

FRESH AND FROZEN FISH

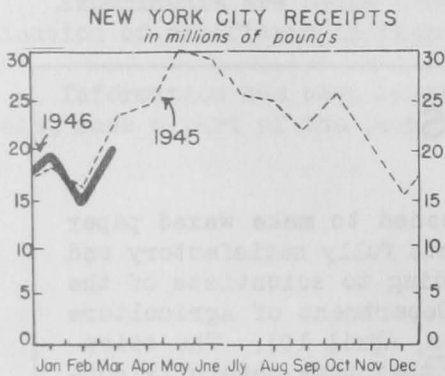
New England

NEW ENGLAND LANDINGS: Landings by fishing craft during January at Boston, Gloucester, New Bedford, Portland, and ports on Cape Cod, totaled 14,643,000 pounds, a decrease of 21 percent under January 1945, according to the Service's Current Fishery Statistics No. 254.

Gloucester, with 4,770,000 pounds, received the largest percentage of the total landings of January. New Bedford was second with 4,523,000 pounds, and Boston was third. Landings at Boston amounted to 9,514,000 pounds during January 1945, exceeding those of other New England ports, but fell to 3,430,000 pounds in January 1946. The decrease resulted from a tie-up of nearly all of the large trawlers because of a dispute between fishermen and vessel owners.



Middle Atlantic

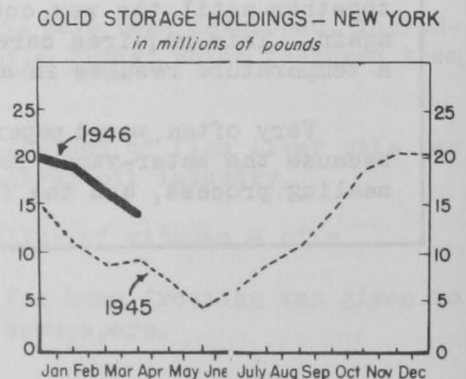


NEW YORK CITY RECEIPTS: Landings and receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products in New York City during March totaled 20,000,000 pounds, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city. Approximately 17,600,000 pounds arrived by truck, express, and freight, while landings totaled about 2,400,000 pounds. The leading fresh varieties were cod, haddock, flounder, fluke, and porgy.

Inclement weather conditions were responsible for light production during the first of March. This allowed the total catch to fall below that for the corresponding period in 1945.

NEW YORK CITY COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Stocks of fish and shellfish in New York's cold-storage warehouses on April 1 totaled 13,783,000 pounds, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city. This showed a decrease of 2,900,000 pounds compared with 16,706,000 pounds held on March 1, but exceeded holdings on April 1, 1945, by 4,875,000 pounds.

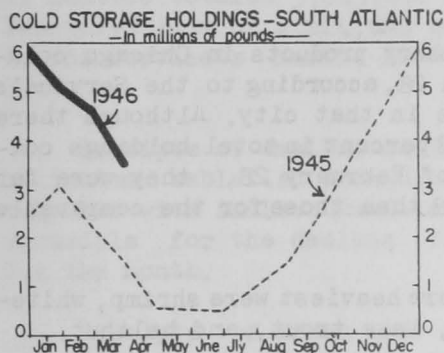
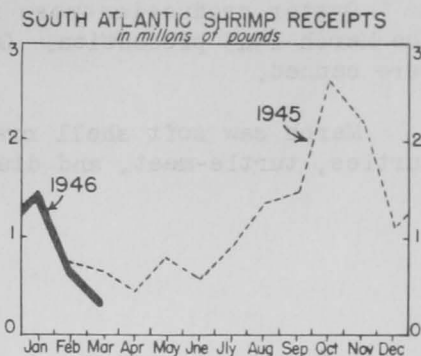
Inventories of fresh-water species increased slightly, but salt-water species and shellfish totals declined. Mackerel, salmon, and whiting accounted for the major portion of the withdrawals. Shrimp stocks declined about 700,000 pounds, while lobster tails were the only species of shellfish showing an increase.



South Atlantic

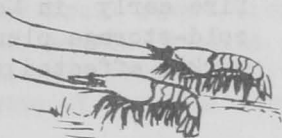
SHRIMP PRODUCTION: Shrimp production for Florida and the South Atlantic States amounted to 279,000 pounds during March, 58 percent below February landings and 56 percent less than production during March 1945, according to the Service's Market News Office at Jacksonville.

In addition to bad weather, Florida's first closed season on shrimping, effective from March 15 to April 15, and the presence of considerable quantities of small shrimp of unmarketable size in the landings, were largely responsible for the decline in production.



COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Holdings of fishery products in five major cold-storage warehouses in the South Atlantic States amounted to 3,529,000 pounds on April 1, according to the Service's Market News Office at Jacksonville. While these stocks were 22 percent less than holdings on March 1, they were more than double the holdings on April 1, 1945.

