

News Release



Date: 4 May 2007
No. : 74/2007
Time of release: 11.00 hrs

Theme:
Agriculture and Fisheries

Compiled by:
Agriculture & Fisheries Unit
e-mail: agric.nso@gov.mt
Tel: 25997529

The monthly calendar of NSO News Releases may be consulted on the Office's website at www.nso.gov.mt

Fisheries

Fish Landings - March Quarter 2007

The volume and wholesale value of fish landings rose by 7.0 per cent and 28.2 per cent respectively over the first quarter of 2006

A total of 89,122 kilograms (+7.0 per cent) of fish were landed during March quarter 2007. Favourable weather conditions in the first quarter this year was mainly responsible for the increase. The wholesale value of fish landings rose by Lm48,084 (+28.2 per cent) from Lm170,666 in the first quarter 2006 to Lm218,750 in the first quarter of 2007.

Increases in Sword Fish (+95.1 per cent), Bogue (+60.7 per cent) and Stone Bass (+53.5 per cent) landings were mainly responsible for the increase in fish landings.

Maltese landings

The volume of fish landings by Maltese fishermen increased by 37.0 per cent over the first quarter of 2006. Increases were recorded in Sword Fish (+93.9 per cent), Stone Bass (+47.0 per cent) and Bogue (+33.1 per cent), while a decrease of 80.4 per cent was recorded in Dorado landings. The proportion of landings by Maltese fishermen amounted to 75.9 per cent of the total landings, up by 16.6 percentage points (+28.0 per cent) over the corresponding period last year.

During the first quarter of 2007, an increase of Lm55,247 (+44.7 per cent) in the wholesale value was registered. This increase was the result of higher average wholesale prices per kilogram of Stone Bass and Sword Fish. This was complemented by an increase in the landings of these two species.

Gozitan landings

During the first quarter, Gozitan fishermen landed 19,073 (-37.9 per cent) kilograms of fish. Dorado landings, being the main species caught, declined by 68.8 per cent when compared to the first quarter in 2006. Bogue landings increased by 82.2 per cent while Shrimp landings declined by 74.4 per cent.

The wholesale value of Gozitan landings declined by 15.8 per cent over the comparative period. The decline was the result of lower catches of Shrimp and Dorado despite fetching higher prices for Shrimp (+27.9 per cent) and Dorado (+65.5 per cent) when compared to the same period last year.

Foreign vessel landings

During the first quarter of 2007, foreign flagged vessels landed a total of 2,403 kilograms valued at Lm6,165. This represented a decrease of 25.3 per cent in fish landings and a decrease of 11.8 per cent in the wholesale value of fish landings when compared to the same period of 2006.

Indices

The fish price index for the month of March 2007 stood at 123.28 points, up 1.50 points (+1.2 per cent) from March 2006. In March 2007, the volume index increased by 10.10 points (+64.7 per cent) to 25.72 points over the corresponding period last year ■

National Statistics Office
Library & Information Unit
Lascaris, Valletta CMR 02, Malta
Tel: (+356) 25997219
Fax: (+356) 25997205
e-mail: nso@gov.mt
<http://www.nso.gov.mt>

