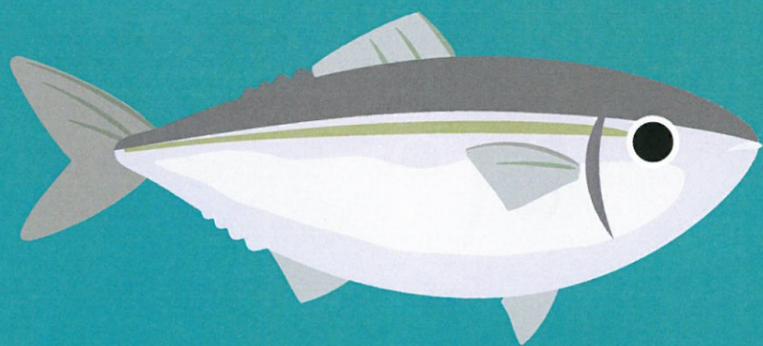




A Pocket Guide to the EU's new fish & aquaculture consumer labels

Did you know that from 13 December 2014, the rules for labels accompanying all fishery and aquaculture products for EU consumers will change? This pocket guide will explain what will have to appear on the new labels and what additional information can be displayed. This is not a legal or formal document but rather a handy guide to help apply the new rules.

Unprocessed and certain processed (salted, smoked, etc.) fishery and aquaculture products



1. Mandatory information

The following requirements apply to both "pre-packed" and "non-prepacked" unprocessed and certain processed (salted, smoked, cooked shrimps in shell, etc.) fishery and aquaculture products.

Commercial designation and scientific names:

→ Both the commercial and scientific names must be displayed. These names must match those from the official list drawn up and published by each EU country.

Production method:

→ The production method should be displayed using the following formulations: "caught...", or "caught in freshwater ...", or "farmed...".

→ For mixed products of the same species and different production methods, the method of production for each batch must be indicated.

Catch area / Country and body of water / Country of production:

→ For **fish caught at sea**, the catch area is the FAO area where the fish was caught.

For fish caught in the North-East Atlantic and Mediterranean and Black Sea, the name of the **sub-areas or divisions** must be displayed, along with a map or pictogram. This is instead of the name of the area.

For the rest of the world, only the name in writing of the area must be indicated. This list is already published by FAO <http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp/handbook/h/en>.

→ For **fish caught in freshwater**, both the name of the body of water (river, lake, etc.) **and** the country where the product was caught, must be indicated;

→ For **farmed fish** (aquaculture), the country of production must be indicated;

→ For **mixed** products caught in different catch areas or fish farming countries, at least the area/country of the batch of more quantity together with the indication that products come from different areas/countries must be indicated.

Fishing gear:

→ One of the following **fishing gears** used to catch the fish must be displayed: "seines", "trawls", "gillnets and similar nets", "surrounding nets and lift nets", "hooks and lines", "dredges", and "pots and traps".

Defrosted:

→ The label should indicate whether the product has been defrosted or previously frozen, this mention must accompany the commercial name;

→ This information is not necessary if fishery and aquaculture products:

- are ingredients present in the final product, or
- have been previously frozen for health safety purposes, or
- have been defrosted before smoking, salting, cooking, pickling, drying or a combination of these processes, or
- are foods for which freezing is a technologically necessary step.

2. Voluntary information

In addition to the mandatory information required, the following information may be provided if it does not mislead the consumer, is clear, unambiguous and verifiable.

Voluntary information must not be displayed to the detriment of the space available for mandatory information.

Date of catch / harvest:

→ As per the appropriate documentation

Date of landing:

→ As per the appropriate documentation

Port of landing of fishery products:

→ Name of the port where the fish was landed first.

More detailed fishing gear:

→ As per the appropriate documentation;

→ In addition to the 7 mandatory fishing gears listed in section 1, more detailed information such as the gears listed in columns 2 and/or 3 of Annex III of CMO Regulation can be added. You can find more information on the CMO Regulation at the end of this guide;

→ If the fish was caught by other **fishing techniques** not listed (e.g. by hand or diving) this can be indicated voluntarily.

Vessel's flag state:

→ As per the appropriate documentation

Environmental, ethical or social information:

→ As per the appropriate documentation

Production techniques and practices:

→ As per the appropriate documentation

Nutritional content / declaration:

→ The food business operators are encouraged to provide the nutrition declaration voluntarily in the following cases:

• Until this becomes mandatory on 13 December 2016;

• For products covered by one of the exemptions of Annex V of Regulation 1169/2011 from providing the mandatory nutrition declaration. You can find the Regulation on the European Commission website listed below.

→ This voluntary information follows the same rules of expression and presentation as the mandatory nutrition declaration.

Other:

→ As per the appropriate documentation;

→ Any other information that the food business operator considers useful for the consumer.



Unprocessed and certain processed products (salted, smoked, etc.)

