

Seafood exports reach USD 1.5 billion in 2015

The Argentine fishing industry exported 460,000 tonnes of seafood in 2015, which represented a profit amounting to USD 1.5 billion for the country, the Undersecretariat of Fisheries and Aquaculture reported.

The main export destinations were Spain, China, US, Japan, Italy and Brazil.

The new report also indicates that more than 760,000 tonnes of around a hundred marine species were landed, being hake, squid and shrimp the main landed species.

This figure is somewhat higher than that published in the latest report for 2015, indicating that up to 30 December of that year, landings amounted to 752,359.1 tonnes, 4.2 per cent less than in 2014.

According to the report, landings of hake (*Merluccius hubbsi*) reached 263,015.8 tonnes, a slight annual increase of 1.5 per cent.

A total of 126,531.4 tonnes of *Illex argentinus* was landed, 25 per cent less than in 2014.

Meanwhile, shrimp (*Pleoticus muelleri*) landings were the most voluminous ones: they totalled 140,600.1 tonnes, representing an increase of 10.5 per cent year on year.

More than a thousand ships with Argentine flag, including provincial and national permits, operate daily in the Exclusive Economic Zone.

The Undersecretariat also reported that according to private studies the local consumption per capita is estimated to be between 7 and 8 kilos per year, an average level that is exceeded in those communities with longest fishing history.

Source : <http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?l=e&ndb=1&id=83189>