

## Argentina, shrimp exports continue to rise

Argentina exported 193,450 tonnes of seafood between January and June 2014, a figure which shows an increase of 3.6 per cent over the same period in 2013, when 186,653 tonnes had been shipped abroad.

According to statistics from the National Health and Food Quality Service (SENASA) in the first six months of this year 106,921 tonnes of fish were exported, that is to say, 4.5 per cent less than in the same period in 2013 (111,857 tonnes).

In the first six months of 2014, a total of 86,529 tonnes of seafood was also exported, 15.6 per cent more than in the same period last year, when 74,796 tonnes had been sold abroad.

The largest export records were those of squid (*Illex argentinus*), with 56 394 tonnes, which represents a 3.4 per cent increase over the 54,530 tonnes exported between January and June 2013.

It was followed by hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*), with 52,622 tonnes, 1.5 per cent less than in the first six months of last year (53,411 tonnes), and shrimp (*Pleoticus muelleri*), with 24,669 tonnes, 61.9 per cent more than during the same period last year (15,237 tonnes).

Among the resources that increased their shipments abroad are the freshwater stingray (*Potamotrygon brachyura*), whose sales rose 60.8 per cent, changing from 2,060 tonnes in January-June 2013 to 3,313 tonnes in the same period of 2014.

More Patagonian anchovy (*Engraulis anchoita*) was also exported: from 4,916 to 5,095 tonnes (3.6 per cent).

The species recording declines when comparing the first six months of 2014 with those last year were:

- Hoki (*Macruronus magellanicus*): 23.9 per cent (from 7,811 to 5,950 tonnes);
- Patagonian scallop (*Zygochlamys patagonica*): 1.4 per cent (from 3,223 to 3,178 tonnes);
- Whitemouth croaker (*Micropogonias furnieri*): 17.2 per cent (from 14,451 to 11,978 tonnes);
- Weakfish (*Cynoscion striatus*): 19.7 per cent (from 6,039 to 4,852 tonnes);
- Pollock (*Genypterus blacodes*): 29.5 per cent (from 1,278 to 901 tonnes).

Source : <http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&ndb=1&id=70135> (23/07/2014)