

# Seafood: supplies, sustainability and consumer behaviour

Dr Jon Harman – Development Director Karen Galloway – Market Planning Manager



### Seafish: the authority on seafood

# supporting the seafood industry for a sustainable profitable future

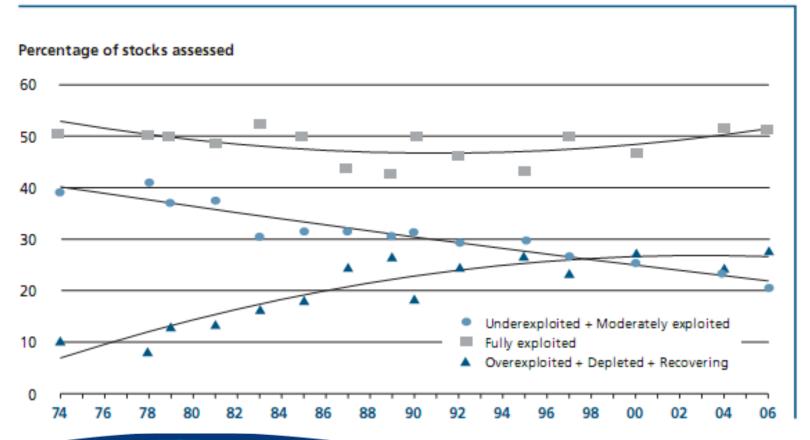
## Seafood is a global commodity

- The UN FAO data to 2006 shows
  - 37% of global seafood production is traded
  - Export value of seafood and seafood products was worth
     US\$86bn (up 55% vs 2000)
  - Shrimp is the most widely traded commodity accounting for 16% of the total value of internationally traded seafood



#### FAO State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2008

Global trends in the state of world marine stocks since 1974





#### Fish production projections to 2030

		Simulation target year						
	2000	2004	2010	2015	2020	2020	2030	
Information	FAO statistics <sup>1</sup>	FAO	SOFIA	FAO study⁴	SOFIA 2002 <sup>3</sup>	IFPRI study <sup>5</sup>	SOFIA 2002 <sup>3</sup>	
source		statistics <sup>2</sup>	2002³					
Marine capture	86.8	85.8	86		87	-	87	
Inland capture	8.8	9.2	6		6	_	6	
Total capture	95.6	95.0	93	105	93	116	93	
Aquaculture	35.5	45.5	53	74	70	54	83	
Total production	131.1	140.5	146	179	163	170	176	
Food fish production	າ 96.9	105.6	120		138	130	150	
Percentage used for	74%	75%	82%		85%	77%	85%	
food fish Non-food use	34.2	34.8	26		26	40	26	

Note: All figures – other than percentages – are in million tonnes.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on the statistics available to the FAO Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Unit in 2000.

## A complex and global issue

- Many of the e-NGO's are see "fisheries" as one of the key issues facing food security in the next 30 years
- Information and science is complex and often not well understood by journalists leading to sensational headlines
- Fisheries are subject to complex and multi-layered regulation (e.g days at sea, quotas) and fishers have been faced with increasing costs (fuel) and decreasing prices



### In the UK food market, seafood

- Is worth £5.65billion
- Is consumed by 90% of consumers
- Many people experience seafood via fish & chips



#### Seafood in perspective in the UK food market



Retail = supermarkets and shops for in home consumption Foodservice = restaurants, hotels and pubs for eating out of home



We must realise that in the UK, many consumers are frightened of preparing and cooking seafood at home

- What it looks like
- Bones
- Smells
- How to cook

Fear of knowing how to get it right

Eating seafood out of home





### In the UK food market, seafood

- Is worth £5.65billion
- Is consumed by 90% of consumers
- Many people experience seafood via fish & chips
- Not all consumers are the same and on average, UK consumers eat 1.6 portions of seafood a week



#### Not all consumers are the same

#### < 35 years old

Consume fish less regularly.

Require little preparation

Chilled fish ready meals

Frozen battered & breaded

#### Pre school & young families

Buy seafood for health reasons

Dependent on cooking skill

Frozen battered & breaded

Fish fingers

Chilled natural seafood

#### >35 year old+

More regular consumers;

Likely to be more confident cook;

Range of chilled and frozen products,

Natural and added value;

More likely to purchase from a counter or a monger.

