

## Peru Reduction Fishery Drops 50 Percent in 1977

Peru's 1977 catch of fish for reduction decreased substantially to 2,020,000 metric tons (t), or 50 percent less than in 1976. The country's total fisheries catch in 1976 was 4.343 million metric tons, according to FAO statistics. While the country was able to get through the year without major changes in its imports, prospects for an even lower 1978 fisheries catch were expected to result in considerably larger soybean oil imports.

**Table 1.—Peru's fish oil supplies and distribution in calendar years 1976-78. Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Trade and Attaché's estimates.**

| Item                       | 1976<br>(Final) | 1977<br>(Preliminary) | 1978<br>(Forecast) |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Supplies (×1,000 t)</b> |                 |                       |                    |
| Opening stocks (1 Jan.)    | 7               | 8                     | 16                 |
| Production                 | 104             | 101                   | 160                |
| Total                      | 111             | 109                   | 76                 |
| <b>Distribution</b>        |                 |                       |                    |
| Exports                    | — <sup>2</sup>  | 0                     | 0                  |
| Apparent consumption       |                 |                       |                    |
| Edible                     | 98              | 83                    | 56                 |
| Industrial <sup>3</sup>    | 5               | 10                    | 10                 |
| Subtotal                   | 103             | 93                    | 66                 |
| Ending stocks (31 Dec.)    | 8               | 16                    | 10                 |
| Total distribution         | 111             | 109                   | 76                 |

<sup>1</sup>Based on a 1.5 million t fish catch (anchovy, sardines, jurel, and needlefish).

<sup>2</sup>20 t hydrogenated fish oil exported to Bolivia.

<sup>3</sup>Soap industry.

**Table 2.—Peru's consumption of fats and oils in calendar years 1976-78. Sources: Trade and Attaché's estimates.**

| Item   | 1976<br>(Final) | 1977<br>(Preliminary) | 1978<br>(Forecast) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Fish oil (×1,000 t)</b>                       |                 |                       |                    |
| Liquid oil <sup>2</sup>                          | 45.1            | 43.7                  | 16.0               |
| Solid fats (margarine and shortening)            | 53.3            | 38.8                  | 40.0               |
| Soap industry                                    | 5.0             | 10.0                  | 10.0               |
| Total  | 103.4           | 92.5                  | 66.0               |
| <b>Per capita consumption, edible, (kg/year)</b> |                 |                       |                    |
| Vegetable oil                                    | 6.1             | 5.7                   | 7.3                |
| Fish oil   | 6.2             | 5.0                   | 3.3                |
| Lard   | 0.5             | 0.5                   | 0.5                |
| Total  | 12.8            | 11.2                  | 11.1               |

<sup>1</sup>Unless otherwise indicated.

<sup>2</sup>For making blended cooking oil.

Peru's production of fats and oils was also forecast to decrease from 135,300 t in 1977 to only 97,200 t in 1978, down 28 percent, due to the unfavorable anchovy fishery. The output of fish oil was forecast to decline 40 percent in 1978 (Table 1).

In a surprising development, the Ministry of Fisheries authorized the catch of sardines, jurel, and needlefish as of 17 April 1978. Publicly announced forecasts estimated the 1978 catch of reduction fish at 1.5 to 1.8 million tons, fish meal production at 300,000 to 350,000 tons, and fish oil production at 60,000 to 70,000 tons. All figures are revised slightly downward from earlier estimates.

In 1976 and 1977, fish oil represented roughly 46 percent of Peru's total consumption of fats and oils. Based on the 1978 unfavorable fishing forecasts, fish oil should constitute only about 32 percent of Peru's total fats and oils requirement this year. According to various sources, no more than 120,000 t of fish oil (4 million t anchovy catch) is expected in the coming years.

