

DOMESTIC FISHERY

The Danish seafood industry is going through a period of painful re-adjustment as processors come to terms with the shortage of domestic groundfish supplies. There have been many closures and amalgamations in the Danish fisheries industry, and the situation has been compounded by the currency depreciation of major customers.

The Danish Ministry of Fisheries was established in 1947 and consists of: 1) the central administration responsible for policy matters, budgets, fisheries management and international relations; 2) the fishery inspection service responsible for fishery control and quality control; and, 3) the research institutions responsible for marine biology and technical questions. As a member of the European Economic Community, Denmark is involved in the Community's bilateral and multilateral relations regarding fish and seafood.

LANDINGS

Total landings in 1993 by Danish fishermen (both industrial=for reduction; and consumer=for fresh or processing) were valued at 2,630 mill Dkr. This is 854 mill Dkr less than in 1992, or a decrease of 25%. The value of consumer fish landings totalled 2,024 mill Dkr, 598 mill Dkr less than 1992 and a fall of 23%. Industrial fisheries fell 30% in value, as the result of a 22% reduction in landings and a 10% fall in prices.

Cod landings in tonnage fell by 26%, simultaneously with a price drop of 15%; which caused the value of cod landings in 1993 to fall by 279 mill Dkr, or 37% of the previous year. General recession in Europe and consumer reaction to the high prices established previously, caused many prices to fall. The only exception was plaice, which increased its value by 7%. Herring landings increased by 6%, but the price drop of 10% caused the total turnover to fall by 4% to 278 mill Dkr. The worst hit area is the Baltic, where the value of the fisheries was halved from the previous year, and now represents only 37% of the landing value for 1991.

AQUACULTURE

In 1992, the number of fish farming installations in Denmark was as follows: freshwater (450), saltwater (42), and eel (47). Total production of freshwater trout amounted to 35,000 tons in 1992. Saltwater production of trout reached some 6,000 tons and the production of eel was approximately 900 tons.