

Argentina, Seafood export volume drops

Argentina exported 313,189 tonnes of seafood between January and September 2014, a figure which shows a decrease of 5.1 per cent over the same period in 2013, when 329,751 tonnes were shipped abroad.

According to statistics from the National Health and Food Quality Service (SENASA) in the first nine months of this year 167,440 tonnes of fish were exported, representing 8.5 per cent less than in the same period in 2013 (182,201 tonnes).

Up to September, 146,445 tonnes of shellfish were exported, accounting for 0.8 per cent less than in the same period last year, when 147,550 tonnes were sold overseas.

The largest export records were those of squid (*Illex argentinus*), with 85,767 tonnes, which represents a 6.5 per cent decrease compared to 91,727 tonnes exported between January and September 2013.

It was followed by exports of hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*), with 79,521 tonnes, 6.8 per cent less than during the first nine months of last year (85,308 tonnes), and shrimp (*Pleoticus muelleri*), with 53,735 tonnes, 11.6 per cent more than during the same period last year (48,113 tonnes).

Among the resources that increased their shipments abroad is fin rays (*Potamotrygon brachyura*), whose sales rose 24.1 per cent, from 4,450 tonnes between January and September 2013 to 5,526 tonnes in the same period of 2013.

The species that recorded declines when comparing the first nine months of 2014 to the same period last year were:

Patagonian anchovy (*Engraulis anchoita*): 6.5 per cent (from 5,759 to 5,389 tonnes);

Patagonian scallop (*Zygochlamys patagonica*): 16.1 per cent (from 4,869 to 4,087 tonnes);

Hoki (*Macruronus magellanicus*): 16.9 per cent (from 11,240 to 9,350 tonnes);

Whitemouth coraker (*Micropogonias furnieri*): 11.7 per cent (from 29,407 to 25,974 tonnes);

Kingklip (*Genypterus blacodes*): 16.7 per cent (from 1,702 to 1,419 tonnes).

Trout (*Cynoscion striatus*): 26.9 per cent (from 12,553 to 9,192 tonnes);

Source : <http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?monthyear=10-2014&day=23&id=72258&l=e&country=0&special=&ndb=1&df=0> (23/10/2014)