firm based in Surinam.

The entry of South Korean shrimping vessels into these waters is seen as a significant step. The Japanese currently are reported to be operating 47 vessels out of Paramaribo.

Publications

Recent NMFS Scientific Publications

NOAA Technical Report NMFS CIRC-381, Thorson, Lee C., and Mary Ellen Engett, **"Fishery publications, calendar year 1967: lists and indexes,"** July 1973, iv + 22 p. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Price: 35 cents.

ABSTRACT

The following series of fishery publications of the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (until October, 1970 the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) in calendar year 1967 are listed numerically (with abstracts) and indexed by author, subject, and geographic area: Circular, Data Report, Fishery Industrial Research, Fishery Leaflet, and Special Scientific Report—Fisheries.

NOAA Technical Report NMFS CIRC-382, Engett, Mary Ellen, and Lee C. Thorson, **"Fishery publications, calendar year 1966: lists and indexes,"** July 1973, iv + 19 p. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Price: 35 cents.

ABSTRACT

The following series of fishery publications of the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (until October, 1970 the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) in calendar year 1966 are listed numerically (with abstracts) and indexed by author, subject, and geographic area: Circular, Data Report, Fishery Industrial Research, Fishery Leaflet, and Special Scientific Report—Fisheries.

NOAA Technical Report NMFS CIRC-383, Thorson, Lee C., and Mary Ellen Engett, **"Fishery publications, calendar year 1965: lists and indexes,"** July 1973, iv + 12 p. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Price: 30 cents.

ABSTRACT

The following series of fishery publications of the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (until October, 1970 the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) in calendar year 1965 are listed numerically (with abstracts) and indexed by author, subject, and geographic area: Circular, Data Report, Fishery Industrial Research, Fishery Leaflet, and Special Scientific Report—Fisheries.

Monthly Fishery Market Review

Groundfish Supplies Up, Blocks Down in May

GROUNDFISH FILLETS

Total supplies of major groundfish fillets (Tables 1-5) in May were well above a year ago as a result of higher May 1 inventories and heavier imports during the month. Although consumption during May was above the same month in 1972, it declined sharply from April. Consumption in May was off more than seasonally, given the adequacy of supplies this year and the fact that prices have declined somewhat (Table 6).

There appears to be a growing tendency for the industry to hold greater quantities of supply in inventory this year. By the end of May, inventories of fillets were three times larger than last year. Among the major reasons for this new inventory strategy are the following:

1. Although fillet imports are more abundant this year (up 24 percent during January-May, compared with last year), the higher cost of imports stemming from dollar devaluation and strong demand may be more difficult to recoup under regulations of the President's new economic policies. Some processors and dealers may have been holding higher-cost product awaiting relaxation of pricing guidelines.
2. In addition, a major impetus toward stockpiling of supplies could be related to *anticipated* higher costs and tightening supplies. There is increasing interest among major U.S. supplying nations in European markets as outlets for supplies traditionally destined for the United States. With this attitude pervading the markets, many U.S. processors may be trying to hedge against future supply difficulties and price competition with other foreign buyers by purchasing heavily now.
3. By the end of May, inventories of fillets in the United States were three times larger than last year, and sufficient to support at least one month's consumption without additional new supplies (i.e., imports). U.S. purchasers may be attempting to build inventories to a level at which they can exert more bargaining power in price negotiations with foreign suppliers. U.S. purchasers could be attempting to make themselves less subject to the dictates of a seller's market by increasing their stock-to-consumption ratios.

BLOCKS, STICKS AND PORTIONS

The market picture for fish blocks in May was characterized by short supplies and soaring prices. Since January, holdings of blocks (Table 7) have been on the decline as producers were making heavy withdrawals, necessitated by a 24 percent reduction in imports. As of June 1, cold storage holdings of blocks were a little more than half of last year's level and down from a month earlier. The situation with cod blocks was particularly severe, with holdings at only 40 percent of last year's level. Cold storage holdings of blocks traditionally increase from May thru November, in preparation for heavy fourth quarter production of sticks and portions. Production has been running ahead of last year, however, with no immediate prospect for improvement in block supplies, the outlook for continued heavy production is bleak.

