may be purchased from Director, National Ocean Survey (formerly Coast and Geodetic Survey), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce, and its authorized sales agents.

1. **New York Harbor,** 62nd edition of Chart No. 369 (N.O. 12141), issued Sept. 15, 1973, scale of 1:40,000. Price $1.75.

2. **Florida—Everglades National Park—Shark River to Lostmans River,** 6th edition of Chart No. 599SC (N.O. 11154), issued Sept. 15, 1973, scale of 1:50,000. Price $2.20.

3. **Hawaii—Hawaii to Oahu**, 16th edition of Chart No. 4116 (N.O. 19060), issued Sept. 15, 1973, scale of 1:250,000. Price $1.75.

4. **Alaska—Southeast Coast—Southern Entrances to Summer Strait,** 6th edition of Chart No. 8173 (N.O. 17103), issued Sept. 22, 1973, scale of 1:40,000. Price $1.75.

*Monthly Fishery Market Review*

# September Groundfish Supplies High as Landings Gain

## FILLET SUPPLIES CONTINUE HIGH

Supplies of groundfish fillets (cod, flounder, haddock, and ocean perch, Tables 1-5) continued high during September, but some notable changes in the components of supply occurred. First, landings recorded one of the few gains this year with a 16 percent increase to 5.7 million pounds. Increased catches of from 40 to 25 percent in the cod and flounder fisheries, respectively, were responsible for the September advance.

Second, imports fell during the month after eight consecutive monthly increases this year. The lower quantity of cod received this month (4 million pounds less) was primarily responsible for the overall decline, although both flounder and haddock imports were also down. The decline may be tied to a drop in the quantity caught in Canada (our major supplier) during September, and some redirection of supplies from the United States to European markets where high demand and prices have attracted additional quantities.

In spite of the higher total quantity of fillets available, consumption dropped about 5 percent to 28.8 million pounds. This appears to have been in response to an increasing level of fish prices in conjunction with declining prices for some meat and poultry products. Except for cod and flounder ex-vessel prices, almost all fillet prices rose during the month (Table 6).

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

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 42.6 | 47.5 | 49.1 | 33.5 | +47 | 52.4 | 45.0 | +16 |
| Total landings | 4.6 | 4.2 | 5.7 | 4.9 | +16 | 47.7 | 52.2 | − 9 |
| Imports | 25.9 | 32.1 | 29.3 | 34.3 | −15 | 235.4 | 208.6 | +13 |
| Total supply | 73.1 | 83.8 | 84.1 | 72.7 | +16 | 335.5 | 305.8 | +10 |
| Ending inventory | 47.5 | 49.1 | 55.3 | 42.4 | +30 | 56.2 | 42.4 | +30 |
| Consumption | 25.6 | 34.7 | 28.8 | 30.3 | − 5 | 279.3 | 263.4 | + 6 |

**Table 2.—Cod supplies (fillet weight in million pounds) in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 15.7 | 14.7 | 15.5 | 14.8 | + 5 | 16.2 | 6.1 | +166 |
| Total landings | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.0 | +40 | 10.9 | 10.7 | + 2 |
| Imports | 5.8 | 7.5 | 5.2 | 8.9 | −42 | 67.0 | 80.5 | − 17 |
| Total supply | 22.5 | 23.2 | 22.1 | 24.7 | −11 | 94.1 | 97.3 | − 3 |
| Ending inventory | 14.7 | 15.5 | 14.8 | 16.2 | − 9 | 15.7 | 16.2 | − 3 |
| Consumption | 7.8 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 8.5 | −14 | 78.4 | 81.1 | − 3 |

**Table 3.—Flounder supplies (fillet weight in million pounds) in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 8.4 | 9.6 | 9.6 | 4.7 | +104 | 8.6 | 9.3 | −11 |
| Total landings | 2.1 | 1.9 | 3.0 | 2.4 | + 25 | 21.3 | 22.9 | − 7 |
| Imports | 6.6 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 9.3 | − 6 | 71.3 | 53.1 | +34 |
| Total supply | 17.1 | 20.3 | 21.3 | 16.4 | + 30 | 101.2 | 85.3 | +19 |
| Ending inventory | 9.6 | 9.6 | 10.6 | 5.7 | + 86 | 10.6 | 5.7 | +86 |
| Consumption | 7.5 | 10.7 | 10.7 | 10.7 | — | 90.6 | 79.6 | +14 |

