

MONK (ANGLERFISH)

[Lophius piscatorius] Spanish: rape

French: baudroie

Fresh:

Tariff Code 03.02.69.81.0.00 E.

Duty: 5.7% plus a fee of Pts 2.60/kg (net) on importations of this species made between March 1 and August 31.

Frozen:

Tariff Code 03.03.79.81.0.00 B (duty: 15%)

This fish is very popular in Spain in both fresh or frozen form, but only the tails as heads are largely waste - there are occasional sales of frozen cheeks as well.

Fresh monkfish tails landed by the Spanish fleet are supplemented by imports, mainly from France.

Frozen monkfish tails landed by the Spanish trawler fleet operating off South Africa dominate the market. Quantities of this product are sometimes imported from the Cape Cod (Boston) area of the United States.

The price for frozen monkfish is set at Vigo, the preferred port for landings by the Spanish fishing fleet. Current prices are approximately as follows:

- Size P (250-300-400g per tail, skinless) Pts 540/kg
- Size M (500-800g per tail, skinless) Pts 800/kg
- Size G (800-1000g or above per tail, skinless) . . . Pts 900-950/kg

Monkfish tails come wrapped in plastic in cardboard boxes weighing 12-14kg.

Frozen blocks not being offered commercially at present.

For marketing in Spain, monkfish from Saint-Georges' Banks/Cape Cod/Boston have to be cleaned (no odour whatsoever), individually wrapped and IQF, laid straight in boxes of approximately 10kg (net). Tails must weigh 1-2kg each and weight must be specified in metric system.

Monkfish fillets (with or without skins) also pay 15% duty under Tariff Code 03.04.20.83.0.00 I for frozen products.