

# EEA Aquaculture Production in 1997

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## Introduction

Aquaculture production by EEA countries in 1997 was 1.55 million tonnes (see Table 4), 12% of the total fisheries production and an increase of 42% over the production in 1990. 1.19 million tonnes, 76% of the total, was produced in the 15 EU Member States.

The value of the aquaculture production in 1997 was 3 131 million EUR, a 39% increase in the value of the 1990 production. The 15 EU Member States' production had a value of 2 198 million EUR, 70% of the EEA total.

In 1997 the EEA aquaculture production was 4.3% of the world total by weight. This was a decrease from the 6.5% of the 16.8 million tonnes of the world production in 1990 but can be explained by the great increase in the reported production by China from 8.0 million tonnes in 1990 to 24.0 million tonnes in 1997.

## Production by species groups.

In 1997, 824 thousand tonnes or 53% of the EEA aquaculture production was of fish species, with virtually all of the rest being molluscs (see Table 2). The fish production was an increase of 83% over the 1990 production. In comparison, the increase in mollusc production, at 14%, was relatively minor.

The value of the EEA fish culture production in 1997 at 2 415 million EUR was an increase of 52% over that for 1990. In the same period the value of the mollusc production increased by only 11%. This disparity between the increase in the quantity of fish produced and the lesser increase in the value of the production is demonstrated in a decrease in the unit value of the fish produced of 17% in the period 1990-97 (see Table 1). In comparison, the unit value of mollusc production has remained relatively stable, decreasing by only 3%.

	1990	1997
Fish	3 524	2 930
Molluscs	983	955

*Table 1: Unit values of EEA aquaculture products (EUR/tonne)*

## Major species in EEA aquaculture.

Two species, the Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) and the Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) accounted for 87% by volume and 78% by value of the fish reared in the EEA in 1997 (see Table 2). This was largely due to the 331 thousand tonnes of Atlantic salmon produced in Norway, 40% by volume of the total EEA reared fish production. These same two species also made the largest contribution to the EU reared fish production (77% by volume and 65% by value) though their relative importance was reversed.

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Code	English name	Scientific name	EEA		EU		Unit value
			Tonnes	1000 EUR	Tonnes	1000 EUR	
<b>FISH</b>							
SAL	Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>	451 065	1 190 920	117 185	344 368	2 645
TRR	Rainbow trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	269 018	702 290	235 038	622 290	2 613
SBG	Gilthead seabream	<i>Sparus aurata</i>	27 958	165 964	27 958	165 964	5 943
BSS	European seabass	<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>	22 936	155 156	22 933	155 135	6 772
ELE	European eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	7 839	68 921	7 839	68 921	6 802
FCP	Common carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	19 226	42 070	19 226	42 070	2 191
<b>MOLLUSCS</b>							
OYG	Pacific cupped oyster	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	151 576	219 363	151 576	219 363	1 449
MUS	Blue mussel	<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	338 320	210 636	387 818	210 149	543
TPS	Carpet shells	<i>Tapes</i> spp	40 000	82 960	40 000	82 960	2 076
MSM	Mediterranean mussel	<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	120 549	68 152	120 549	68 152	566
CTG	Grooved carpet shells	<i>Ruditapes decussatus</i>	4 721	41 569	4 721	41 569	8 816
OYF	European flat oyster	<i>Ostra edulis</i>	6 399	23 550	6 399	23 550	3 684

Table 2: Major species cultures in the EEA, 1997.

The European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) had the highest unit value (8 802 EUR/tonne) in 1997 followed by the European seabass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) and the Gilthead seabream (*Sparus aurata*) at 6 772 and 5 943 EUR/tonne respectively.

The major mollusc species reared in the EU (and, since production of molluscs in Iceland and Norway is negligible, in the EEA) were the Pacific cupped oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) and the Blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*).