**Table 4.—Haddock supplies (fillet weight in million pounds) in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 8.3 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 4.5 | +96 | 9.8 | 8.9 | +10 |
| Total landings | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 | −77 | 2.5 | 3.3 | −24 |
| Imports | 3.3 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 4.4 | −18 | 32.5 | 25.9 | +25 |
| Total supply | 11.9 | 13.4 | 12.5 | 9.1 | +37 | 44.8 | 38.1 | +18 |
| Ending inventory | 8.8 | 8.8 | 9.8 | 7.1 | +38 | 9.8 | 7.1 | +38 |
| Consumption | 3.1 | 4.6 | 2.7 | 8.0 | −66 | 35.0 | 31.0 | +13 |

## BLOCK IMPORTS DOWN, STICK AND PORTION PRODUCTION STABLE

U.S. imports of fish blocks declined sharply in September to 33.6 million pounds, 9 million pounds less than the previous month but about a fourth higher than last September (Table 7). Prices of all major fish blocks (Table 8) showed sharp increases in September, and although prices for fish sticks and portions also rose, they were not sufficient to halt the continuing cost squeeze faced by domestic stick and portion producers (Tables 9 and 10). In order to realize even the minimum 10-cent margin on cod portions, for example, domestic firms would have to produce portions from cod blocks imported in April when the blocks were selling for 58.5 cents per pound. By September, cod block prices were up to 78.5 cents, almost 10 cents per pound higher than the cod portion prices.

Total stick and portion production was practically unchanged from the previous month, but 23 percent above the same month in 1972. Block inventories on October 1 were running about 40 percent below the levels of a year ago. In light of reduced imports, domestic producers were apparently drawing more heavily on existing stocks to meet the fall market demand from institutional users. As a result, stocks at the end of September were 7 percent lower than at the beginning of the month.

## SHRIMP SUPPLIES SHORT, PRICES RISE RAPIDLY

The supply situation in the shrimp industry continued to be short during September (Table 11). Based primarily on low cold storage holdings, total supplies available for consumption during the month were 30 percent below the previous year. Total supplies available through the first three quarters of 1973, however, were not as short as current supplies, falling only 6 percent below the same period in 1972. Because holdings were drawn down rapidly in the first half, continued low landings (particularly in the Gulf) and imports resulted in the lower 9-month total.

In spite of the overall shortage, there are some bright spots in the supply picture this month. Gulf landings continue to feel the effects of the spring floods; however, the gain registered in the Pacific catch more than offset that decline. Oregon has had a record catch this year and Alaska landings during the month were about four times the quantity landed in 1972. Furthermore, the import situation appears to be improving. The Japanese, who provide our major competition for world shrimp supplies, apparently have curtailed their purchases in recent months because of high supplies and declining pricing in that country. As a result, imports have improved considerably and were only slightly below the quantity received last year.

Owing to the general shortage of supply, prices have increased rapidly (Table 12). The wholesale prices for 15-20 count shrimp, for example, rose

**Table 5.—Ocean perch supplies (fillet weight in million pounds) in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 10.2 | 14.4 | 15.2 | 9.5 | +60 | 17.8 | 20.7 | −14 |
| Total landings | 1.2 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.3 | −8 | 13.0 | 15.3 | −15 |
| Imports | 10.2 | 11.5 | 11.8 | 11.7 | — | 64.6 | 49.1 | +32 |
| Total supply | 21.6 | 26.8 | 28.2 | 22.5 | +25 | 95.4 | 85.1 | +12 |
| Ending inventory | 14.4 | 15.2 | 20.1 | 13.4 | +50 | 20.1 | 13.4 | +50 |
| Consumption | 7.2 | 11.6 | 8.1 | 9.1 | −11 | 75.3 | 71.7 | +5 |