## **Increasing frequency**



#### The UK seafood market

- Is worth £5.65billion
- Is consumed by 90% of consumers
- Many people experience seafood via fish & chips
- On average, UK consumers eat 1.6 portions of seafood a week
- We tend to stick to what we know..... but it tends to be imported



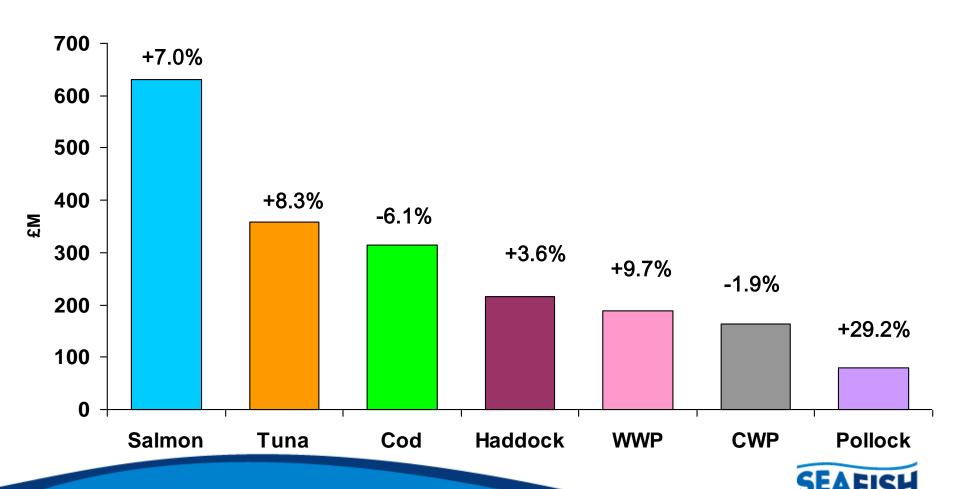
#### The UK seafood market

- Import what we eat
  - Cod (Iceland/Norway/Russia)
  - Haddock (Iceland/Norway/)
  - Tuna (Far East)
  - Salmon (Norway/Chile)
  - King Prawns (Far East)
  - Cold Water Prawns (Canada, Greenland, Faroes)

- Export what we catch/grow
  - Mackerel (Russia)
  - Herring (Russia)
  - Langoustine (Spain)
  - Scallops (France)
  - Crab (France)
  - Salmon (France)



#### Our favoured species in UK retail



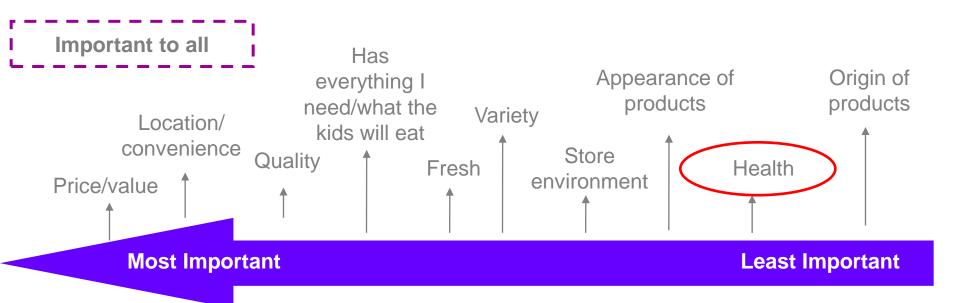
Source: Seafish/Nielsen, January 2010

#### The UK seafood market

- Is worth £5.65billion
- Is consumed by 90% of consumers
- Many people experience seafood via fish & chips
- On average, UK consumers eat 1.6 portions of seafood a week
- We tend to stick to what we know..... but it tends to be imported
- Health is only one of many influences on consumers



## Health is not an important consideration when in "purchasing mode" although it is instilled in other factors



Considerations around health and nutrition differ by audience, and therefore effects their attitudes to shopping

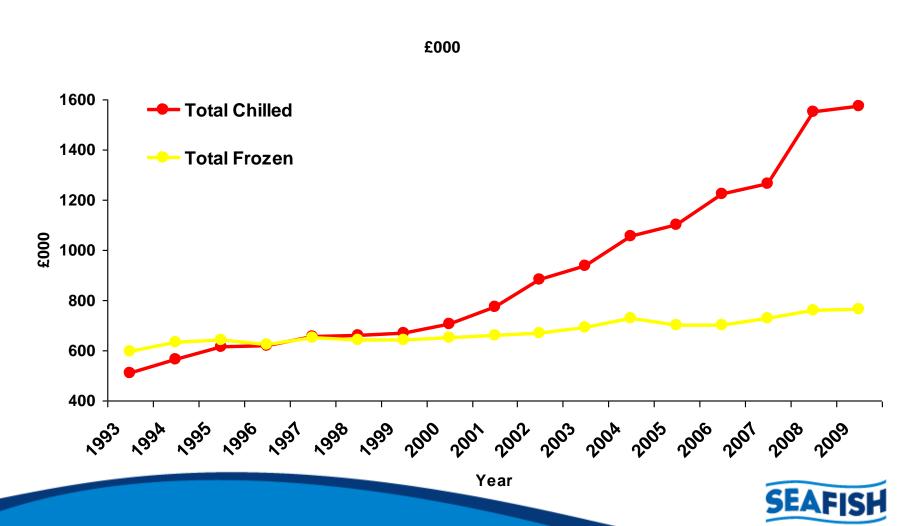




# Chilled and frozen seafood are very different product categories

Seafish Chilled Frozen research, December 2009 8 focus groups across UK, range of demographics 2000 nationally representative online questionnaires

# Chilled pre-packed seafood has added value to the market



#### Seafood is....

- Chilled
  - Fresh
  - Natural
  - "Wet"
  - In packs
  - "Fishy"

