



Unified Enterprise Survey

2008 Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry — Supplement

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Reporting guide

This guide is designed to assist you as you complete the 2008 Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry Supplement. If you need more information, please call the Statistics Canada Help Line at the number below.

Help Line: 1-888-881-3666

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General information

What is the Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry and why is it important?

The Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry is conducted by Statistics Canada to obtain important information on the aquaculture sector of the Canadian economy. For this survey, aquaculture establishments in Canada are required to provide information on different aspects of their operations such as sales, costs/expenses, salaries and wages. Results from the Annual Survey of Aquaculture help Statistics Canada in compiling key data on the Canadian economy, such as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The total value of sales is used along with inventories to calculate production statistics. Total sales of individual products, and external trade data, are used to estimate the size of the Canadian market for particular goods.

The data are also published and are used by the business community, trade associations, municipal, provincial/territorial, and federal governments, international organizations and private citizens.

Businesses and governments depend on official statistics to make vital economic decisions. For example:

- the Bank of Canada relies on the GDP to make decisions that influence interest and exchange rates, which, in turn, affect the cost of doing business.
- businesses and associations use the survey results to:
 - track their performance against industry averages;
 - evaluate expansion plans;
 - prepare business plans for investors;
 - adjust inflation-indexed contracts;
 - plan marketing strategies.

Why were you chosen to receive the Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry?

For most surveys, businesses are selected through random sampling to represent other businesses of the same type in their regions, with similar revenue or number of employees. Some businesses must be included every year as they contribute substantially to their particular industry or region. Smaller businesses must also be sampled if an industry only includes a limited number of businesses in a province or territory, to provide an accurate picture of the industry.

Whenever possible, Statistics Canada uses administrative data already filed with government, such as income tax returns or customs records. However, these sources do not contain all the information required to produce a complete industry profile. This is especially true for large businesses

operating in a number of different industries, and in more than one province/territory. Tax records usually provide data for the legal entity but not for the different business units (establishments) that operate in different industries and/or provinces/territories. We need data from these specific business units to produce statistics by industry and by province/territory.

Note: Although Statistics Canada can obtain records from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to create statistics, CRA cannot access any individual survey records from Statistics Canada.

To protect the confidentiality of data provided by respondents, only data in aggregate form are available for use.

Your assistance in completing the enclosed survey is vital to the production of timely and accurate aquaculture statistics. If you experience difficulties in completing this survey, please do not hesitate to call us at **1-888-881-3666**.

Is it a legal requirement to complete this survey?

Yes. The Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry is collected under the authority of the *Statistics Act*, Revised Statutes of Canada, 1985, Chapter S-19, which stipulates that completion of questionnaires issued under the Act is mandatory. You can consult a copy of the *Statistics Act* on our website (www.statcan.gc.ca).

Is the information provided kept confidential?

Yes, your answers are confidential. Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any information from this survey which would identify a person, business, or organization, without their prior consent. The confidentiality provisions of the *Statistics Act* are not affected by either the *Access to Information Act* or any other legislation. Therefore, for example, the Canada Revenue Agency cannot access identifiable survey data from Statistics Canada.

These survey data will only be used for statistical purposes and will be published in an aggregate form only.

Data-sharing agreements

To reduce respondent burden, Statistics Canada has entered into data sharing agreements with provincial and territorial statistical agencies and other government organizations, who must keep the data confidential and use them only for statistical purposes. Statistics Canada will only share data from this survey with those organizations that have demonstrated a requirement to use the data.

Section 11 of the *Statistics Act* provides for the sharing of information with provincial and territorial statistical agencies that meet certain conditions. These agencies must have the legislative authority

to collect the same information, on a mandatory basis, and the legislation must provide substantially the same provisions for confidentiality and penalties for disclosure of confidential information as the *Statistics Act*. Because these agencies have the legal authority to compel businesses to provide the same information, consent is not requested and businesses may not object to the sharing of the data.

For this survey, there are **Section 11** agreements with the provincial and territorial statistical agencies of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon.

The shared data will be limited to business establishments located within the jurisdiction of the respective province or territory.

Section 12 of the *Statistics Act* provides for the sharing of information with federal, provincial or territorial government organizations. Under **Section 12**, you may refuse to share your information with any of these organizations by writing a letter of objection to the Chief Statistician and returning it with the completed questionnaire. Please specify the organizations with which you do not want to share your data.

For this survey, there are **Section 12** agreements with the statistical agencies of Prince Edward Island and Nunavut and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

For agreements with provincial and territorial government organizations, the shared data will be limited to business establishments located within the jurisdiction of the respective province or territory.

Data linkage

To enhance the data from this survey, Statistics Canada may combine it with information from other surveys or from administrative sources.

Additional information

In cases where information is reported on an amalgamated basis and relates to operations in more than one province or territory, Statistics Canada may allocate a portion of the reported information to these provincial or territorial operations. The allocated information will be shared in accordance with the Section 11 or 12 agreements of the *Statistics Act*, as described above.

In cases where there is a separate head office, Statistics Canada may adjust the reported revenues of that head office so that those revenues more fully reflect the value of the services the head office provides. In such cases, there will be a corresponding adjustment to the reported expenses of the units served. The adjusted information will be shared in accordance with the Section 11 or 12 agreements of the *Statistics Act*, as described above.

Please note that Statistics Canada does not share any individual survey information with the Canada Revenue Agency.

For more information about these data-sharing agreements, please contact Statistics Canada at **1-888-881-3666** or visit our website at **www.statcan.gc.ca**.

Guidelines

General remarks

This guide is designed to help you complete the Annual Survey of Aquaculture Industry Supplement and provides further clarification of each question **by section** and **by line** to enable complete and accurate responses.

