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INFORMATION MEMO

Statistics on E.E.C. fishing industries.

In Agricultural Statistics No. 7/1964, the Statistical Office of the European Communities has for the first time published figures showing trends in the EEC fishing industry. Stress is laid on the economic aspects of the industry, in contrast to the data that have been published by other international organizations, in which more attention is generally given to the exact nature of the catch

Part I of this issue contains data for the 1959/60 to 1962/63 catches, giving a full picture of the supply situation in the form of balance-sheets, with breakdown by major types of fish and fish products. for the EEC as a whole and for the separate Member States.

Tables are also included to show how much fresh fish is used in processing and how much of this counts as foreign trade. Part II gives details of fresh-fish landings, the average landed prices of several kinds of fish, the manning of the fishing fleet and its structure for the period 1953-63.

This is the first time since the war that such a complete and detailed survey of the fishing industry in Community countries has appeared.

Some of the most important trends that can be discerned from the published figures are given here by way of illustration.

Total landings of fish in recent years have dropped slightly. Landings of crustaceans and molluscs, on the other hand, almost doubled between 1953 and 1963, though in some countries the yields for 1963 were affected by severe frost which occurred that year.

The following figures indicate this trend:

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1963</u>
Total landings in '000 m. tons (landed weight) :			
- fish	1 435	1 448	1 327
- shellfish	198	307	337

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Consumption of fish per head of population and self-sufficiency in fish supplies show the following trends:

Consumption of fish per head of population (in kg net weight of catch)

	<u>Germany</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>Netherlands</u>	<u>B.L.E.U.</u>	<u>EEC</u>
1959/60	11.4	12.7	8.7	8.8	11.6	10.8
1960/61	10.8	13.1	8.9	9.0	11.2	10.8
1961/62	11.1	13.4	8.7	8.7	11.3	10.9
1962/63	10.9	13.9	10.0	8.9	10.0	11.3

Degree of self-sufficiency (nominal catch as % of available supply of fish)

	<u>Germany</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>Netherlands</u>	<u>B.L.E.U.</u>	<u>EEC</u>
1959/60	90	100	41	169	56	86
1960/61	85	97	42	188	57	84
1961/62	83	95	42	194	53	83
1962/63	84	90	37	168	58	78

These figures show that while consumption per head hardly varied at all, the degree of self-sufficiency declined slightly over the last four years. This is due to the drop in catch already mentioned and to an increase in population.

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