

Saltfish:

The main problem with the saltfish market here has been supply. There seems to be a large demand for salt cod, and the Europeans have apparently purchased all available supplies of wet salted fish. This has had the effect of driving prices up to a very high level for any salted product. Unfortunately, the scarcity of fish, especially larger sizes, has had a detrimental effect on this market. Short supplies and high prices will remain the main problems in this market.

Scallops:

The picture for scallops is good as far as the supply situation is concerned. Sea scallop catches were up substantially last year. According to the National Marine Fisheries Service there were 73,613 tons harvested in Canada through September, compared to 55,819 tons for the same period in 1988. However, Canadian scallops appear to have lost some of the local demand. Domestic scallops are cheaper, in some cases by at least \$0.75 a pound. Since the Canadian price is higher they are not the item they used to be. Several domestic suppliers have been known to use sodium tri-polyphosphate to increase weight, but this does not seem to deter sales. According to one source, 20/30 count are in demand in this market, the Canadian scallops are mostly smaller 30/40 and 40/50 count. New Bedford scallops can currently be bought for US\$3.50-3.60 per lb delivered to New York City.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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