



GREAT ATLANTIC SCALLOP (*PECTEN MAXIMUS*)



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BIOLOGY AND HABITAT

- **Species description** ([Read more](#))

The Great Atlantic scallop is one of the main species of the family *Pectinidae*.

- **Geographical distribution and habitat** ([Read more](#))

The Great Atlantic scallop lives in the North-East Atlantic.

RESOURCE, EXPLOITATION AND MANAGEMENT

- **Stock and resource status/conservation measures** ([Read more](#))

Minimum conservation reference size is established at 110 mm of total length in the Irish Sea and in the Eastern English Channel and 100 mm in other fishing areas.

- **Production methods and fishing gears** ([Read more](#))

The main fishing gear used is the dredge.

Great Atlantic scallop



CATCHES

Evolution of world catches

- The global catches of scallops reached over 680.000 tonnes in 2023, **0,7%** of the total global catches. Japan was by far the main provider of scallops, representing 48% of the global catches in 2023. Great Atlantic scallop catches reached around 78.650 tonnes in 2023 (almost 12% of the total production). The global production of Great Atlantic scallops from fisheries has increased by 41% between 2014 and 2023.

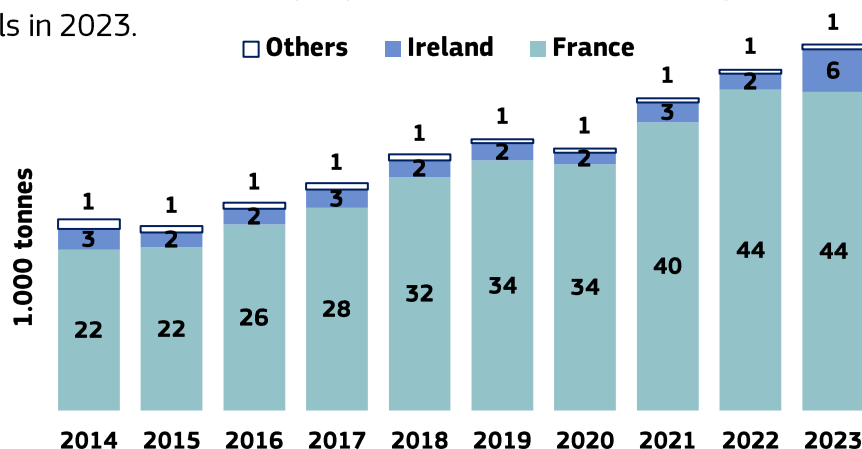
World catches all scallops, 1.000 tonnes

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Japan	359	234	214	236	305	339	346	356	340	331
USA	130	136	154	197	221	231	185	165	121	105
Canada	70	61	54	56	55	66	0	58	58	67
EU-27	28	29	32	37	43	41	39	46	53	54
Argentina	34	32	36	39	27	22	33	46	48	39
United Kingdom	36	38	36	30	27	28	23	30	30	31
Peru	56	17	13	6	19	54	48	54	27	16
Others	27	31	33	33	29	40	32	46	34	41
Total	739	578	570	634	727	821	707	800	710	683

Source: FAO

Evolution of EU catches

- The EU catches of all species of scallop reached over 54.000 tonnes in 2023. Great Atlantic scallop is the main species caught by the EU fleet, accounting for 93% of the EU scallop production. The EU is the main producer of great Atlantic scallop (64% of the world production).
- France is by far the main producer (87% of the EU production in 2023). Over the last decade, the Great Atlantic scallop's production has increased by 92% and reached its highest levels in 2023.



Source: FAO



AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

Evolution of world production

- The world aquaculture production of scallops and other pectenidae reached over 2 million tonnes in 2023. China was by far the major producer with 90% of the world production. The production of the Great Atlantic scallop is however negligible.

