

DOMESTIC FISHERY

RESOURCES

China is situated in the eastern part of the continent of Asia and on the west coast of the Pacific Ocean. The seas and ocean adjacent to the east and south edges of the mainland and Taiwan island are: the Gulf of Bohai, the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, the South China Sea, and the vast Pacific Ocean. There are approximately 1.03 million square sea miles of maritime space in China, 818,000 square miles of that are for fishery. The total area of shallow sea and waterfront is 13.3 million hectares, of which 1.3 million hectares are for artificial culture. In 1992, 449,040 hectares were used for fishery. The total area of inland freshwater is about 17.3 million hectares, and the low-lying saline land near the river system is more than 3 million hectares. In 1992, approximately 3.98 million hectares were for fishery. Among them, 1.5 million hectares were pond, 701,510 hectares lake, 321,920 hectares river, and 1.4 million hectares reservoir.

OUTPUT

In 1992, the total output of fishery was 15.6 million tons, an increase of 2.1 million tons or 15.04% over the previous year, ranking first in the world. Among the total output, 6.9 million tons came from marine catch, 2.4 million tons from marine culture, 900,000 tons from freshwater culture. The state-owned fisheries produced 1.67 million tons, and the private owned fisheries 13.91 million tons. About 2.71 million tons of the total output was scallop, kelp and 12.56 million tons fish, prawn and crab. Among the freshwater output, 4.02 million tons came from pond, 313,330 tons from lake, 461,600 tons from reservoir, 288,000 tons from river, and 160,900 tons from paddy field culture. Among the marine output, 59,000 tons are fish, 215,500 tons prawn and crab, 1.6 million tons scallop, and 553,000 tons kelp. There are about 22,075 marine and freshwater culture bases supported and built by the state.

In 1992, the deep-sea fish catch output reached 464,200 tons (186,200 tons transported to China), an increase of 43.7% over the previous year. The total output value of aquatic products industry was 82.76 billion yuan, an increase of 24.4% over the previous year, and 65.3 billion yuan of the total output value came directly from fishery, and 17.3 billion yuan from industrial side occupation.

SPECIES

In China, the main species varieties of marine fishery resources are: croaker, pomfret, herring, mackerel, scarpie, scad, mullet, cuttle fish, squid, prawn, crab, oyster, clam, mussel, scallop, abalone, sea cucumber, jelly-fish, kelp and laver. The main species varieties of freshwater fishery resources are: carp, bream, sturgeon, dace, mandarin fish, river crab, freshwater shrimp, snail, freshwater mussel, water chestnut, lotus root and Gorgon fruit.