Imports of fish blocks have dropped sharply, and prices (Table 8) have risen for several reasons, among which are:

1. Production of groundfish blocks, especially cod, has been below last year in most of the major supplying nations. The reason is twofold:
   a. Cod catches have been off in Canada, Iceland, Denmark, and Norway.
   b. Many of these nations have been processing a greater percentage of available cod into fillets instead of blocks since last year.

   This last point deserves further explanation. The shift towards fillets last year was tied to price differentials between the two product forms. Cod block prices were unusually stable in 1972, the result of high U.S. inventories and relatively good production abroad. While block prices were running at a fairly even keel, fillet prices were advancing. Many foreign suppliers apparently shifted production to fillets when the margin separating them from cod blocks widened, favoring their more profitable manufacture. However, in 1973, the price situation reversed. Greater production of fillets abroad, encouraged by high prices last year, created strong demand pressure on the resultant shorter supplies of blocks. Block prices began to skyrocket in January. By March, the price advantage to producing fillets as opposed to blocks was nearly erased. This sudden shift in the market was apparently unforeseen by many foreign producers, who continued to direct fish supplies into fillet manufacture. Thus, by May, U.S. sticks and portions producers were faced with precariously low block inventories and little hope, in the short run, that currently high block prices would attract greater quantities of raw material.

Prices of cod fillets and cod blocks (1-lb packages of frozen fillets), January 1972-June 1973.

Item	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
	------Cents per pound------					
1972						
Cod fillets	50.0	53.5	56.5	56.0	56.0	56.0
Cod blocks	46.5	47.0	47.0	47.0	46.0	47.0
Margin	3.5	6.5	9.5	9.0	10.0	9.0
1973						
Cod fillets	56.5	57.0	57.5	61.0	62.0	65.5
Cod blocks	48.0	50.5	56.0	59.0	60.0	66.5
Margin	8.5	6.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	-1.0

2. Block prices have increased sharply since January for the following reasons:
   a. U.S. dollar devaluation, which has made the price of imported blocks higher to U.S. purchasers.
   b. And, increased international competition for available block

Table 1.—Groundfish (fillet weight, in million pounds) supplies, May 1973. Groundfish include cod, flounder, haddock, and ocean perch.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	------Million Pounds------				Percent	Million Pounds		Percent
Beginning Inventory	44.4	34.5	31.6	14.2	+123	52.4	45.1	+ 16
Landings, Total	5.5	5.7	6.7	7.2	− 7	26.8	28.4	− 6
Imports	24.8	25.5	25.4	17.6	+ 44	114.2	92.3	+ 24
Total Supply	74.7	65.7	63.7	39.0	+ 63	193.4	165.8	+ 17
Ending Inventory	34.5	31.6	34.5	14.9	+132	34.5	14.9	+132
Consumption	40.2	34.1	29.2	24.1	+ 21	158.9	150.9	+ 5

Table 2.—Cod (fillet weight, in million pounds) supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN - 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	------Million Pounds------				Percent	Million Pounds		Percent
Beginning Inventory	15.5	13.1	13.6	5.5	+147	16.2	6.2	+161
Landings, Total	1.0	1.4	1.8	1.3	+ 38	6.1	6.1	—
Imports	9.2	10.7	6.4	9.4	− 32	39.3	38.9	+ 1
Total Supply	25.7	25.2	21.8	16.2	+ 35	61.6	51.2	+ 20
Ending Inventory	13.1	13.6	14.7	7.5	+ 96	14.7	7.5	+ 96
Consumption	12.6	11.6	7.1	8.7	− 18	46.9	43.7	+ 7