World aquaculture (1.000 tonnes)

Countries	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
China	1.576	1.710	1.850	2.008	1.918	1.828	1.746	1.830	1.792	1.854
Japan	185	248	215	135	174	144	149	165	172	151
Russia	2	2	4	5	4	12	16	18	20	26
Others	61	28	28	21	45	70	58	64	38	33
Total	1.824	1.988	2.096	2.169	2.141	2.054	1.970	2.077	2.022	2.065

Source: FAO

Great Atlantic scallop



PROCESSING

- There are 2 [PRODCOM](#) codes which partly refer to scallop:
 - 10 20 32 50: “molluscs (scallop, mussels, cuttlefish, squid and octopus), frozen, dried, salted or in brine”.
 - 10 20 34 00: “crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates and seaweed, otherwise prepared or preserved”.

In both codes, **the share of Great Atlantic scallop is very limited.**

- In **France**, the fishing activity is seasonal, with the harvest period, typically running from October to mid-May and being collectively by the fishermen. Yet, consumer demand peaks during Christmas. For this reason, there is a significant activity of freezing, outside of the consumption period. In recent years, consumption of scallop meat has grown steadily. To meet this demand, most of first buyers start to develop their own processing capabilities for shucking scallops.
- In **the United Kingdom**, there are two types of processors for shucking scallops: i) large processors who own or have shares in fishing vessels and are primarily focused on export market; and ii) small processors who supply the domestic market.

(Source: [Price structure analysis of scallops in the EU](#))

Great Atlantic scallop



TRADE

- Combined nomenclature ([Read more](#))
- **EU imports-exports (2024, EU-27)**

EU trade of scallop products (tonnes - 2024)

Data concern Great Atlantic scallop and other scallop species. However, trade of fresh scallops concern mainly the Great Atlantic scallop. The other scallop species are likely to be imported frozen. Additionally, even though trade codes do not distinguish between meat and scallops in shell, a recent EUMOFA study suggests that EU imports from third countries are likely to involve scallop meat.

CN code	Product	EU imports	EU exports
03 07 21 10	Live, fresh or chilled, scallops, incl. queen scallops, of the genera Pecten, Chlamys or Placopecten, even in shell	3.885	441
03 07 21 90	Live, fresh or chilled, scallops and other molluscs of the family Pectinidae, even in shell (excl. genera Pecten, Chlamys and Placopecten)	5	56
03 07 22 10	Coquilles St Jacques "Pecten maximus", frozen, even in shell	2.036	258
03 07 22 90	Scallops, incl. queen scallops, of the genera Pecten, Chlamys or Placopecten, frozen, even in shell (excl. Coquilles St Jacques "Pecten maximus")	5.646	659
03 07 22 95	Scallops and other molluscs of the family Pectinidae, frozen, even in shell (excl. genera Pecten, Chlamys and Placopecten)	9.465	94
03 07 29 10	Scallops, incl. queen scallops, of the genera Pecten, Chlamys or Placopecten, smoked, dried, salted or in brine, even in shell	3	25
03 07 29 90	Scallops and other molluscs of the family Pectinidae, smoked, dried, salted or in brine, even in shell (excl. genera Pecten, Chlamys and Placopecten)	86	29
16 05 52 00	Scallops, incl. queen scallops, prepared or preserved (excl. smoked)	12	304
Total		21.138	1.866

Source: EUROSTAT-COMEXT

Great Atlantic scallop



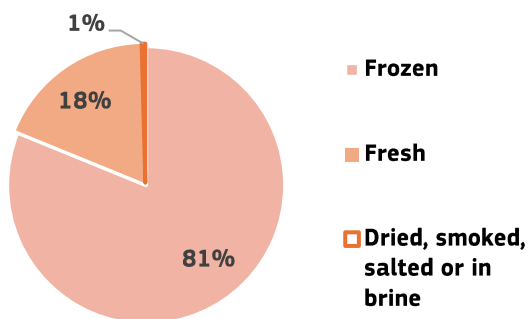
TRADE

Extra EU trade of Great Atlantic scallop is marginal as Extra-EU trade concerns other scallops' species.

