

LICENSING

Imported products such as herring is subject to an import licence. All other fishery products can be imported freely, unless they are under quota restrictions. An application for importing cod liver into Sweden must be accompanied by a certificate stating that the product does not originate from fish caught in the Baltic Sea or the Gulf of Bothnia.

An application to import molluscs must be accompanied by a certificate showing that the water in which they have been held after harvesting is of satisfactory quality (less than 2 thermo-stable coliform bacteria per 100). Licences in Sweden are issued by the National Board of Fisheries. Sweden has global quotas which are imposed only upon fresh cod, Baltic herring and fresh mackerel fillets.

LABELLING

Proper nomenclature of the species is the most important labelling requirement in the Swedish market. Food products packaged for retail sale must be marked with the name of contents, name and address of producer, packer, or seller, and total weight of the contents at the time of packaging. Certain products must show net contents and all ingredients. Pre-packed food with a limited shelf life must show information regarding durability on the labels. Frozen food must show storage and thawing instructions.

COMMERCIAL INVOICE

Although no special form of contents are prescribed for the commercial invoice, it is advisable to include the following: 1) date and place of shipment; 2) markings of the packages and their numerical order; 3) exact description of the goods (e.g. customary commercial description according to kind, quantity, grade, weight [gross and net] in metric units, with special emphasis on factors that may affect value; 4) agreed upon price of the goods, including unit cost and total cost f.o.b. factory, plus shipping, insurance and other charges; 5) delivery and payment terms; and, 6) the signature of a responsible official from the shippers' firm.

BILL OF LADING

There are no regulations specifying the form or number of bills of lading required for any particular shipment, except that it must indicate the weight in kilograms. A bill of lading customarily shows: 1) name of the shipper; 2) name and address of the consignee; 3) port of destination; 4) description of the goods; 5) listing of the freight and other charges; 6) number of bills of lading in the complete set; 7) date and signature of the carriers' official, acknowledging receipt on board of the goods for shipment. This information should correspond with that shown on the invoices and packages. Bills of lading direct of "to order" are accepted. For air cargo shipments, the "way-bill" replaces the bill of lading.

PACKING LIST

Although not required, a packing list is useful in expediting customs clearance at the port of entry. Such a list should describe, in detail, the contents of each case or container included in the shipment giving the net and gross weights, together with the C.I.F. value of each commodity. As an additional note, wherever possible, the required documentation should be forwarded separately to the consignee prior to the departure of the goods for submission to customs with the entry documents. Enclosing them in the package being shipped will cause delay. In addition, designations and descriptions on documents should be in terms of the Harmonized System (HS) or the national tariffs of the country of destination.