Table 3.—Flounder (fillet weight, in million pounds) supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN - 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	-----Million Pounds------				Percent	Million Pounds		Percent
Beginning Inventory	6.7	6.0	5.2	3.0	+ 73	8.6	9.3	− 8
Landings, Total	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.0	− 3	11.4	12.2	− 7
Imports	8.0	7.3	7.3	4.7	+ 55	36.0	24.0	+ 50
Total Supply	16.8	15.5	15.4	10.7	+ 44	56.0	45.5	+ 23
Ending Inventory	6.0	5.2	6.0	2.8	+114	6.0	2.8	+114
Consumption	10.8	10.3	9.4	7.9	+ 19	50.0	42.7	+ 17

supplies. As in the case of fillets, traditional U.S. block suppliers are viewing European markets as attractive outlets for their product. This is partially related to the world currency situation which, in some instances, has made the price of blocks offered in Europe as attractive as, if not more than, in the U.S.-market. The U.S. position, when bidding for world block supplies, has progressively worsened in favor of nations with higher valued currencies.

SHRIMP

Supplies of shrimp (Table 11) during May were below the previous year, as both landings and imports were below the previous year. Landings were well below those in 1972 in all areas except the Pacific. Although May landings in the Gulf were off 43 percent from 1972, it must be remembered that the shrimp season in Louisiana was delayed this year as a result of the floods in that area. Preliminary indications, however, show that the June Gulf catch was about equal to that in 1972. It thus appears that the large quantities of fresh water flowing into the bays have not had a permanent effect on this year's shrimp crop.

Imports of shrimp apparently continue to be affected by the purchases by the Japanese. The Japanese increased their imports of shrimp by about 31 percent in April and have imported 10 percent more during the first 4 months of the year. U.S. imports were 35 percent below the previous May, and 11 percent below the first 5-month total.

Prices on the ex-vessel and wholesale levels continued to rise through May (Table 12) and were near or at record levels during the month. This reflects the increasing tight supply situation and the relatively high demand. In spite of these high prices, consumption was high during the month, although below the previous year. The quantity consumed during January-

Table 4.—Haddock (fillet weight, in million pounds) supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN - 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	----- Million Pounds -----				Percent	Million Pounds		Percent
Beginning Inventory	11.6	9.5	8.3	2.3	+261	9.8	8.9	+ 10
Landings, Total	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	− 40	1.4	1.9	− 26
Imports	5.0	3.0	3.6	2.2	+ 64	17.3	11.0	+ 57
Total Supply	16.9	12.8	12.2	5.0	+144	28.5	21.8	+ 31
Ending Inventory	9.5	8.3	8.3	1.8	+361	8.3	1.8	+361
Consumption	7.4	4.5	3.9	3.2	+ 22	20.2	20.0	+ 1

Table 5.—Ocean perch (fillet weight, in million pounds) supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN - 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	----- Million Pounds -----				Percent	Million Pounds		Percent
Beginning Inventory	10.6	5.9	4.5	3.4	+ 32	17.8	20.7	−14
Landings, Total	2.1	1.8	1.7	2.4	− 29	7.9	8.2	− 4
Imports	2.6	4.5	8.1	1.3	+523	21.6	18.4	+17
Total Supply	15.3	12.2	14.3	7.1	+101	47.3	47.3	—
Ending Inventory	5.9	4.5	5.5	2.8	+ 96	5.5	2.8	+96
Consumption	9.4	7.7	8.8	4.3	+105	41.8	44.5	− 6

