

## BELGIUM

Although they are great meat-eaters, Belgians also enjoy fresh fish. With a population of approximately 10 million people, Belgians consume more than 8.2 kilos per capita. The local fishery is only capable of satisfying about 35 percent of the country's seafood requirements and 5 percent of Belgium's crustacean and mollusc requirements. Thus, Belgium is a net importer of fish, crustaceans and molluscs, most of which come from nearby countries such as Denmark, The Netherlands, Britain, France, Norway and Iceland. The Belgian market for seafood products generates a turnover of some \$600 million Cdn yearly, with an average annual growth rate of 3.5 percent since 1986. Quality, availability and price are the key factors in obtaining a share of the Belgian market. Skate, cod, sole, shrimp, mussel, lobster, salmon, trout and herring are the most sought after varieties of seafood products. The traditional, specialized type of local fishmonger is still the preferred source of supply for two out of three Belgian consumers. Recently, the supermarkets, with their fresh fish sections, have been capturing a growing share of the local seafood market.

### MAJOR BELGIAN SEAFOOD IMPORTERS

**ARTIC S.A./N.V.**

Guillaume Huysmansplein 1,  
1660 Beersel, Belgium  
Tel:(02) 376-3132  
Telex: 22132  
Products: frozen products

**BISSCHOPS--VERACHTER N.V.**

Oudestraat 5,  
2630 Aartselaar, Belgium  
Contact: Mr. D. Bisschops  
Tel:(03) 887-0275  
Telex: 31918 BISVE-B  
Products: canned seafood

**BOOST HANDELSMAATSCHAPPIJ N.V.**

Noordelaan 123,  
2030 Antwerpen, Belgium  
Contact: Mr. M. Van Bockxelaer  
Tel:(03) 541-3740  
Fax:(03) 541-3454  
Products: canned seafood

**DE BACQUER N.V.**

Quai aux Briques 86-88,  
1000 Bruxelles, Belgium  
Contact: Mr. J. de Bacquer  
Tel:(02) 513-7474  
Fax:(02) 582-0824  
Products: seafood

**DE JAGER N.V.**

Kloosterstraat 134-142,  
2000 Antwerpen, Belgium  
Contact: Mr. H. de Jager  
Tel:(03) 237-9900  
Fax:(03) 237-9953  
Products: seafood

**DELHAIZE "LE LION" S.A.**

53 Rue Osseghem,  
1080 Bruxelles, Belgium  
Tel:(02) 428-0010  
Telex: 21976  
Products: major food retailer