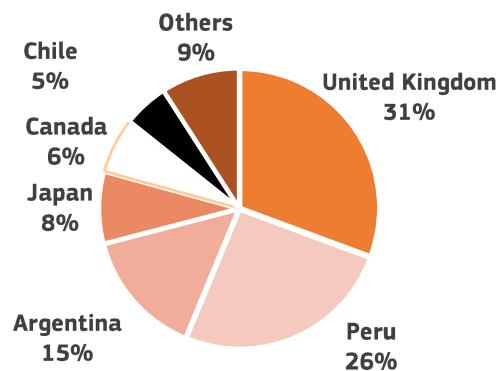
Extra-EU imports accounted for 21.138 tonnes in 2024, including around 6.000 tonnes of great Atlantic scallop (28% of extra-EU imports in volume). Great Atlantic scallop is imported to the EU fresh or frozen (respectively 66% and 34% of the EU imports of great Atlantic scallop), while other scallop species are imported frozen or smoked. Most fresh scallops imported to the EU come from the UK. Suppliers of frozen scallops to the EU market differ depending on the species. The UK is the main supplier of frozen great Atlantic scallop, while frozen imports of other scallop species come mainly from Argentina, Peru, Japan and Canada. France was the main importer of scallop in the EU, with 52% of EU imports volume in 2024. It was followed by Spain (23%), Belgium (8%) and Netherlands (10%).

Extra-EU exports almost reached 2.000 tonnes in 2024. The main exporter was France (57% of the volume).

Imports by product type (2024, % in volume)



Main EU suppliers (2024, % in volume)



Source: EUROSTAT-COMEXT

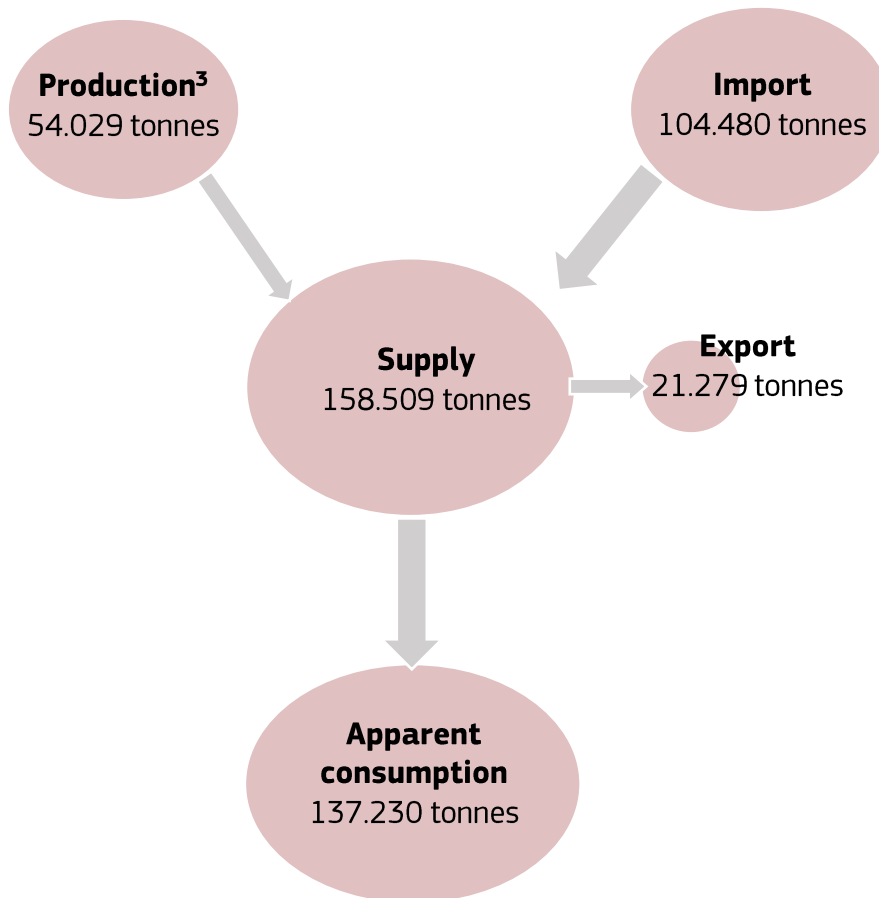
Great Atlantic scallop



Supply balance

EU supply balance (2023¹) – Tonnes of live weight equivalent² - Scallops³

Data concern Great Atlantic scallop and other scallop species



Source: FAO/ EUROSTAT-COMEXT

¹ Supply balance is provided for the year 2023 (trade data for 2023 were taken into account). Detailed trade data provided in the slides 5 and 6 concern the year 2024.