While filling out the questionnaire:

- print in ink;
- report all dollar amounts in Canadian dollars (CAN\$);
- dollar amounts and percentages should be rounded to whole numbers;

A - Employment

1. **Please report average number of people employed during the reporting period.**

e) Unpaid family workers:

Unpaid family workers include persons who directly contributed, without formal pay arrangements, toward the operation of a business owned or operated by a relative who was a member of the same household.

B - Management and production environment

1. **Do you have an aquaculture Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan?**

Include BMPs that relate to environmental performance/sustainability.

Some examples of Aquaculture Best Management Practices:

- feed management;
- managing cage culture systems, flow-through systems;
- managing ponds to reduce effluent, improve quality of overflow effluent, quality of draining effluent;
- general operations and worker safety;
- therapeutic agents;
- water quality;
- fish mortality management.

2. **What kind of food product certification or process do you have in place to guarantee food safety?**

Please explain the process in detail and include any membership, association or third party names.

C - Finfish production (excluding hatchery production)

2. **What was the total quantity and value of product sold for each species?**

Quantity should be reported for fish harvested from all of the sites **before any processing**. The value should be based on the farm-gate (harvest) price **before any processing**. If you do any processing on-site to your live product before selling it, please specify in the comment section at the end. For example, all fish are sold as gutted, head-on.

Sales in foreign currency should be converted into Canadian dollars at the exchange rate on the day of transaction. Dollar amounts and percentages should be rounded to whole numbers.

3. **What was the method of production?**

Cage:

Refers to gravity or floating cages (or net pens) placed in oceans or lakes for grow-out operations. Typical cages have a surface collar structure from which a net is supported and hung into the water column.

- Cages use tidal power to keep water circulating to provide oxygen to the fish.
- Cages are moored as a group, or flotilla, typically within submerged grid mooring systems. These grids frequently provide upwards of eight mooring lines connected to each cage to maintain its position within the grid.

Flow-through tank:

Refers to the systems that consist of concrete or earthen ponds raceways that have a continuous flow of freshwater moving through the facility. Water may be diverted from adjacent springs, streams, wells or reservoirs, and is often filtered to remove waste products before being released back into the natural stream.

Recirculation:

Refers to the raceway systems in which the water source is re-circulated back into the system for re-use.

- Recirculation systems filter and clean the water for recycling back through fish culture tanks.

4. a) What was the total quantity of feed used?

This is based on all feed used during the various stages of growth on site.

b) What was the total quantity of medicated feed used?

Include the quantity of the feed mixed with antibiotics and/or the quantity of the medicated milled feed that was used to treat disease of fish during the grow-out stage.

The following antibiotics are approved by Health Canada for sale when labelled for use in food fish:

- Terramycin-aqua (oxytetracycline);
- Aquaflor (florfenicol);
- Tribriksen 40% (sulfadiazine/trimethoprim);
- Romet 30 (sulfadimethoxine and ormetoprim).

c) What was the quantity of therapeutants used?

Include therapeutants, other than those used with feed, to treat disease of fish during the grow-out stage.

Other health Canada approved drugs include the following:

- Aqua Life TMS (tricaine methanesulfonate);
- Formalin-R (formaldehyde);
- Parasite-S (formaldehyde);
- Perox-Aid (hydrogen peroxide).

SLICE® (Emamectin benzoate) is only authorised by Health Canada on a case by case basis under the Emergency Drug Release (EDR) program.

d) What was the average percent composition of the feed used at harvest size for:

Report the average percent composition of the feed **primarily** used during the final stage of the grow-out period prior to harvesting.

e) What was your average Food Conversion Ratio (FCR)?

Report the average quantity of feed required to generate the final weight gain during the grow-out period.

5. How many fish escaped and what was the cause of the escape?

Equipment failure:

Include events such as net failure, failure of containment structures or anchoring systems, damage due to predators such as seal lions, malicious damage, etc.

Handling:

Include events such as fish transfer, net changes, towing, sorting, grading, harvesting, etc.

Natural Event:

Include events such as storms, wind, ice, floods, etc.

6. How many fish died or had to be destroyed?

Please report number of fish lost from all sites during the reporting period. Give as much detail as possible as to why there was a loss during the reporting period, e.g., environmental effect, virus, disease, predation, etc.

D - Shellfish production (excluding hatchery production)

2. What was the total quantity and value of product sold for each shellfish species?

Quantity should be based on shellfish that have been grown to commercial size. For oysters, if reporting in "units," please also try to estimate the equivalent harvest weight in kilograms or pounds.

Value should be based on farm-gate (harvest) price.

Sales in foreign currency should be converted into Canadian dollars at the exchange rate on the day of transaction. Dollar amounts and percentages should be rounded to whole numbers.

3. What was the method of production?

Note that each region may use different nomenclature based on how the industry is regulated in those provinces. For example, in New Brunswick, there are three types of licences for floating, semi-submerged and bottom. In Prince Edward Island, mussel leases are designated as "surface" leases and all mussels are grown in "suspended" culture. Keeping this in mind, please try to report using the following categories.

Bottom culture:

Report production from farming on bay bottoms (in trays) or on the beach.

Suspended/off-bottom culture:

Report production from farming that uses any of the following farming technologies: long-lines, rafts, trays, surface bags, French tables, bags on the bottom, floating bag, cage and tray.

Other culture (please specify):

Includes direct sea (semi-submerged), accelerated growth devices "flopsies", etc.

4. How much of your total stock was lost?

Please report percentage of losses from all sites during the reporting period. Give as much detail as possible as to why there was a loss, for example, environmental effect, virus, disease, etc.

**Thank you for your co-operation.
All data provided are kept confidential.**

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