**Table 6.—Groundfish prices (wholesale, FOB Boston, Gloucester, and New Bedford in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Cents Per Pound* | | | | *Percent* | *Cents Per Pound* | | *Percent* |
| Cod | | | | | | | | |
| Ex-vessel[1] | 18.9 | 20.1 | 18.4 | 19.4 | −5 | 19.9 | 19.7 | +1 |
| Wholesale | | | | | | | | |
| 1 lb Canadian | 68.1 | 71.8 | 78.8 | 56.5 | +39 | 64.4 | 55.3 | +17 |
| 5 lb Canadian | 64.0 | 67.1 | 73.5 | 54.5 | +35 | 60.0 | 54.4 | +10 |
| Retail[2] | 170.0 | 179.3 | 180.0 | 137.8 | +31 | 178.7 | 130.3 | +38 |
| Flounder | | | | | | | | |
| Ex-vessel | | | | | | | | |
| Yellowtail | 19.90 | 24.47 | 13.84 | 18.27 | −24 | 22.90 | 19.22 | +19 |
| Lemonsole | 52.00 | 64.52 | 34.27 | 37.31 | −8 | 44.61 | 39.07 | +14 |
| Greysole | 29.17 | 32.44 | 31.09 | 25.45 | +22 | 29.70 | 25.25 | +18 |
| Blackback | 30.02 | 38.62 | 20.95 | 24.85 | −16 | 27.90 | 27.46 | +2 |
| Wholesale | | | | | | | | |
| 5 lb domestic | 87.5 | [3] | 92.5 | 98.8 | −6 | 94.2 | 89.8 | +5 |
| 5 lb Canadian | 81.8 | 83.2 | 84.9 | 72.9 | +16 | 80.6 | 61.4 | +31 |
| Retail[2] | 219.4 | 231.6 | 227.5 | 166.5 | +37 | 218.2 | 163.9 | +33 |
| Haddock | | | | | | | | |
| Ex-vessel[1] | | | | | | | | |
| Large | 49.5 | 52.6 | 54.0 | 41.7 | +30 | 47.4 | 41.2 | +15 |
| Scrod | 22.9 | 25.5 | 26.5 | 28.8 | −8 | 26.9 | 32.2 | −17 |
| Wholesale | | | | | | | | |
| 5 lb Canadian | 83.7 | 83.0 | 88.0 | 77.5 | +14 | 80.7 | 65.8 | +23 |
| Retail[4] | 133.6 | 136.3 | 136.5 | 108.4 | +26 | 127.5 | 104.5 | +22 |
| Ocean Perch | | | | | | | | |
| Ex-vessel[1] | 7.6 | 8.3 | 8.9 | 6.4 | +39 | 7.6 | 5.6 | +36 |
| Wholesale | | | | | | | | |
| 5 lb domestic | 58.0 | 63.8 | 68.9 | 55.0 | +25 | 60.8 | 67.6 | −10 |
| 5 lb Canadian | 55.8 | 59.5 | 62.5 | 47.1 | +33 | 55.4 | 42.4 | +31 |
| Retail[4] | 99.8 | 100.7 | 102.6 | 78.0 | +32 | 96.0 | 74.5 | +29 |

[1] Quotes taken at Boston, Mass.
[2] New York Consumer Market Reports.
[3] No quotes during September 1973.
[4] Bureau of Labor Statistics (average of 36 U.S. cities).

more than 50 percent since the start of the year. Prices at all levels were well above the previous. As a result of the increases in shrimp prices (retail prices for 15-25 count, shrimp rose 44 cents per pound in September) and the 0.7 percent drop in average grocery store food prices, including lower prices for many meat and poultry items, consumption of shrimp was off 14 percent from the previous year and about 25 percent from August.

## SCALLOPS SUPPLIES HIGH

Supplies of scallops continued to be high during September, reflecting the large quantity in inventory (Table 13). Landings were practically the same as in 1972, but imports dropped off sharply. This month's decline in imports was primarily the result of lower shipments received from Canada. The combination of lower landings and inventories in Canada during September apparently has limited the quantity available for export.

Prices at the ex-vessel and wholesale levels stabilized during the month in the wake of sharp increases because of the New Bedford strike in August (Table 14). Retail prices, however, rose rapidly during the month from \$2.51 per pound in August to \$2.84 in September. In spite of the higher retail prices, demand was strong as consumption was 27 percent above the previous year. Nearly all the new supplies were consumed and the quantity in storage was practically unchanged.