Table 1. Quantity and wholesale value of fish landings

Administrative area*	Species designation		2007							
			January		February		March		January/March	
	Maltese	English	Quantity Kg	Value Lm	Quantity Kg	Value Lm	Quantity Kg	Value Lm	Quantity Kg	Value Lm
MALTA	Total		29,207	73,439	23,279	53,794	36,636	91,517	89,122	218,750
	Gamblu	Shrimp	555	3,055	1,146	6,903	1,582	11,862	3,283	21,820
	Hanzir/Dott	Stone Bass	1,253	4,756	428	1,317	2,817	11,082	4,498	17,155
	Lampuka	Dorado	3,548	4,527	2,603	3,424	874	518	7,025	8,469
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	3,077	3,056	1,919	2,610	4,423	5,464	9,419	11,130
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	10,820	36,622	4,198	14,152	3,396	13,087	18,414	63,861
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Vopa	Bogue	1,376	1,272	3,094	2,945	2,972	2,338	7,442	6,555
	Hut lehor	Other Species	8,578	20,151	9,891	22,443	20,572	47,166	39,041	89,760
Malta	Total		22,145	61,322	15,528	41,373	29,973	76,178	67,646	178,873
	Gamblu	Shrimp	555	3,055	1,033	6,217	1,235	9,148	2,823	18,420
	Hanzir/Dott	Stone Bass	1,136	4,463	414	1,248	2,421	9,412	3,971	15,123
	Lampuka	Dorado	186	215	132	152	0	0	318	367
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	2,870	2,770	1,586	2,207	3,888	4,695	8,344	9,672
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	9,620	32,851	4,006	13,258	3,081	11,558	16,707	57,667
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Vopa	Bogue	923	947	794	705	987	924	2,704	2,576
	Hut iehor	Other species	6,855	17,021	7,563	17,586	18,361	40,441	32,779	75,048
Gozo and Comino	Total		6,607	11,470	6,653	10,404	5,813	11,838	19,073	33,712
	Gamblu	Shrimp	0	0	113	686	347	2,714	460	3,400
	Hanzir/Dott	Stone Bass	117	293	14	69	312	1,335	443	1,697
	Lampuka	Dorado	3,362	4,312	2,471	3,272	874	518	6,707	8,102
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	207	286	208	270	535	769	950	1,325
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	1,200	3,771	192	894	315	1,529	1,707	6,194
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Vopa	Bogue	453	325	2,300	2,240	1,985	1,414	4,738	3,979
	Hut lehor	Other Species	1,268	2,483	1,355	2,973	1,445	3,559	4,068	9,015
Foreign Vessels	Total		455	647	1,098	2,017	850	3,501	2,403	6,165
	Gamblu	Shrimp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hanzir/Dott	Stone Bass	0	0	0	0	84	335	84	335
	Lampuka	Dorado	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	0	0	125	133	0	0	125	133
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Vopa	Bogue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Hut lehor	Other Species	455	647	973	1,884	766	3,166	2,194	5,697

* see methodological notes

Table 2. Quantity and wholesale value of fish landings

Administrative area*	Species designation		January/March							
			2005		2006		2007		±% 2007/2006	
	Maltese	English	Quantity Kg	Value Lm	Quantity Kg	Value Lm	Quantity Kg	Value Lm	Quantity Kg	Value Lm
MALTA	Total		65,028	145,906	83,325	170,666	89,122	218,750	7.0	28.2
	Gamblu	Shrimp	4,940	35,656	4,508	30,997	3,283	21,820	-27.2	-29.6
	Hanżir/Dott	Stone Bass	4,178	12,677	2,930	9,471	4,498	17,155	53.5	81.1
	Lampuka	Dorado	10,060	10,668	23,134	16,941	7,025	8,469	-69.6	-50.0
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	7,870	8,045	7,791	8,864	9,419	11,130	20.9	25.6
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	8,244	17,357	9,436	30,069	18,414	63,861	95.1	112.4
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	102	226	0	0	-100.0	-100.0
	Vopa	Bogue	3,542	4,188	4,631	4,684	7,442	6,555	60.7	39.9
	Hut lehor	Other Species	26,194	57,315	30,793	69,414	39,041	89,760	26.8	29.3
Malta	Total		48,583	118,085	49,374	123,626	67,646	178,873	37.0	44.7
	Gamblu	Shrimp	3,863	28,886	2,713	20,615	2,823	18,420	4.1	-10.6
	Hanżir/Dott	Stone Bass	3,602	10,932	2,702	8,657	3,971	15,123	47.0	74.7
	Lampuka	Dorado	6,186	7,470	1,621	1,290	318	367	-80.4	-71.6
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	6,731	6,909	6,620	7,315	8,344	9,672	26.0	32.2
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	7,133	14,833	8,615	27,179	16,707	57,667	93.9	112.2
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	102	226	0	0	-100.0	-100.0
	Vopa	Bogue	1,545	2,085	2,031	2,625	2,704	2,576	33.1	-1.9
	Hut iehor	Other species	19,523	46,970	24,970	55,719	32,779	75,048	31.3	34.7
Gozo and Comino	Total		16,445	27,821	30,735	40,047	19,073	33,712	-37.9	-15.8
	Gamblu	Shrimp	1,077	6,770	1,795	10,382	460	3,400	-74.4	-67.3
	Hanżir/Dott	Stone Bass	576	1,745	36	98	443	1,697	1,130.6	1,631.6
	Lampuka	Dorado	3,874	3,198	21,470	15,607	6,707	8,102	-68.8	-48.1
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	1,139	1,136	802	1,127	950	1,325	18.5	17.6
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	1,111	2,524	561	1,884	1,707	6,194	204.3	228.8
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	Vopa	Bogue	1,997	2,103	2,600	2,059	4,738	3,979	82.2	93.2
	Hut lehor	Other Species	6,671	10,345	3,471	8,890	4,068	9,015	17.2	1.4
Foreign Vessels	Total		0	0	3,216	6,993	2,403	6,165	-25.3	-11.8
	Gamblu	Shrimp	0	0	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	Hanżir/Dott	Stone Bass	0	0	192	716	84	335	-56.3	-53.2
	Lampuka	Dorado	0	0	43	44	0	0	-100.0	-100.0
	Mazzola	Dog-Fish	0	0	369	422	125	133	-66.1	-68.5
	Pixxispad	Sword Fish	0	0	260	1,006	0	0	-100.0	-100.0
	Tonna	Blue Fin Tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	Vopa	Bogue	0	0	0	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	Hut lehor	Other Species	0	0	2,352	4,805	2,194	5,697	-6.7	18.6

