

the-side" sales are made in glut periods when processing plants have all the fish they can handle.

Processors sell the catch in a variety of forms: 62 per cent is frozen; the rest is sold fresh or chilled, cured, canned and dried; and a small percentage is sold live. About 7 per cent of the catch is processed as fish meal for poultry and farm animals.

Canada is now the world's leading exporter of fish and fishery products and, after grain, fish is the nation's largest food export. Canada's most important market continues to be the United States, which takes 62 per cent of exports. The European Economic Community is second at 16 per cent, followed by Japan with 12 per cent. In all, Canada exports to 50 nations. In volume, 1983 exports totalled nearly half a million tonnes valued at \$1.6 billion — about three-quarters of the total value of production.