→ Fishing Gear

→ Net weight

→ Food operator

→ Commercial designation and scientific name

→ Production method

→ Catch area

MACKEREL (Scomber scombrus)

Gear: Trawler

Net quantity: 250g

Business name and address: xxx

MS
XX-YYY-ZZ
EC

Caught in Celtic Sea

Landed in Killibegs on 16/11/14

Use by 18/11/14

YYY Certified sustainable



→ Port of landing

→ Date of landing

→ "Best before" / "use by date"

Identification mark

→ Certification label

→ Quick Response Code



MANDATORY



CMO REGULATION

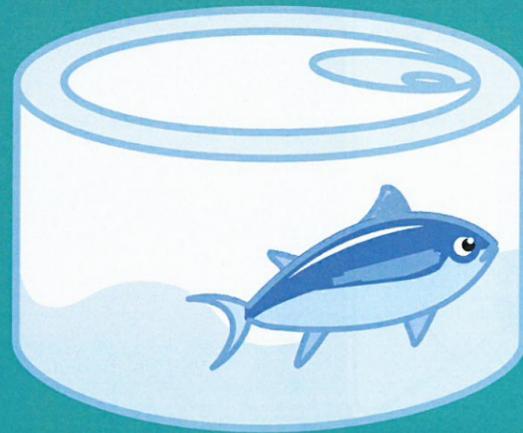


VOLUNTARY



FIC REGULATION

processed fishery and aquaculture products (canned, composite products, etc.)



1. Mandatory information

Name of the food:

→ The legal name or in the absence of such a name, the customary name, or if there is no customary name or the customary name is not used, a descriptive name.

List of ingredients:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Any ingredient or processing aid causing allergies or intolerances (allergens):

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Quantity of ingredients:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Net quantity:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

"Best before" date / "use by" date:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Conditions for storage and use:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Name or business name and address of the food business:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Country of origin or place of provenance:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Instructions for use:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Nutrition declaration (from 13 December 2016):

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Additional mandatory particulars:

Packaged in a protective atmosphere:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Date of freezing or Date of first freezing:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Added water:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Formed fish:

→ As for unprocessed and certain processed products chapter

Added proteins of different animal origin:

→ The name of the food must bear an indication of the presence of added proteins and of their origin.

Canned tuna and bonito / sardines and sardine-like products:

→ There are specific marketing standards for these products. These can be found in Regulations 1536/92 and 2136/89 respectively.

2. Voluntary information

In addition to the mandatory information required for fishery and aquaculture products, voluntary information can be provided as long as it is clear, unambiguous, based on relevant scientific data, and does not mislead the consumer.

Any voluntary information must not be displayed to the detriment of the space available for mandatory information.

Other processed products (canned, composite products, etc.)



COMPULSORY (pink circle) CMO REGULATION (yellow arrow)
VOLUNTARY (green circle) FIC REGULATION (red arrow)

→ Country of origin

Identification mark

Useful information and contacts

CMO Regulation

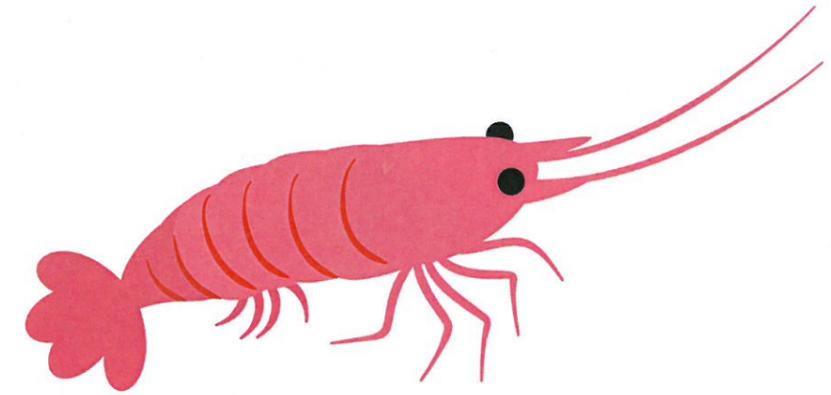
Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1184/2006 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000

FIC Regulation

Regulation (EU) No 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 on the provision of food information to consumers, amending Regulations (EC) No 1924/2006 and (EC) No 1925/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and repealing Commission Directive 87/250/EEC, Council Directive 90/496/EEC, Commission Directive 1999/10/EC, Directive 2000/13/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Commission Directives 2002/67/EC and 2008/5/EC and Commission Regulation (EC) No 608/2004

Hygiene rules

Regulation 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin





European
Commission

A Pocket Guide
to the EU's
new fish &
aquaculture
consumer labels



Frequently asked questions:

CMO

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/market/faq/index_en.htm

FIC:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/labellingnutrition/foodlabelling/docs/qanda_application_reg1169-2011_en.pdf

Websites

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/market/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/index_en.htm

Contacts

MARE-B2@ec.europa.eu
SANCO-INFO@ec.europa.eu

