

Norwegian seafood exports grow in Q1

Norway exported seafood worth NOK 21.3 billion (USD 2.56 billion) in Q1 2016, representing an increase of 22 per cent or NOK 3.8 billion compared with the same quarter last year.

Considering only March, seafood exports generated NOK 7.4 billion in incomes, which is an increase of 14 per cent more than in the third month last year.

“Q1 went well for most sectors of the seafood industry, but salmon has been the strongest contributor to the growth in value in the first quarter, with an increase of NOK 2.3 billion in sales of salmon products compared with the first quarter of 2015,” pointed out Geir Håvard Hanssen, Director of Communications at the [Norwegian Seafood Council](#).

“It is also gratifying to see that the European market for fresh cod is growing and that this has helped us achieve good prices for skrei throughout the first quarter. Prawn and shellfish also saw a doubling of exports compared with the first quarter of 2015. This positive development is due to higher prices achieved at market, coupled with increased demand, which has been helped by a favourable currency situation for the Norwegian krone”, Håvard Hanssen stressed.

Salmon exports totalled NOK 13.4 billion in the first quarter, representing an increase of 21 per cent year on year. March exports reached NOK 4.9 billion, which is an 18 per cent growth from the same month last year.

The average price in March for whole fresh Norwegian salmon was NOK 59.11 per kg compared with NOK 41.46 per kg in the third month of the year in 2015. Poland and France were the biggest buyers of salmon from Norway in Q1 this year.

Norway exported trout to a value of NOK 906 million during the first quarter, which is an increase of 99 per cent or NOK 450 million from Q1 2015. Trout exports reached NOK 318 million in the third month of the year, representing an increase of 76 per cent compared to March 2015. The biggest buyers of trout from Norway in the first quarter were Belarus and Poland.

Exports of fresh cod, including fillets, were worth NOK 1.1 billion in the first quarter in 2016, which is a growth of 22 per cent year on year. In March, exports of fresh cod, including fillets, represented a growth of 9 per cent, to NOK 410 million.

Exports of frozen cod, including fillets, amounted to NOK 696 million in the first quarter, which is an increase of 59 per cent compared with the first quarter of 2015. In March, exports of frozen cod, including fillets, were worth NOK 166 million, an increase of 14 per cent.

Exports of clipfish were worth NOK 815 million in Q1 2016, which is a decline of 17 per cent year on year. In March, exports of clipfish decreased by 9 per cent, to NOK 236 million.

Exports of salted fish reached an exported value of NOK 443 million in Q1 2016, representing an increase of 30 per cent compared with the same period in 2015. In

March, exports of salted fish reached NOK 294 million, which is a significant increase of 44 per cent year on year.

Herring exports increased 74 per cent, to NOK 862 million in Q1 while in March, they grew 14 per cent, to NOK 138 million. Germany and Poland remained the largest markets for herring in the first quarter.

Finally, mackerel exports were worth NOK 777 million in Q1, which is an increase of 44 per cent compared with the first quarter of 2015. In March, exports of mackerel were worth NOK 174 million, which is an increase of 54 per cent from the same month last year. Japan and Nigeria are the main markets for mackerel in the first quarter.

NOK 1 = USD 0.12025

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