



# COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



A review of developments and news of the fishery industries  
prepared in the BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

A. W. Anderson, Editor  
J. Pileggi and J. J. O'Brien, Assistant Editors  
F. F. Johnson, Associate Editor

Mailed free to members of the fishery and allied industries. Address correspondence and requests to the: Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

Publication of material from sources outside the Service is not an endorsement. The Service is not responsible for the accuracy of facts, views, or opinions contained in material from outside sources.

Although the contents of this publication have not been copyrighted and may be reprinted freely, reference to the source will be appreciated.

The printing of this publication has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, November 5, 1952.

## CONTENTS

COVER: A 72-foot Gulf of Mexico shrimp trawler. About 7,000 United States craft operate shrimp trawls in the South Atlantic and Gulf States. In 1953 these craft caught about 235 million pounds of shrimp, the largest catch in the history of the fishery. The type of gear used to fish for shrimp is depicted of page 30 of this issue.

Freezing Gulf-of-Mexico Shrimp at Sea, by John A. Dassow .....	Page 1
Gulf-of-Maine Bluefin Tuna Exploration--1953, by J. J. Murray .....	10

\*\*\*\*\*

	Page		Page
RESEARCH IN SERVICE LABORATORIES .....	20	TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS (Contd.):	
TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS: .....	21	U. S. Foreign Trade in Edible Fishery Products:	33
Additions to the Fleet of U. S. Fishing Vessels ..	21	March 1954 .....	33
Alaska Fur-Seal Skin Prices Rise at Spring		January-March 1954 Trends .....	34
Auction .....	21	Exports of Marine Oils Increase .....	34
Bluefin Tuna Tagging .....	22	Wholesale Prices, May 1954 .....	34
California:		U. S. Fish Stick Production Soars in 1954 .....	36
Japanese Fishermen Catch California-Tagged		FOREIGN: .....	37
Albacore Tuna .....	23	International:	
Fish Populations Census Off Central Baja		United States-Japanese Fishing Operation	
California (Cruise 54-Y-4) .....	23	Catches Tuna for American Samoa Cannery .	37
Cans--Shipments for Fishery Products, Janu-		Vessel Owners of Three European Nations Seek	
ary-March 1954 .....	24	Mesh Standardization for Trawl Nets .....	37
Federal Purchases of Fishery Products .....	24	Japan-Australia Reach Interim Agreement on	
Florida:		Pearl Fishing in Arafura Sea .....	38
Red Tide Research Vessel Delivered to Serv-		U. S. -Canada Committee on Trade and Eco-	
ice .....	25	nommic Affairs:	
Gulf Exploratory Fishery Program:		Report on First Meeting in Washington ....	38
Good Yellowfin Tuna Catches in Gulf of Mexico		Food and Agriculture Organization:	
by Oregon (Cruise 23) .....	26	World's Fishermen Using More Powered	
Missouri:		Vessels .....	38
Commercial Fish Catch, 1953 .....	26	Fish Flour Tests in Chile Successful .....	41
North Carolina:		Israeli Carp Used to Stock Mexican Inland	
Out-of-State Shrimp Trawler Regulations to		Waters .....	41
be Rigidly Enforced .....	27	Whaling:	
Fisheries Research Vessel Launched .....	27	Smaller Minimum Length for Finback Whales	
Pacific Salmon Investigations:		Proposed by Norway .....	42
Fingerling Salmon Diverted by Light .....	27	Trade Agreements:	
U. S. Canned Packs of Selected Fishery Prod-		Iceland to Ship Fishery Products to Poland ..	42
ucts, 1953:		Sweden-U.S.S.R. Trade Agreement Includes	
Shad .....	28	Fishery Products and Fishing Vessels ....	42
Maine Sardines (Including Sea Herring) .....	29	Netherlands-Czechoslovakia Trade Agree-	
Shrimp .....	30	ment Includes Fish .....	42
Specialty Fishery Products .....	31	Venezuela-Colombia Trade Agreement In-	
U. S. Production of Menhaden and Menhaden		cludes Canned Fish .....	43
Products, 1953 .....	32	International Pacific Halibut Commission:	
		Areas 2 and 1B Closed June 5 .....	60

