

ROES

Spanish: huevas

French: oeufs

Only frozen roes are imported into Spain and these are subject to 12% duty when brought in from non-EEc countries such as Canada (NCE 03.03.80.00.0). This product is covered by Tariff Codes 03.03.80.00.0.10 F and 03.03.80.00.0.20 E, both of which are subject to S-category reductions (S stands for "suspension" and signifies that authorities can suspend imports whenever necessary).

On the other hand, Tariff Code 03.03.80.00.0.90 H also exists and is not subject to any type of reduction.

To date we have experienced no problems in importing roes.

The most sought after roes in the Spanish market are:

1) Cod roes:

These are generally imported from Denmark, although some originate from Norway as well. They come packed in small cardboard boxes weighing 5kg each and are classified in weight categories of 100-200g, 200-400g and 400-600g each (the latter being on the large size). Most of this product is sold in Andalusia where it is used in appetizers served in bars. Cod roes come frozen (IQF), preferably not wrapped in plastic. Eggs must be whole and unbroken.

2) Ling (Molva molva) roes:

Ling roes from Norway are preferred and are shipped to southeast Spain for drying and salting. Preference is for 300-600g size although the product occasionally comes in 1kg containers. These are packed in 10kg boxes. Eggs must be whole and unbroken.

(Currently being supplied from Norway at Kr 38 (FOB), plus Kr 36 000 for shipping.)

Retail price has topped the Pts 800 mark when in short supply.

3) Hake (Merluccius) roes:

Sizes are generally 300/400/500g; product comes frozen (IQF) and occasionally in blocks (which fetch a lower price). Chilean hake roes are generally largest.

Price fluctuates between Pts 400 and Pts 600 for good, unbroken roe (imported through Murcia/Cartagena).

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