



COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



A REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS AND NEWS OF THE FISHERY INDUSTRIES
PREPARED IN THE BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

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FISHERIES OF FRANCE

Fish is an important element of the diet in France. No full meal is considered really complete without a fish dish. The consumption of fish is smaller in Central France and in Southern France, excepting perhaps a narrow coastal strip, in the first case because transportation problems make supply more difficult and in the second case because the Mediterranean production of fish is fairly small and preservation is more difficult. It is also significant that France is a predominantly Catholic country, and the rule of abstinence from meat on Friday tends to encourage the consumption of fish.

The demand for fish was somewhat exaggerated during the immediate postwar years by the unsatisfactory food situation in France. While the over-all consumption was limited by the supplies available, some species, particularly herring, which are normally considered somewhat inferior, were bought eagerly at high prices. Demand has now returned to a more normal pattern.

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