Table 6.—Groundfish prices, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	----- Cents Per Pound -----				Percent	Cents Per Pound		Percent
COD:								
Ex-vessel[1]	24.3	20.0	13.1	13.9	− 6	21.2	21.2	—
Wholesale								
1 lb Canadian	57.9	61.5	62.0	56.0	+11	59.0	54.4	+ 8
5 lb Canadian	53.3	58.0	59.6	55.8	+ 7	54.3	53.5	+ 2
Retail[2]	184.5	184.0	174.5	124.0	+41	181.6	132.6	+37
FLOUNDER:								
Ex-vessel[3]								
Yellowtail	28.85	32.87	18.30	19.49	− 6	26.43	20.38	+30
Lemonsole	53.15	44.00	24.84	27.92	−11	44.44	40.25	+10
Greysole	36.30	29.40	19.08	20.68	− 8	31.09	26.99	+15
Blackback	32.15	30.05	17.91	18.28	− 2	28.60	29.95	− 5
Wholesale								
5 lb. domestic	97.5	111.3	95.7	89.0	+ 8	97.6	86.4	+13
5 lb. Canadian	79.1	80.5	80.2	59.7	+34	79.2	56.3	+40
Retail[2]	225.7	236.6	224.0	161.0	+39	213.8	160.4	+33
HADDOCK:								
Ex-vessel[1]								
Large	47.10	49.7	44.5	38.0	+17	46.0	41.5	+11
Scrod	27.16	32.5	32.2	34.7	− 7	29.2	34.7	−15
Wholesale								
5 lb Canadian	78.0	79.5	79.5	59.5	+34	78.4	59.2	+32
Retail[4]	120.8	124.2	128.7	104.0	+24	121.8	103.1	+18
OCEAN PERCH:								
Ex-vessel[1]	7.2	7.6	7.5	5.3	+42	7.3	5.3	+38
Wholesale								
5 lb domestic	60.8	61.5	63.0	40.5	+86	59.5	36.9	+61
5 lb Canadian	53.6	54.3	55.4	40.2	+38	53.0	37.3	+42
Retail[4]	91.8	94.1	96.9	73.3	+32	92.2	73.2	+26

[1] Quotes taken at Boston, Mass.
[2] New York Consumer Market Reports.
[3] New Bedford, Mass.
[4] Bureau of Labor Statistics — average of 36 U.S. cities.
NOTE: All wholesale prices — f.o.b. Boston, Gloucester, and New Bedford.

May, however, was still above that in 1972.

With the decline in landings and imports and the increase in consumption, inventories have been drawn down rapidly. May 31 holdings were below the previous year for the first time this year and have been reduced about 40 percent from the record quantity in storage on January 1.

Table 7.—Blocks and slabs, supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN - MAY 1973	JAN - MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Million Pounds				*Percent*	*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
Beginning Inventory	47.8	40.4	32.6	51.8	− 37	75.8	62.7	+ 21
Production	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	+300	2.0	0.7	+186
Imports	30.1	18.7	29.8	34.6	− 14	112.5	148.9	− 24
Total Supply	78.3	59.5	62.8	86.5	− 27	190.3	212.3	− 10
Ending Inventory	40.4	32.6	32.3	61.4	− 47	32.3	61.4	− 47
Consumption	37.9	26.9	30.5	25.1	+ 22	158.0	150.9	+ 5

Table 8.—Blocks and slabs, prices, May 1973. Wholesale prices of blocks f.o.b. primary wholesaler — Boston, Gloucester, and New Bedford, Mass.

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
		Cents Per Pound											
Cod	1972	46.5	47.0	47.0	47.0	45.6	46.5	47.0	47.0	47.0	47.0	47.0	48.0
	1973	48.6	52.4	56.6	58.5	61.1							
Flounder	1972	43.5	44.4	45.3	49.2	51.7	53.3	55.1	57.0	58.0	58.0	58.7	59.5
	1973	59.5	59.6	60.0	60.0	60.0							
Haddock	1972	47.1	47.5	47.5	47.9	50.3	52.8	54.4	57.0	58.1	59.5	59.5	59.5
	1973	60.1	60.5	61.4	63.3	64.9							
Ocean Perch	1972	38.5	38.5	38.7	39.5	39.5	39.8	41.6	45.0	48.0	48.3	49.4	49.0
	1973	51.2	53.1	53.9	54.0	54.8							
Pollock	1972	32.3	32.0	32.0	32.1	31.2	31.5	31.5	31.0	29.6	29.5	28.3	28.0
	1973	29.0	30.1	33.0	34.0	35.2							
Whiting	1972	33.0	33.5	33.0	33.0	33.2	31.5	31.5	31.5	31.5	32.0	34.1	34.0
	1973	34.6	35.8	37.5	37.5	37.5							
Wolffish	1972	49.3	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.3	50.5	51.0	51.5	51.3	51.0	51.0	51.0
	1973	51.0	50.0	54.5	52.0	52.0							

