

TUNA

Spanish names:

1. Atun del Atlantico Norte = bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus) - taken off the coast of Labrador and Newfoundland.
2. Rabil = yellowfin tuna (Thunnus albacares, Bonnaterre; Neothunnus macropterus) - also from Canadian waters off Nova Scotia.
3. Patudo = bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus, Lowe; Parathunnus obesus; P. sibi) - captured in United States' waters off Maine and in Canadian waters off Nova Scotia.
4. Atun blanco (bonito del norte) = albacore (Thunnus alalunga; Germo alalunga) - caught throughout the North Atlantic, including off Nova Scotia, Canada.

These are the most important commercial species of the Scombridae family of tunas.

Bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus) and albacore (Thunnus alalunga) are sold in large quantities in Spain, both fresh and canned.

Fresh bluefin tuna in the 8-12kg class sells for between Pts 300 and Pts 500 per kilo (average price is Pts 400/kg) depending on supply and demand.

Albacore in the 10-12kg class goes for Pts 500-600/kg.

Large quantities of tuna are imported from Las Palmas in the Grand Canary Islands (captured by Japanese, Korean, Panamanian, etc.) trawlers).

Prices on the principal species are as follows:

Yellowfin tuna: \$1650 per tonne (frozen, head-on, GG)

Bigeye tuna: \$1450 per tonne (frozen, head-on, GG)

Albacore: \$2200 per tonne (imported as frozen roundfish, generally from the United States)

These prices are FOB Las Palmas so that approximately \$200 must be added to obtain C&F mainland prices. These same species taken by seiners and stored in brine are priced 12-15% less than above. Health authorities do not permit importation of tuna if mercury content exceeds 1ppm as determined by chromatography (colour scale). This is the maximum level permitted and all imports must be tested by our health authorities.

Applicable Tariff Codes:

FRESH:

03.02.31.10.0.00 F - Albacore (Thunnus alalunga) for the canning industry are exempt from duty and subject only to a fee of Pts 2.60/kg (net) on imports made between March 1 and August 31.