

## Argentina, Seafood exports reach USD 1.6 billion in 2014

Last year, Argentina sent abroad 493,244 tonnes of fishery resources totalling nearly USD 1.6 billion. Although the export volume decreased by 2.7 per cent compared to 2013 when 504,165 tonnes were exported, revenue increased 6.6 per cent yoy, the National Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture reported.

Of the total export volume, 119,802 tonnes were squid (*Illex argentinus*), 10 per cent less than in 2013, when 133,082 tonnes were shipped abroad.

In second place is hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*), with 119,367 tonnes, representing an increase of 1.3 per cent from the previous year (117,802 tonnes).

Shrimp (*Pleoticus muelleri*) came in third position, with 103,515 tonnes, accounting for a rise of 13.6 per cent compared to the figure recorded in 2013 (91,121 tonnes).

In terms of value increase, shrimp stands out: Its shipments generated USD 728.6 million in 2014, vs. USD 614.9 million in 2013, that is to say, up 18.4 per cent.

The value of hake exports also rose 4 per cent, from USD 286.2 million to USD 297.8 million.

Conversely, squid exports experienced a decline of 30.1 per cent, from USD 235.4 million in 2013 to USD 164.6 million in 2014.

According to the report of the Secretariat, 125,451.8 tonnes of shrimp were downloaded, a volume that made the 2014 season the best in the history of this fishery.

In this regard, 100,670.5 tonnes of shrimp had been landed in 2013, and 79,926.9 tonnes in 2012.

Meanwhile, the Secretariat highlighted the joint work of the national government and the Federal Fisheries Council (CFP), which made it possible to achieve better catches of this crustacean both in size and in tonnes.

"The protection of reproductive concentrations and spawning of the crustacean - during the spring and summer in the Gulf of San Jorge -" together with a ban system with dynamic moving boundaries and the contributions made by inspectors and observers on board, "have been instrumental to increasing catches," the agency said.

Moreover, it highlighted the promotional work regarding Argentine fish products, through the hallmark 'Argentine sea, wild and Southern' in major international fairs as the traditional ones hold in Boston (Seafood Expo North America), Brussels (European Seafood Exposition) and Vigo (Conxemar).

They also were present at the fairs in Barcelona (Seafood Expo Southern Europe), Seoul (Seoul Seafood Show), Hong Kong (Seafood Expo Asia) and Dalian/Qingdao (China Fisheries and Seafood Expo).

Source : [http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&ndb=1&id=74474\(10/02/15\)](http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&ndb=1&id=74474(10/02/15))