* see methodological notes

Table 3. Fresh Fish Indices

	All Items Fresh Fish Index (1995 = 100)	
	Price Index	Volume Index
2005		
January	131.33	14.99
February	104.31	8.69
March	114.65	21.98
April	204.96	23.55
May	153.29	170.95
June	149.26	97.58
July	120.45	77.02
August	104.00	145.87
September	106.65	175.30
October	124.31	90.44
November	148.59	58.70
December	119.18	53.61
2006		
January	125.63	30.42
February	187.62	12.47
March	121.78	15.62
April	150.32	21.01
May	181.01	122.06
June	153.27	102.99
July	161.04	60.16
August	119.46	105.68
September	112.72	185.36
October	110.38	182.97
November	119.68	54.22
December	139.82	17.29
2007		
January	150.09	20.51
February	149.55	16.35
March	123.28	25.72

Methodological Notes

1. According to the fisheries regulation, fish caught by local fishermen have to be sold through the wholesale fish market. Statistical data for fish landings is collected through the daily returns of sales submitted by middlemen at the fishmarket.
2. The information is submitted to the NSO on a monthly basis. Fish landings by species, data on volume, average monthly unit prices and total value paid out to fishermen are available to compile the news release.
3. The indices are used to monitor developments in price and volume movements over a particular period. The price and volume indices are fixed weights Laspayres type indices with 1995 as the base year.
4. The data in this release are not normally subject to revision.
5. The news release has been re-designed to include the 7 dominant species landed. No individual species under the heading 'Other species' exceed 10 per cent of the total landings. All species will be made available upon request.
6. The aquaculture statistics are not being published in this release in order to respect confidentiality.
7. These statistics are published and disseminated by the National Statistics Office and can also be found on the NSO website <http://www.nso.gov.mt>.

NUTS classification

The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) is a common classification that is used to provide a single uniform breakdown of territorial units for the production of regional statistics with regard to the European Union. It was adopted on 26 May 2003 by means of a Regulation¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council.

¹ (EC) No. 1059/2003

NUTS levels					
Administrative area	I (National)	II (National)	III (Regional)	IV (District)	V (Locality)
MALTA	x	x	x	x	x
Malta			x		
Gozo & Comino			x		
Southern Harbour				x	
Northern Harbour				x	
South Eastern				x	
Western				x	
Northern				x	
Gozo & Comino				x	

COMPOSITION OF DISTRICTS - NUTS level V

Southern Harbour: Valletta, Birgu, Isla, Bormla, Żabbar, Fgura, Floriana, Kalkara, Luqa, Marsa Paola, Santa Luċija, Tarxien, Xgħajra.

Northern Harbour: Qormi, B'Kara, Gżira, Ħamrun, Msida, Pembroke, Pieta, San Ġiljan, San Ġwann, Santa Venera, Sliema, Swieqi, Ta' Xbiex.

South Eastern: Żejtun, B'Bugia, Gudja, Ghaxaq, Kirkop, M'Scala, M'Xlokk, Mqabba, Qrendi, Safi, Żurrieq.

Western: Mdina, Żebbuġ, Siġġiewi, Attard, Balzan, Dingli, Iklin, Lija, Rabat, Mtarfa.

Northern: Għargħur, Mellieħa, Mġarr, Mosta, Naxxar, San Pawl il-Baħar.

Gozo and Comino: Rabat, Fontana, G'Sielem & Comino, Għarb, Għasri, Kerċem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Sannat, Xagħra, Xewkija, Żebbuġ.