	Production	Total value	Unit value
<b>FISH</b>			
Atlantic salmon	139	41	-54
Rainbow trout	31	9	-17
Gilthead seabream	588	168	-58
European seabass	188	202	-57
European eel	15	13	-2
Common carp	-24	-47	-28
<b>MOLLUSCS</b>			
Pacific cupped oyster	6	-12	-17
Blue mussel	8	-18	-24
Carpet shells	139	104	-15
Mediterranean mussel	22	-10	-26
Grooved carpet shells	-29	-12	24
European flat oyster	15	10	-5

Table 3: Percentage change in volume and value of production and in unit value of the major species in the period 1990-97

A study of the changes in production over the period 1990-97 (see Table 3) reveals that those fish species for which the largest increases in production were recorded (the Atlantic salmon, the European seabass and Gilthead seabream) have seen a large decrease in the unit value of the product. Conversely, those more traditional farmed species such as the Common carp, the Rainbow trout and the European eel, where the production has not changed to the same extent have demonstrated a smaller, albeit negative, change in the unit value.

Changes in mollusc production in recent years have been generally more the result of biological and environmental factors than they have of developments in the industry and thus changes in the volume, value and unit value have been relatively modest.

**Quantity (tonnes live weight)**

Country	All products		Fish		Molluscs	
	1990	1997	1990	1997	1990	1997
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>939 939</b>	<b>1 187 007</b>	<b>296 746</b>	<b>455 997</b>	<b>635 410</b>	<b>725 286</b>
A	3 126	3 021	3 126	3 018	-	-
B	675	846	675	846	-	-
D	64 435	59 433	44 107	37 028	20 328	22 405
DK	41 946	38 908	41 946	38 908	-	-
E	203 766	239 254	20 615	36 996	180 444	201 961
FIN	18 550	16 426	18 550	16 426	-	-
F	256 643	287 419	47 975	70 627	208 651	216 400
GR	9 559	44 338	5 873	37 715	3 686	6 618
IRL	26 673	36 624	7 352	16 542	19 321	20 082
I	149 344	218 519	47 600	70 500	96 710	143 000
NL	100 997	98 210	1 250	3 732	99 745	94 478
P	4 968	7 455	2 499	3 011	2 469	4 444
S	9 146	6 709	7 975	5 276	1 163	1 425
UK	50 111	129 845	47 203	115 372	2 893	14 473
ISL	2 829	3 663	2 829	3 663	-	-
NOR	150 028	366 281	149 947	365 779	81	502
<b>EEA</b>	<b>1 092 796</b>	<b>1 556 951</b>	<b>449 522</b>	<b>825 439</b>	<b>635 491</b>	<b>725 788</b>

**Value (000 EUR)**

	All products		Fish		Molluscs	
	1990	1997	1990	1997	1990	1997
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>1 628 406</b>	<b>2 196 098</b>	<b>976 126</b>	<b>1 493 263</b>	<b>624 739</b>	<b>692 379</b>
A	10 451	10 160	10 451	10 074	-	-
B	2 311	3 351	2 311	3 351	-	-
D	121 046	89 252	115 093	77 788	5 954	11 464
DK	120 570	118 520	120 570	118 520	-	-
E	276 456	222 888	70 154	108 755	171 899	112 259
FIN	72 975	42 291	72 975	42 291	-	-
F	414 260	557 006	129 663	238 621	284 426	312 966
GR	49 861	215 886	47 120	213 416	2 741	2 419
IRL	39 586	67 016	31 649	52 553	7 937	14 463
I	264 260	360 796	183 040	221 581	88 721	136 366
NL	51 170	72 676	5 756	21 365	45 411	51 312
P	23 202	42 357	9 560	16 748	13 642	25 608
S	25 105	17 286	24 584	16 485	244	626
UK	157 153	376 613	153 200	351 716	3 764	24 897
ISL	11 734	12 702	11 734	12 702	-	-
NOR	607 185	920 449	607 115	919 962	70	487
<b>EEA</b>	<b>2 247 325</b>	<b>3 129 250</b>	<b>1 594 975</b>	<b>2 425 927</b>	<b>624 809</b>	<b>692 866</b>

Table 4: EEA aquaculture production, 1990 and 1997

**➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES**

The volume of the production is recorded in the live weight equivalent of the product. Thus, for example, for molluscs such as mussels and oysters, the weight of the shell is included.

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# Further information:

## ➤ Reference publications

Title CD-ROM Fishery statistics 1950-1996  
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