



IFFO notes 30% lift in fishmeal, oil output in March

The global fishmeal and oil sector saw a 30% year-on-year improvement in output in March 2021, according to the latest market report from the Marine Ingredients Organisation, or IFFO.

The total cumulative production of the countries considered in its market report through the first quarter of 2021 was higher year-on-year: fishmeal up by 60%, fish oil up by 83%.

Peru and Chile were the only areas where the March performance was superior to the average of the previous five years for the same month. Yet, this was sufficient to produce an almost 30% improvement in the overall activities of March 2021 versus March 2020.

Denmark showed a year-on-year increase in the supply of fish oil over this same period.

China's fishmeal production remained poor in April, whereas the demand for aquatic products has been on the rise in recent weeks, IFFO said. Domestic fishmeal production remained poor in April, with operations suspended in Shandong. Similarly, the Liaoning fishmeal plants will not be operational until September due to the fishing ban, it said.

The demand for aquatic products in China has been on the rise in recent weeks, supporting their prices. Aquafeed output has also improved in view of the new aquaculture season. Domestic aquaculture is still subdued but





expected to pick up as soon as environmental conditions improve, said IFFO.

Although pig farming continues to be affected by outbreaks of African swine fever (ASF), the swine stock is estimated to be back to 400 million heads. The target of going back to pre-ASF stock levels by the beginning of 2022 appears realistic, IFFO said. As a consequence, pig feed production continues to grow.

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