## AMERICAN LOBSTER SUPPLIES DOWN

Available supplies of American lobsters were well below the previous year in September on the basis of lower landings and imports (Table 15). Maine landings were down 1.3 percent from September 1972, but were double the quantity caught in July and about 10 percent above August landings. Imports from Canada were off about 11 percent during the month. Most of this decline can be attributed to the lower quantity landed in Canada this year (down about 3 million pounds through August).

With supplies off and demand apparently strong, wholesale prices remained high, although down somewhat from the previous month (Table 16). After peaking in August, following an average increase of 58 cents per pound, prices slipped to an average of \$2.60 per pound for 1¼ pound lobsters. This decline probably reflects the increase in landings of earlier months, but was undoubtedly tempered by the overall decline in supplies this year.

## DEMAND HIGH FOR SPINY LOBSTERS

The supply picture for spiny lobsters was one of steadily declining imports, high demand and a drawing down of inventories (Table 17). Imports have been consistently below the previous year throughout 1973, and September was no exception. Lower shipments from Brazil, Australia, and New Zealand were primarily responsible for the September decline.

Inventories, which had begun the year 89 percent above the previous

**Table 7.—Supplies of blocks and slabs in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 33.1 | 48.8 | 64.5 | 93.8 | − 32 | 75.8 | 62.7 | + 21 |
| Production | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.2 | +100 | 3.9 | 1.5 | +160 |
| Imports | 27.4 | 42.9 | 33.6 | 26.5 | + 27 | 247.7 | 286.1 | − 13 |
| Total supply | 60.8 | 92.2 | 98.7 | 120.5 | − 18 | 327.4 | 350.3 | − 7 |
| Ending inventory | 48.8 | 64.5 | 60.8 | 104.4 | − 42 | 60.8 | 104.4 | − 42 |
| Consumption | 12.0 | 27.7 | 37.9 | 16.1 | +135 | 266.6 | 245.9 | + 8 |

**Table 8.—Prices of blocks and slabs in September 1973.**

| | | 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. | 66.7 | 68.9 | 71.9 | 78.5 | 80.0 | | |
| Flounder | 1972 | 43.5 | 44.4 | 45.3 | 49.2 | 51.7 | 53.3 | 55.6 | 57.0 | 58.0 | 58.0 | 58.7 | 59.5 |
| | 1973 | 59.5 | 59.6 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 60.0 | 62.0 | 63.0 | 65.3 | 67.8 | 68.0 | | |
| Haddock | 1972 | 47.1 | 47.5 | 47.5 | 47.9 | 50.3 | 52.8 | 54.4 | 47.0 | 58.1 | 59.5 | 59.5 | 59.5 |
| | 1973 | 60.1 | 60.5 | 61.4 | 63.3 | 64.9 | 69.0 | 73.3 | 75.5 | 79.6 | 82.3 | | |
| 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 | 49.5 |
| | 1973 | 51.2 | 53.1 | 53.9 | 54.0 | 54.8 | 53.9 | 54.0 | 65.7 | 66.7 | 67.0 | | |
| 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 | 39.8 | 43.1 | 46.0 | 51.2 | 55.0 | | |
| Whiting | 1972 | 33.0 | 33.5 | 33.0 | 33.0 | 33.2 | 33.2 | 31.5 | 31.5 | 31.5 | 32.0 | 34.1 | 34.5 |
| | 1973 | 34.6 | 35.8 | 37.5 | 37.5 | 37.5 | 39.4 | 41.1 | 42.6 | 48.4 | 50.4 | | |
| 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 | 57.0 | 50.0 | 54.5 | 52.0 | 52.0 | 52.0 | 52.0 | — | 61.8 | 63.5 | | |