CONTENTS, CONTINUED

	Page		Page
<b>FOREIGN (Contd.):</b>		<b>FOREIGN (Contd.):</b>	
Angola:		New Zealand:	
Status of the Fisheries . . . . .	43	May Buy U. S. Canned Salmon . . . . .	54
British Guiana:		Norway:	
Shrimp Fishery . . . . .	44	U. S. Aid for Fisheries . . . . .	54
Canada:		New Fish-Freezing Plant Dedicated . . . . .	55
Duty-Free Import of 15 Large U. S. "Deep-Sea" Fishing Vessels Permitted . . . . .	45	Record Catch of Whales for 1953/54 Season . . . . .	55
1953 Canned Salmon Pack All Sold . . . . .	46	Fishing Gear Import Agency Established . . . . .	56
Record British Columbia Herring Catch in 1953/54 Federal Government to Have Jurisdiction Over Newfoundland Fisheries . . . . .	46	Spain:	
Combination Sealer-Trawler Built . . . . .	47	Vigo Fish Canning Trends, March 1954 . . . . .	56
Colombia:		Modernization of Fishery Fleet Discussed . . . . .	56
U. S. Refrigerated Vessel to Buy Fish From Fish- ermen Off Colombia . . . . .	48	Union of South Africa - South-West Africa: Review of the Fisheries, 1952/53 . . . . .	57
Fish Cannery to Close Down . . . . .	48	U.S.S.R.:	
Costa Rica:		Japanese Firm May Build Tuna Fishing Vessels . . . . .	58
Fishery Products Import Tariffs Raised . . . . .	48	Sweden to Build Trawlers . . . . .	58
Denmark:		Fisheries Ministry Formed . . . . .	58
New Faroes Island Fish Plant . . . . .	48	United Kingdom:	
German Federal Republic:		Factoryship Fairtry Sails for Grand Banks . . . . .	58
Whaling Fleet Not German-Owned . . . . .	48	To Lay-Up More Deep-Sea Trawlers . . . . .	59
Greece:		Passenger Vessel to Help Fishermen Locate Herring . . . . .	60
Fishing Industry, 1953 . . . . .	49	<b>FEDERAL ACTIONS:</b> . . . . .	61
Sponge Fishery, 1953 and 1954 . . . . .	49	Foreign Operations Administration:	
Hungary:		Greece Authorized to Buy Canned Fish . . . . .	61
Inland Fishery Program to Triple Catch . . . . .	50	Formosa Authorized to Buy Fisheries Equipment Department of State:	61
India:		U. S.-Philippine Trade Act Modification Proposed Treasury Department:	61
Fishing Industry to be Modernized at Cost of \$2 Million . . . . .	51	Bureau of the Customs: Duty for Fish Sticks and Fish Blocks . . . . .	61
Iran:		Tariff Commission: Investigation of Items With Duties Equivalent to 50 Percent or More . . . . .	63
U. S. Technical Assistance for Fisheries Con- tinues . . . . .	51	Eighty-Third Congress (Second Session), June 1954 . . . . .	63
Japan:		<b>FISHERY INDICATORS:</b> . . . . .	66
Tuna Vessels Fishing for American Samoa Can- nery Have Fair Success . . . . .	51	Chart 1 - Fishery Landings for Selected States . . . . .	66
North Pacific Salmon Expedition Sails . . . . .	52	Chart 2 - Landings for Selected Fisheries . . . . .	67
Crab Fishing Fleets Having Successful Season . . . . .	52	Chart 3 - Cold-Storage Holdings and Freezings of Fishery Products . . . . .	68
Restoration of North Sea Fishing Rights From Russia Sought . . . . .	52	Chart 4 - Receipts and Cold-Storage Holdings of Fishery Products at Principal Distribution Centers . . . . .	69
Antarctic Whaling Fleet to be Increased . . . . .	52	Chart 5 - Fish Meal and Oil Production - U. S. and Alaska . . . . .	69
Republic of Korea:		Chart 6 - Canned Packs of Selected Fishery Prod- ucts . . . . .	70
Fish-Canning Capacity to be Doubled by New Machinery . . . . .	53	Chart 7 - U. S. Fishery Products Imports . . . . .	71
Mexico:		<b>RECENT FISHERY PUBLICATIONS:</b> . . . . .	72
Sinaloa Shrimp Exports to U. S., October 1953- March 1954 . . . . .	53	Fish and Wildlife Service Publications . . . . .	72
Merida Shrimp Exports to U.S., January-March 1954 . . . . .	53	Miscellaneous Publications . . . . .	73
Netherlands:			
Fish Meal for Human Consumption Investigated . . . . .	54		

Editorial Assistant--Ruth V. Keefe

Illustrator--Gustaf T. Sundstrom

Compositors--Jean Zalevsky, Betty Coakley, and Kathlyn Brophy

\* \* \* \* \*

Photograph Credits: Page by page, the following list gives the source or photographer for each photograph in this issue. Photographs on pages not mentioned were obtained from the Service's file and the photographers are unknown.

Pp. 2, 3, 4, and 5--J. A. Dassow; pp. 10, 12, 14, and 17--J. J. Murray; p. 36--J. Pileggi; p. 40--Food and Agriculture Organization, Rome, Italy; p. 43--R. W. Tyson; p. 49--A. M. Sandberg.