Table 9.—Sticks and Portions, supplies, May 1973

	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Million Pounds		*Percent*	*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
Beginning Inventory	24.4	16.1	+52	34.4	23.2	+48
Production:						
Sticks		7.8			50.9	
Portions		25.1			113.7	
Total		32.9			164.6	
Imports		—			0.6	
Ending Inventory	27.5	20.3	+35	27.5	20.3	+35

Table 10.—Sticks and portions, weekly average wholesale prices, May 1973.

Item	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Cents Per Pound					
Cod portions	67.0	60.5	+11	64.5	58.2	+11
Haddock	69.5	65.0	+ 7	69.2	63.1	+10
Cod sticks	78.0	77.0	+ 1	78.0	74.3	+ 5
Haddock sticks	80.0	79.2	+ 1	80.0	76.5	+ 5

SCALLOPS

Scallops continued to exhibit an improving supply position (Table 13) as the quantity available for consumption was 64 percent above the previous year in May, and 50 percent higher than the 1972 January-May total. Higher imports more than offset a slight decline in landings. Although the May east coast catch was above the previous year, production in Alaska was off sharply (54 percent during January-May). High Canadian landings and inventories, and resultant lower prices, have apparently encouraged increased shipments to the United States, as imports from Canada continue to be heavy.

Increased supplies have caused domestic prices to drop sharply (Table 14). The average ex-vessel price, for example, fell to its lowest level since July 1971, during March, and continued to decline through May (24 percent below May 1972). Although wholesale prices were also below the previous year, retail prices have remained higher. Consumption, however, remained well above the quantity consumed in 1972.

AMERICAN LOBSTERS

The supply situation for American lobsters (Table 15) has greatly improved this year as both landings and imports were up sharply. This improvement reflects the milder weather prevalent this year, as opposed to 1972, when an extremely harsh winter resulted in very low supplies during the first half of the year. As supplies have increased, prices on all levels have been well below those in 1972 (Table 16).

SPINY LOBSTER TAILS

Lobster tail supplies (Table 17) continue to be short this year as May imports were again below the previous year. Strong demand in recent months and lower imports have apparently caused a 22 percent reduction in the quantity in storage since the start of the year. Prices have reacted to this situation by posting significant gains throughout the year (Table 18). While wholesale prices for warm-water tails were somewhat below the previous year, cold-water tail prices were at record levels and had passed the $5 mark for 4- to 6-ounce tails. In spite of these relatively high prices, consumption was 14 percent above May, 1972.

Table 11.—Shrimp supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-APR 1972	Percent Change
	Million Pounds				*Percent*	*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
Beginning Inventory	79.2	69.2	58.6	56.9	+ 3	92.7	69.9	+ 33
Landings:								
Total	12.7	7.8	14.4	19.3	− 25	59.1	59.4	− 1
Gulf	4.2	4.0	8.0	14.0	− 43	25.6	36.4	− 30
Northeast	3.1	.9	.7	.8	− 12	9.1	8.5	+ 7
Pacific	5.4	2.9	5.3	3.5	+ 51	23.6	12.8	+ 84
South Atlantic	—	—	.4	1.0	− 60	.8	1.7	− 53
Imports	16.3	17.0	16.4	25.1	− 35	84.9	95.5	− 11
Total Supply	108.2	94.0	89.4	101.3	− 12	236.7	224.8	+ 5
Ending Inventory	69.2	58.6	55.0	59.5	− 8	55.0	59.5	− 8
Exports:								
Total	6.6	4.4	4.6	3.1	+ 48	25.0	16.5	+ 52
Domestic Fresh & Frozen	4.9	2.8	3.1	2.5	+ 24	18.2	13.9	+ 31
Transshipments	1.7	1.6	1.5[1]	.6	+150	6.8	2.6	+162
Gulf Canned Pack	—	—	.3	4.6	− 93	1.2	5.4	− 88
Fresh & Frozen Consumption	32.4	31.0	29.5	34.1	− 13	155.5	143.4	+ 8

[1] Estimated

Table 12.—Shrimp prices, May 1973.