**Table 9.—Supplies of fish sticks and portions in September 1973.**

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *Million Pounds* | | | | *Percent* | *Million Pounds* | | *Percent* |
| Beginning inventory | 31.6 | 28.2 | 26.8 | 21.6 | +24 | 34.4 | 23.2 | +48 |
| Production | | | | | | | | |
| Sticks | 7.7 | 9.3 | 10.0 | 9.7 | + 3 | 64.6 | 81.3 | −21 |
| Portions | 21.0 | 27.5 | 26.3 | 23.9 | +10 | 147.3 | 192.5 | −24 |
| Total | 28.7 | 36.8 | 36.3 | 33.6 | + 8 | 211.9 | 273.8 | −23 |
| Imports | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | — | 1.3 | 1.2 | + 8 |
| Total supply | 60.4 | 65.1 | 63.2 | 55.3 | +14 | 247.6 | 298.2 | −17 |
| Ending inventory | 28.2 | 26.8 | 24.7 | 23.5 | + 5 | 24.7 | 23.5 | + 5 |
| Consumption | 32.2 | 38.3 | 38.5 | 31.8 | +21 | 222.9 | 274.7 | −19 |

Table 10.—Weekly average wholesale prices of fish sticks and portions in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cents per pound | | | | | | | |
| Cod portions | 67.0 | 67.0 | 69.3 | 60.5 | + 14 | 65.9 | 59.2 | + 11 |
| Haddock | 72.0 | 72.0 | 74.3 | 65.0 | + 14 | 70.4 | 63.9 | + 10 |
| Cod sticks | 87.0 | 87.0 | 89.8 | 77.0 | + 17 | 81.3 | 75.5 | + 8 |
| Haddock sticks | [1] | [1] | 88.0 | 79.2 | + 11 | 81.1 | 77.7 | + 4 |

[1] No quotes during July or August 1973.

Table 11.—Shrimp supplies in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Million Pounds | | | | Percent | Million Pounds | | Percent |
| Beginning inventory | 51.6 | 52.3 | 47.6 | 88.2 | − 11 | 92.7 | 69.9 | + 33 |
| Landings | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 26.7 | 24.3 | 24.9 | 22.5 | + 11 | 158.7 | 177.5 | − 11 |
| Gulf | 14.5 | 9.7 | 10.3 | 15.3 | + 33 | 77.6 | 109.3 | − 29 |
| Northeast | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | .3 | + 33 | 11.2 | 13.3 | − 16 |
| Pacific | 10.0 | 12.3 | 10.9 | 4.2 | + 160 | 60.8 | 44.6 | + 36 |
| South Atlantic | 1.6 | 1.9 | 3.3 | 2.7 | + 22 | 9.1 | 10.3 | − 12 |
| Imports | 17.0 | 18.6 | 18.3 | 19.1 | − 4 | 154.2 | 181.8 | − 15 |
| Total supply | 95.3 | 95.2 | 90.8 | 129.8 | − 30 | 405.6 | 429.2 | − 6 |
| Ending inventory | 52.2 | 47.6 | 53.8 | 88.6 | − 39 | 53.8 | 88.6 | − 39 |
| Exports | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 2.1 | + 52 | 38.6 | 26.1 | + 48 |
| Domestic fresh and frozen | 2.7 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 1.8 | + 56 | 29.2 | 21.6 | + 35 |
| Transshipments | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | + 33 | 9.4 | 4.5 | + 109 |
| Gulf canned pack | 2.1 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 1.5 | − 7 | 14.8 | 20.7 | − 28 |
| Fresh and frozen | | | | | | | | |
| Consumption | 37.9 | 43.7 | 32.4 | 37.6 | − 14 | 298.4 | 293.8 | + 2 |

Table 13.—Scallop supplies in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Thousand Pounds | | | | Percent | Thousand Pounds | | Percent |
| Beginning inventory | 3,029 | 3,554 | 3,655 | 1,686 | + 117 | 3,736 | 1,585 | + 136 |
| Total landings | 700 | 450 | 500 | 491 | + 2 | 4,845 | 5,114 | − 5 |
| Imports | 1,780 | 2,002 | 1,938 | 2,281 | − 15 | 15,318 | 14,465 | + 6 |
| Total supply | 5,509 | 6,006 | 6,093 | 4,458 | + 37 | 23,899 | 21,164 | + 13 |
| Ending inventory | 3,554 | 3,655 | 3,677 | 2,552 | + 44 | 3,677 | 2,552 | + 44 |
| Consumption | 1,955 | 2,351 | 2,416 | 1,906 | + 27 | 20,222 | 18,612 | + 9 |