Tables 2 and 3 show the supply and distribution of fish oil and fish meal, respectively, for calendar years 1976-78. As can be seen by Table 3, a reduction in fish meal consumption of 35,000

**Table 3.—Peru's fish meal supplies and distribution in calendar years 1976-78. Sources: Ministry of Fisheries, Trade and Attaché's estimates.**

| Item                       | 1976<br>(Final) | 1977<br>(Preliminary) | 1978<br>(Forecast) |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Supplies (×1,000 t)</b> |                 |                       |                    |
| Opening stocks (1 Jan.)    | 40              | 172                   | 112                |
| Production                 | 886             | 493                   | 300                |
| Total                      | 926             | 665                   | 412                |
| <b>Distribution</b>        |                 |                       |                    |
| Exports                    | 624             | 436                   | 300                |
| Apparent consumption       | 130             | 117                   | 82                 |
| Ending stocks (31 Dec.)    | 172             | 112                   | 30                 |
| Total                      | 926             | 665                   | 412                |

<sup>1</sup>Based on a 1.5 million t fish catch (anchovy, sardines, jurel, and needlefish).

t from 1977 to 1978 was expected. The decline in 1978 fish oil and fish meal production is due to the reduced fisheries catch. Domestic production has a direct bearing on the availability of fish meal for export. (Source: IFR-78/102.)

## Japan, Russia Negotiate Joint Fishing Ventures

Soviet Fisheries Minister Aleksandr A. Ishkov informed Japan Fisheries Association President Tomoyoshi Kamenaga earlier this year that his Ministry had received five or six applications from Japanese trading firms to form joint ventures with the Soviet Union. The Japanese companies were seeking access to the Soviet 200-mile zone in areas now closed to Japanese fishing vessels under the existing Provisional Japan-Soviet Fisheries Agreement.

The two men met the day after the signing of the Five-Year Japan-Soviet Fisheries Cooperation Agreement in Moscow. Ishkov stated that the U.S.S.R. was willing to enter into several joint ventures as soon as the Japanese Government determined which requests would be approved. The deadline set for the Japanese response was 10 May. Conditions set forth then by Ishkov were: 1) Fishing vessels of the two countries would operate separately in the same area; 2) 25 percent of the Japanese catch would be transferred to the U.S.S.R. as a fishing fee; and 3) Japan would buy back this 25 percent as well as purchase the Soviet catch.

The Japanese Fisheries Agency (JFA) had approved, as of 6 June, five of the six proposed joint operations. The JFA indicated that it would only

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permit those Japanese companies to participate which previously fished within the Soviet 200-mile zone. All Japanese trading companies would be excluded. This decision by the JFA was delayed past the 10 May deadline proposed by Ishkov owing to the following two concerns.

1) The joint operation plans should be conducted separate from the Japan-Soviet Provisional Fisheries Agreement and should not adversely affect the 850,000 metric ton (t) 1978 Soviet quota for Japanese vessels fishing within the Soviet 200-mile zone.

2) Japanese fishing companies and organizations should take the initiative in concluding contracts with the U.S.S.R., although the trading companies originated the plans and filed the applications.

According to later information received from the U.S. Regional Fisheries Attache in Tokyo, the JFA and the Soviets agreed to proceed with four of the six proposed joint ventures (Table 1). Alaska pollock was excluded because it is a migratory fish and not limited to the continental shelf. Blue king crab was also deleted, apparently at the insistence of the Soviets (Table 2).

The Japanese have agreed to provide the Soviets with information on Japanese fishing methods, especially basket-net fishing, and the Soviets will place fishermen as observers on Japanese vessels involved in the joint operations. The question of fees is still being negotiated. The Japanese Government will decide about participation in joint ventures next year after viewing this year's results. Japanese vessels will be issued temporary licenses and will not be eligible for government compensation should the program be discontinued next year.

