

# CANNED AND CURED FISH

## Pilchard

**PILCHARD PACK:** Pilchard (California sardine) landings totaled 48,298 tons during December 1946, according to reports of the California Sardine Products Institute and the California Division of Fish and Game. This resulted in a canned pack of 677,240 actual cases from November 29, 1946 to January 2, 1947. The canned production for the 1946-47 season to January 2 continued to lag behind the 1945-46 season with only 2,474,979 cases packed. The canned production from December 2-29, 1945, amounted to 329,663 cases.

California Sardine Landings, Canned Pack and Byproducts

Item	Unit	M O N T H		S E A S O N		
		1 9 4 6	1 9 4 5	1946-47	1945-46	
		December	December	Aug.-Dec.	Aug.-Dec.	
Landings	Tons	48,298	31,731	206,689	351,919	
		Nov. 29, 1946-Jan. 2, 1947		Dec. 2-29	Aug. 1-Jan. 2	Aug. 1-Jan. 5
Canned	1 lb. ovals-48 per case	178,392	77,884	557,024	1,020,066	
	1 lb. talls-48 per case	475,285	241,907	1,820,997	2,079,832	
	1 lb. fillets-48 per case	686	-	8,492	-	
	1 lb. round-96 per case	8,829	9,228	34,253	43,848	
	Unclassified	14,048	644	54,213	91,605	
	TOTAL, Actual Cases	677,240	329,663	2,474,979	3,235,351	
Meal	Tons	December	December	Aug.-Dec.	Aug.-Dec.	
Oil	Gallons	6,850	5,086	28,034	50,798	
		682,378	609,112	4,005,950	10,805,320	



## Shrimp

**SHRIMP PACK:** For the first time since the shrimp canning season started, the pack of 16,063 standard cases, during December 1946, was only slightly higher than that for the corresponding month in 1945, according to reports to the Food and Drug Administration from plants served by its Seafood Inspection Service. Each prior month of the 1946 season has been double or better the production of its counter-part in 1945.

The season's total, amounting to 233,416 standard cases represents a 100 percent increase over 1945. Despite this comparatively high figure, it is only 80 percent of the 3-year average.

Wet and Dry Pack Shrimp in all Sizes in Tin and Glass--Standard Cases\*

M O N T H		S E A S O N		3-yr. average July 1-Dec. 25
1 9 4 6	1 9 4 5	1946-47	1945-46	
Dec. 1-28	Dec. 2-22	July 1-Dec. 28	July 1-Dec. 22	
16,063	14,791	233,416	116,107	292,752

\*All figures on basis of new standard case--48 No. 1 cans with 7 oz. per can in the wet pack and 6½ oz. per can in the dry pack.

## Tuna and Mackerel

**TUNA AND MACKEREL PACK:** The pack of canned tuna by California canners during December amounted to 436,791 standard cases, an increase of 127 percent over the November pack and 59 percent over that of December 1945, according to information released by the California Division of Fish and Game. Yellowfin tuna alone accounted for 69 percent of the December production. The total tuna pack for the 12 months of 1946--4,568,982 cases--was 29 percent above that of the year 1945. Yellowfin tuna, which has been highest in production each month, made up 48 percent of the year's pack.

The December mackerel pack of 286,525 standard cases was 132 percent higher than November and 97 percent more than December 1945. The total 1946 pack--710,228 cases--was 12 percent above 1945.

California Pack of Tuna and Mackerel--Standard Cases\*

Item	December	November	December	Twelve mos. ending with Dec.--	
	1946	1946	1945	1946	1945
	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Cases</u>
<b>Tuna:</b>					
Albacore	20	3,466	28	385,682	473,652
Bonito	17,544	9,713	2,668	110,862	49,379
Bluefin	-	354	1	313,547	265,052
Striped	35,487	18,000	65,153	630,882	537,026
Yellowfin	303,558	143,300	177,906	2,183,323	1,457,630
Yellowtail	1,680	2,521	2,396	44,734	16,203
Flakes	78,502	15,039	26,175	899,952	731,518
Tonno style	-	-	-	-	16,198
<b>Total</b>	<b>436,791</b>	<b>192,393</b>	<b>274,327</b>	<b>4,568,982</b>	<b>3,546,658</b>
<b>Mackerel</b>	<b>286,525</b>	<b>123,375</b>	<b>145,153</b>	<b>710,228</b>	<b>635,889</b>

\*Standard cases of tuna represent cases of 48 7-ounce cans, while those of mackerel represent cases of 48 1-pound cans.



### FISH

Slightly larger supplies of fish are expected to be available for civilian consumption in 1947. However, they are not expected to reach prewar proportions until 1948, when canned fish supplies should return to normal. Expanded fishing fleets and favorable prices during 1946 added to the supply of fresh and frozen fish available for civilian consumption. Large supplies of frozen fish were available throughout the year with a carry-over on January 1 of 153 million pounds, 13 million pounds greater than that of January 1, 1946.

Consumption leveled off in the last 2 months of 1946 as the supplies of other foods increased and the demand for fish declined seasonally. Wholesale and retail prices evidenced some weakness at year's end. Present prospects indicate a continued high level of fishery operations in 1947, even if prices decline somewhat.