² The [conversion factors](#) were used to convert net weight of imports and exports of fishery and aquaculture products into live weight equivalents.

³ Production data concerns scallop species and not specifically Great Atlantic scallop.

Great Atlantic scallop



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

Data concern Great Atlantic scallop and other species of scallop

First-sale (alive)

First-sale prices are provided for France and Ireland, the major EU producers.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
France (alive)	3,68	3,42	3,34	3,40	3,70	4,87	3,91	3,65	3,33	3,56	EUMOFA
Ireland (alive)	14,00	15,88	14,42	11,65	11,73	5,10	3,64	4,25	2,25	4,27	EUMOFA
Ireland (fresh)	2,60	2,86	3,74	2,32	2,13	2,12	n.a.	2,41	2,20	2,05	EUMOFA

(*) From January to September 2025

Wholesale (fresh)

Wholesale prices are reported for Rungis, one of the major wholesale markets in the EU.

Mean price	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
France (Rungis), fresh whole "coraillée"	3,79	4,25	4,15	3,93	3,85	4,5	5,01	4,63	4,08	3,53	RNM- Rungis

(*) From January to October 2025

Retail (fresh)

Retail prices are reported for France, the main EU scallop's producer and consumer.

Mean price	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*	Source
France - whole	12,6	10,7	10,2	10,2	11,3	11,0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	RNM- Rungis
France, « coquille Saint-Jacques sans coquille»	30,7	30,9	30,7	29,6	28,5	30,2	35,3	34,0	31,7	FranceAgri Mer

(*) last year available

Great Atlantic scallop



PRICES ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN (EUR/kg)

Data concern Great Atlantic scallop and other scallop species

Extra-EU import (frozen)

Scallops are mainly imported frozen to the EU. France is the main importer from third countries.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
France	n.a.	15,58	13,18	12,3	12,50	12,43	17,17	14,66	13,86	11,89	EUMOFA
Denmark	23,4	7,57	7,51	6,48	12,89	12,57	15,46	16,88	13,94	12,13	EUMOFA
Spain	25,4	14,28	11,43	10,8	11,04	10,91	15,53	14,80	13,04	13,66	EUMOFA

(*) From January to September 2025

Extra-EU export (frozen)

Export prices refer to Denmark and France, major EU exporters to extra-EU countries.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	Source
France	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	18,38	19,25	23,47	32,05	31,47	32,88	EUMOFA
Denmark	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	12,18	12,61	16,86	23,77	22,10	23,12	EUMOFA

(*) From January to September 2025

Great Atlantic scallop



MARKETING

- National lists of commercial designations ([Read more](#))
- Information system on commercial designations and scientific names in all EU languages ([Read more](#))
- Applicable marketing standards ([Read more](#))
- There is one name protected under **Protected Geographical Indication** (PGI) for fresh scallop: PGI “**Coquille Saint-Jacques des Côtes d'Armor**” in France.

CONSUMPTION

- Scallops species are not among the 15th most consumed species in EU (source: [The EU Fish Market – 2025 edition](#), EUMOFA)
- Apparent consumption per capita of scallops (all species included) in 2023: **0,31 kg** live weight equivalent (source: [Supply balance – 2023](#), EUMOFA).
- Nutrition values (Great Atlantic scallop, nutrition values per serving 100 g) ([Read more](#))

Nutrition values	King scallop
Energy (kcal)	69
Total fat (g)	0,49
Saturates (g)	0,128
Carbohydrate (g)	3,18
Sugars (g)	0
Protein (g)	12,06
Salt (mg)	980