million (USD 51.6 million) a decrease of 12 per cent compared to June 2013. Herring exports totalled NOK 195 million (USD 31.5 million), down 28 per cent, and mackerel exports totalled NOK 104 million (USD 16.8 million), up 50 per cent from last June.

Russia was the biggest market for Norwegian pelagic fish during the first half of 2014, followed by Denmark and the Netherlands.

“The continued high export value can be attributed to higher mackerel exports and stable herring exports. Asia imported more mackerel at a higher price, while Eastern Europe continues to import the majority of herring at prices equivalent to last year’s prices,” says Kristin Lien, Market analyst at the Norwegian Seafood Council.

A total of 81,000 tonnes of whole frozen herring were exported during the first half of 2014, a decrease of six per cent. Russia, Ukraine and Lithuania were the largest markets during the first six months of the year. The average price for whole frozen herring during the first half of 2014 was NOK 7.26, down NOK 0.07 from the same period last year. Total exports of frozen whole herring in June totalled 13,000 tonnes, up 27 per cent from last year. The majority of exports were to the Netherlands.

A total of 48,000 tonnes of frozen herring fillet products were exported during the first half of 2014, an increase of twelve per cent. Measured in volume, the largest markets were Germany, Russia and Poland. The average price for frozen herring fillet products during the first half of 2014 were NOK 11.39, down nine per cent from the same period last year.

Exports of frozen herring fillet products in June totalled 4,000 tonnes, down 30 per cent from last year. The majority of exports were to Belarus and Russia.

Total exports of whole frozen mackerel during the first six months of 2014 was 70,000 tonnes, an increase of 18 per cent. The biggest markets for mackerel during this period were China, Nigeria and the Netherlands. Mackerel exported to China is processed in China and, for the most part, exported further to Japan for consumption. The average price for whole frozen mackerel during the first half of 2014 was NOK 11.89, an increase of 17 per cent compared to the same period in last year.

Exports of capelin during the first six months of 2014 totalled 30,000 tonnes, down 20,000 tonnes from last year. The majority of exports were to Russia and China. The price was NOK 4.90, up NOK 0.60 compared to last year.

(1 NOK = USD 0,1617)