According to the NMFS Office of International Fisheries the status of the proposed Soviet-Japanese joint ventures at midsummer was unclear. The Japanese Government announced on 22 June that they had recently been informed by the Soviet Union that the Soviets would not be able to carry out the joint fishing ventures as had been agreed. The reason given, according to a Japanese Government source, was

Table 1.—U.S.S.R.-Japan planned joint fishing operations, 1978.

| Japanese company or organization      |                      |             |           |                     | Vessels  |                |                   |        |      |                   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|----------|----------------|-------------------|--------|------|-------------------|
| Fishery                               | Trading              | Species     | Quota (t) | Area                | Japanese |                |                   | Soviet |      |                   |
|                                       |                      |             |           |                     | No.      | Type           | Size <sup>1</sup> | No.    | Type | Size <sup>1</sup> |
| Hoko Suisan & Nichiro Gyogyo          | Marubeni             | Tanner crab | 3,000     | Olyutorskii Bay     | 1        | Reefer         | 1,000             | 2      | NA   | 150               |
|                                       |                      |             |           |                     | 2        | Sub-reefers    | 400               |        |      |                   |
|                                       |                      |             |           |                     | 3        | Pot-vessels    | 96                |        |      |                   |
| Hamaya Suisan <sup>2</sup>            | Tokyo Maruichi Shoji | Pink shrimp | 700       | Southwest Kamchatka | 1        | Shrimp trawler | NA                | 1      | NA   | NA                |
| Japan Sea Shrimp Pot Fishing Council  | Yokohama Tsusho      | Pink shrimp | 700       | Marmiya Straits     | 7        | Pot-vessels    | 96                | 2      | NA   | NA                |
| Okhotsk Sea Hair Crab Fishing Council | Tokyo Maruichi Shoji | Hair crab   | 500       | Southwest Sakhalin  | 1        | NA             | 299               | 1      | NA   | NA                |

<sup>1</sup>Gross registered ton per vessel.

<sup>2</sup>The company is located in Wakkanai, Hokkaido.

Source: Regional Fisheries Attache, U.S. Embassy, Tokyo.

Table 2.—U.S.S.R.-Japan joint fishing operations not approved, 1978.

| Japanese company or organization |                |                |           |                          | Vessels  |                 |                   |        |      |                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------|-------------------|
| Fishery                          | Trading        | Species        | Quota (t) | Area                     | Japanese |                 |                   | Soviet |      |                   |
|                                  |                |                |           |                          | No.      | Type            | Size <sup>1</sup> | No.    | Type | Size <sup>1</sup> |
| Medium Trawler Owners            | Tairiku Boeki  | Pollock        | 20,000    | Southern Kamchatka       | 12       | Medium trawlers | NA                |        | —    | None —            |
| Taiyo Gyogyo                     | Morikawa Shoji | Blue king crab | 1,000     | Olyutorskii, Naarin Bays |          | NA              | 400               |        | —    | None —            |

<sup>1</sup>Gross registered ton per vessel.

Source: Regional Fisheries Attache, U.S. Embassy, Tokyo.

Moscow's displeasure with the resumption of treaty talks between Japan and the People's Republic of China. This announcement came just as the joint ventures were about to begin operations. It was also announced at that time, that the Soviets would not allow the resumption of kelp (konbu) gathering by small-scale Japanese fishermen off Soviet-held Kaigara Island.

An official Moscow source denied in

23 June that the Soviets had cancelled the joint ventures. At the same time, this official source would not say definitely whether negotiations on the joint ventures and kelp gathering would continue as before. Even so, on 4 July, the Soviet Union notified the Japan Fisheries Association that there would be a further delay in joint venture talks owing to disagreements among Soviet authorities. (Source: IFR-78/125.)

### Kamaboko Reportedly Made From Krill

Japan's National Federation of Kneaded Fisheries Products Cooperatives announced last summer the successful development of "kamaboko", a heat-pasteurized fishcake, using Antarctic krill. The test product reportedly excelled the quality of the Alaska pollock-based kamaboko in nutritional value and taste, and possessed desirable flavor, color, and texture.

Commercial production was expected to encounter such problems as difficulty of using ordinary mechanical peelers, low yield of krill meat (averaging about 8 percent of body weight), and a strong tendency for the krill meat to oxidize, which would necessitate mothership production of krill-based kamaboko.

(Source: FFIR 78-10.)