Table 15.—American lobster supplies in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Thousand Pounds | | | | Percent | Thousand Pounds | | Percent |
| Maine landings | 1,425 | 2,738 | 3,001 | 3,444 | − 13 | 10,406 | 9,589 | + 9 |
| Imports | 3,267 | 1,877 | 1,346 | 1,518 | − 11 | 21,472 | 24,196 | − 11 |
| Consumption | 4,692 | 4,615 | 4,347 | 4,962 | − 12 | 31,878 | 33,785 | − 6 |

Table 17.—Spiny lobster tail supplies in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change | Jan-Sept 1973 | Jan-Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Million Pounds | | | | Percent | Million Pounds | | Percent |
| Beginning inventory | 7.5 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 8.7 | − 22 | 8.9 | 4.7 | + 89 |
| Imports | 2.0 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.7 | − 4 | 24.7 | 28.9 | − 14 |
| Total supply | 9.5 | 9.2 | 9.4 | 11.4 | − 18 | 33.6 | 33.6 | — |
| Ending inventory | 6.7 | 6.8 | 7.0 | 9.4 | − 26 | 7.0 | 9.4 | − 26 |
| Consumption | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.0 | + 20 | 26.6 | 24.2 | + 10 |

year, were drawn down rapidly as a result of the smaller supplies received. By the end of the month they were 26 percent below the same date in 1972. In spite of the lower quantity available, consumption rose 20 percent during September. The sharp increase in cold-water tail prices would normally be expected to lower consumption; however, the 85-cent increase this month (Table 18) apparently did not significantly reduce demand.

Table 12.—Shrimp prices in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dollars Per Pound | | | | |
| Ex-vessel | | | | | |
| 15-20 count | 2.24 | 2.51 | 2.75 | 1.71 | + 61 |
| 31-35 | 1.77 | 2.14 | 2.21 | 1.38 | + 60 |
| 51-65 | 1.42 | 1.66 | 1.64 | 0.96 | + 71 |
| Wholesale | | | | | |
| 15-20 count | 2.38 | 2.75 | 3.00 | 1.96 | + 53 |
| 31-35 | 1.98 | 2.31 | 2.46 | 1.61 | + 53 |
| 51-65 | 1.58 | 1.76 | 1.86 | 1.10 | + 69 |
| Retail | | | | | |
| 15-25 count | 2.94 | 3.13 | 3.57 | 2.99 | + 19 |
| 31-42 | 2.49 | 2.73 | 3.03 | 2.09 | + 45 |

Table 14.—Scallop prices in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dollars Per Pound | | | | |
| Ex-vessel | 1.48 | 1.98 | 2.00 | 2.24 | − 11 |
| Wholesale | 1.63 | — | 2.20 | 2.39 | − 8 |
| Retail | 2.80 | 2.51 | 2.84 | 2.78 | + 2 |

Table 16.—American lobster prices in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dollars Per Pound | | | | |
| Ex-vessel | 1.46 | 1.50 | 1.13 | 0.86 | + 31 |
| Wholesale | | | | | |
| 2 lb | 2.16 | 2.81 | 2.82 | 2.28 | + 24 |
| 1½ | 2.16 | 2.78 | 2.74 | 2.19 | + 25 |
| 1¼ | 2.16 | 2.72 | 2.60 | 1.94 | + 34 |
| 1⅛ | 2.12 | 2.68 | 2.55 | 1.86 | + 37 |
| chix | 2.12 | 2.66 | 2.48 | 1.81 | + 37 |

Table 18.—Spiny lobster tail wholesale prices in September 1973.

| | July 1973 | Aug 1973 | Sept 1973 | Sept 1972 | Percent change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dollars Per Pound | | | | |
| Wholesale price | | | | | |
| 6-8 oz tail | | | | | |
| Cold-water | 4.88 | 4.85 | 5.70 | 4.28 | + 33 |
| Warm-water | 4.00 | 4.21 | 4.14 | 3.65 | + 13 |