Item	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Dollars Per Pound				
Ex-vessel:					
15-20 count	1.98	2.06	2.14	2.07	+ 3
31-35	1.76	1.81	1.84	1.40	+31
51-65	1.26	1.35	1.35	.95	+42
Wholesale:					
15-20 count	2.12	2.19	2.28	2.35	− 3
31-35	1.89	1.95	1.99	1.74	+14
51-65	1.32	1.51	1.54	1.08	+43
Retail:					
15-25 count	3.06	3.05	3.01	3.05	− 1
31-42	2.29	2.27	2.28	2.15	+ 6

Table 13.—Scallop supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Thousand Pounds				*Percent*	*Thousand Pounds*		*Percent*
Beginning Inventory	3,418	2,869	2,714	946	+187	3,736	1,585	+136
Landings, Total	550	600	715	735	− 3	2,783	2,533	+ 10
Imports	1,995	1,370	2,175	1,735	+ 25	7,960	5,570	+ 43
Total Supply	5,963	4,839	5,604	3,416	+ 64	14,479	9,688	+ 50
Ending Inventory	2,869	2,714	3,083	1,026	+200	3,083	1,026	+200
Consumption	3,094	2,125	2,521	2,390	+ 6	11,396	8,662	+ 32

Table 14.—Scallop prices, May 1973.

Item	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Dollars Per Pound				
Ex-vessel	1.96	1.76	1.44	1.90	−24
Wholesale	2.25	2.23	1.82	2.16	−16
Retail	3.19	3.23	3.08	2.64	+17

Table 15.—American Lobster supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Thousand Pounds				*Percent*	*Thousand Pounds*		*Percent*
Maine Landings	149	317	1,280	754	+70	2,328	1,387	+68
Imports	1,606	1,493	3,517	1,998	+76	9,673	8,025	+20
Consumption	1,755	1,810	4,797	2,752	+74	12,001	9,412	+28

Table 16.—American Lobster prices, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Dollars Per Pound				
Ex-vessel	1.78	1.43	1.29	1.45	−11
Wholesale:					
2 lb.	3.10	2.83	1.92	2.09	− 8
1-½	2.88	2.55	1.87	2.06	− 9
1-¼	2.49	2.06	1.80	2.01	−10
1-⅛	2.47	2.00	1.77	2.01	−12
chix	2.42	1.99	1.76	1.97	−11

Table 17.—Spiny lobster tails, supplies, May 1973.

	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change	JAN-MAY 1973	JAN-MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Million Pounds				*Percent*	*Million Pounds*		*Percent*
Beginning Inventory	7.8	8.0	7.5	6.4	+17	8.9	4.7	+89
Imports	3.7	2.4	2.6	3.8	−32	14.8	18.0	−18
Total Supply	11.5	10.4	10.1	10.2	− 1	23.7	22.7	+ 4
Ending Inventory	8.0	7.5	6.9	7.4	− 7	6.9	7.4	− 7
Consumption	3.5	2.9	3.2	2.8	+14	16.8	15.3	+10

Table 18.—Spiny lobster tails, wholesale prices, May 1973.

Item	MAR 1973	APR 1973	MAY 1973	MAY 1972	Percent Change
	Dollars Per Pound				
6-8 oz. tail					
Cold-water	4.56	4.64	4.71	4.35	+8
Warm-water	3.30	3.33	3.65	4.00	−9