

# Seafood exports record moderate growth after September's fall

In the period from January to September Norwegian seafood exports increased 3 per cent in volume, to 1.8 million tonnes and 6 per cent in value, reaching NOK 69 billion (USD 8,646 million) so far this year.

However, in September these sales abroad declined 18 per cent in volume and 8 per cent in value, to 189,000 tonnes worth NOK 8 billion (USD 1,002 million) from the same month last year.

"While the value of salmon exports in September was at the same level as last year, we see a decline in exports of herring and mackerel in particular. Some of this is due to natural seasonal fluctuations", pointed out Norwegian Seafood Council Director Asbjørn W. Rørtveit.

In the analysed 9-month period, a total of 711,000 tonnes of salmon worth some NOK 48 billion were sold abroad, which is on the same level as last year with a 10 per cent increase in value.

In September, these exports reached 97,300 tonnes for NOK 3,800 million, representing a 2 per cent drop in volume and a value that is similar to that last year. The average price for whole fresh salmon in September was NOK 55.47 per kg, NOK 1.12 per kg higher than the same month last year. So far this year, Poland and France have bought the most salmon from Norway.

During the first nine months of the year, the exported trout hit 26,000 tonnes with a value of NOK 2 billion, representing a volume decline of 53 per cent and a 33 per cent fall in value compared with the same period last year.

In September, a total of 3,800 tonnes of trout was sold abroad for NOK 257 million, which is a 41 per cent decrease in volume and a 30 per cent in value. So far this year, Poland and Germany have imported the most trout.

In the January-September period, fresh cod, including fillet, exports grew 8 per cent, to 60,000 tonnes, in volume and a 10 per cent in value, to NOK 2,000 million. In September there was also an increase in volume for the species of 3 per cent but a drop in value fell by 6 per cent.

In the case of frozen cod including the fillet, so far this year, its sales to other countries reached 59,000 tonnes, which is at the same level as last year, while the value increased by 5 per cent. Its exports

declined by 14 per cent in volume and by 11 per cent in value in September from the same month last year.

In the first 9 months, clipfish exports increased by 14 per cent in volume and by 11 per cent in value from the same period last year. However, its sales abroad declined in volume and value in September, by 9 per cent in both cases.

A total of 24,000 tonnes of salted fish to a value of NOK 1 billion were exported up to September, which is a volume decline of 6 per cent while the export value remains at the same level as last year. In September, there was a decline of these sales abroad of 17 per cent in volume and 10 per cent in value.

Norwegian herring sales abroad declined by 15 per cent in volume and by 8 per cent in value during the first 9 months of the year. In September, this volume declined by 42 per cent and by 51 per cent in value.

Norway exported 135,000 tonnes of mackerel from January to September, totalling NOK 1.7 billion, which is a volume decline of 10 per cent and a value fall by 7 per cent. In September, these sales abroad declined by 30 per cent in volume and by 39 per cent in value.

Another drop was seen in shellfish sales abroad by 5 per cent in volume and 11 per cent in value during the first nine months of the year. These exports also dropped in September, by 56 per cent in volume and 8 per cent in value.

Finally, the country exported 1,400 tonnes of red king crab for NOK 385 million, figures that represent a decline in volume and value, by 17 per cent and by 5 per cent, respectively.

*[1 NOK = USD 0.12531].*

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