- Frozen
  - Processed
  - "Coated"
    - Battered
    - Breaded
    - Fingers
  - Just another frozen food



## Seafood appears to have been fairly resilient to the economic climate

- The health benefits of seafood mean consumers are less willing to compromise
- Seafood is perceived to be less expensive than before

Pangasius.....
Seabass

- Increased range of prices and species
- More promotions
- Seafood is not wasteful

Salmon and prawns are always on offer

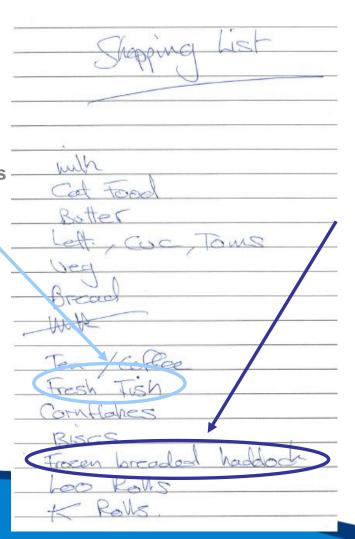
"You can buy exactly what you need and you don't throw it away"



# Chilled and frozen are separate categories in consumers minds and they use them differently

#### Chilled

- Main and top up shop
- Occasion in mind ~ know going to consume in 1-2 days
- No specific species on list (unless for a recipe)
- Buy what fancy (within their repertoire)
  - > What looks nice

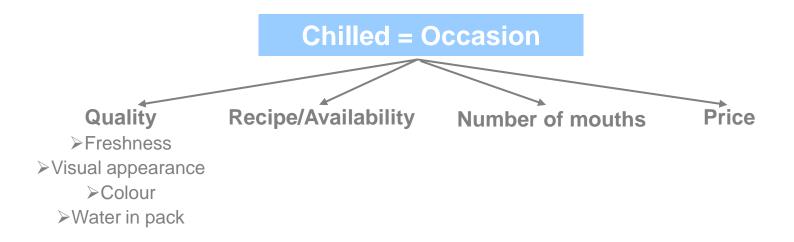


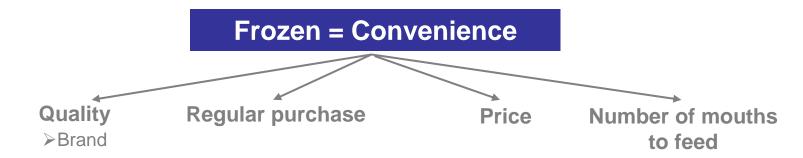
#### Frozen

- Main shop
- Specific species/product on list
- Stock item ~ not bought with an occasion in mind



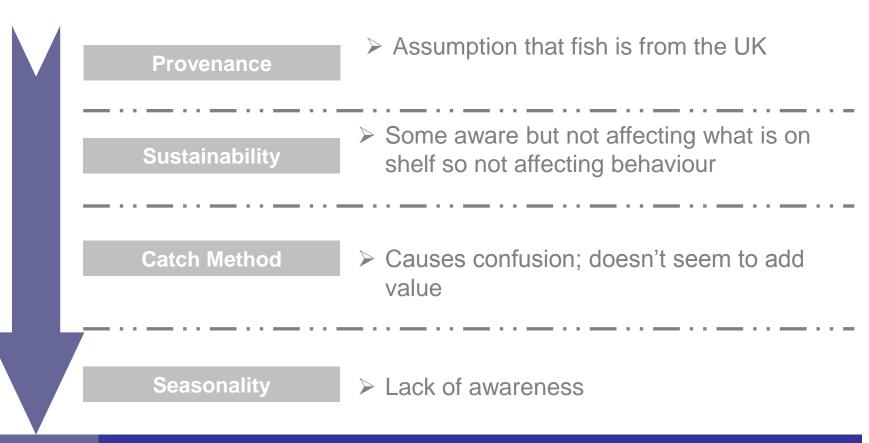
#### We look for different things in each category







#### Lack of emotional engagement with seafood



**Greater Complexity** 

Fish does not generate any emotional attachment unlike other proteins due to lack of visibility, therefore these issues are perplexing to many consumers

supporting the

Legality

Seasonality

Responsibility

Climate change

**Packaging** 

GM

Recycling

**Food miles** 

Local sourcing

**Trust** 

**Animal welfare** 

**Ethics** 

**Carbon footprints** 

**Pesticides** 

**Intensive farming** 

**Organic** 

Food

safety

**Fairtrade** 

Waste

**Traceability** 

**Food scares** 

Sustainability SEAFISH The supermarkets must check these things



Surely it
wouldn't be on
the shelf if it
wasn't ok to
buy



#### In conclusion

- Seafood is a complex and confusing category for consumers
- Health alone is not enough to encourage increased consumption
- Issues such as sustainability and seafood sourcing are complex for consumers to comprehend and translate into purchasing decisions
- Consumers trust their retailers to address their sourcing concerns