Fish and shellfish stocks decreased 600,000 pounds and 400,000 pounds, respectively. Heavy withdrawals of fish, shrimp, and fillets during the month were responsible for the major portion of the reduction.

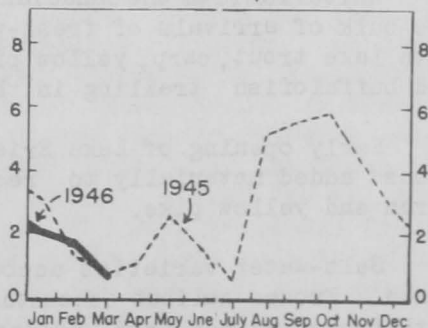


Gulf

PRODUCTION: Shrimp production in the Gulf area during March amounted to only 6,000 barrels as compared with 12,000 barrels in February, according to the Service's Market News Office at New Orleans. Production for the first quarter of 1946 compared favorably with the 5-year average for the similar period, however.

Landings of salt-water fish during March were the largest recorded for this year. The red snapper catch of 268,000 pounds accounted for more than half of the total production.

GULF SHRIMP RECEIPTS—
in millions of pounds



Of the fresh-water species taken, catfish predominated, with 110,000 pounds landed.

Oyster production rose nearly 50 percent over February, but lagged behind the March 1945 production. Of the 88,000 barrels landed in March, 63,000 barrels were canned.

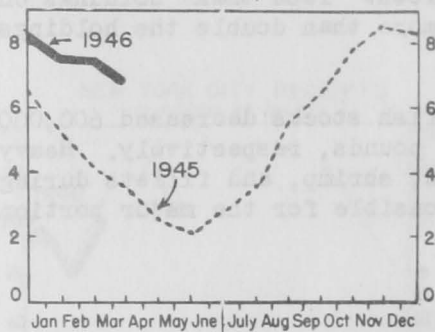
March saw soft shell crabs enter the markets, as well as larger amounts of turtles, turtle-meat, and diamond-back terrapin.



Great Lakes

CHICAGO COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Holdings of fishery products in Chicago cold-storage warehouses totaled 6,798,000 pounds on March 28, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city. Although there was a decline of 8 percent in total holdings compared with those of February 28, they were far greater on March 28 than those for the comparable date in 1945.

GOLD STORAGE HOLDINGS — CHICAGO
in millions of pounds



Stocks that were heaviest were shrimp, whitefish, cod fillets, lake trout, and halibut.

Large stocks of frozen fish were thrown on the market for quick handling as a result of a fire early in March which damaged two private cold-storage plants. Consequently, the glutted market affected public cold-storage withdrawals.

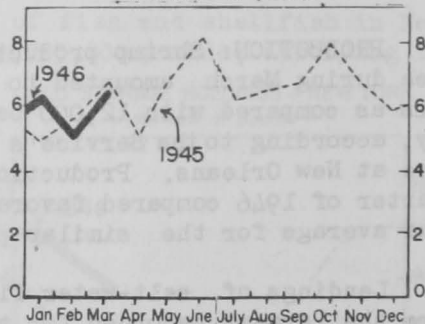
CHICAGO RECEIPTS: Receipts of fish and shellfish during March in the Chicago wholesale fish market totaled 6,290,000 pounds, 23 percent larger than those of February and 7 percent less than March 1945, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city.

Whitefish from the Canadian Provinces formed the bulk of arrivals of fresh-water varieties, with lake trout, carp, yellow pike, sheepshead, and buffalofish trailing in the order listed.

Early opening of Lake Erie fishing operations added materially to receipts of yellow perch and yellow pike.

Salt-water varieties accounted for 27 percent of the total arrivals during March. Frozen halibut accounted for 32 percent of the total salt-water varieties, with frozen salmon, cod, haddock, and frozen sablefish following in order of importance.

CHICAGO RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds



Shellfish receipts were 23 percent less than those of February and 31 percent larger than March 1945.

Large shipments of frozen fishery products were responsible for increased freight movements into Chicago during March. Express shipments declined slightly, but truck shipments increased considerably.



Pacific

SEATTLE RECEIPTS: Landings and receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products at Seattle totaled 3,843,000 pounds during March, a drop of 9 percent below the February figure of 4,224,000 pounds, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city.

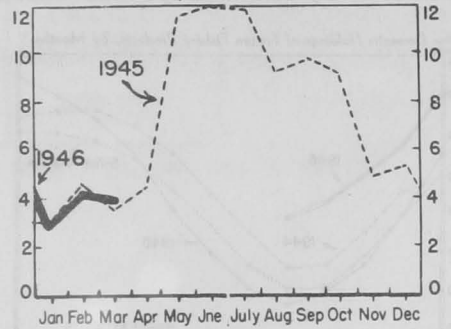
Receipts of smaller quantities of frozen halibut and sablefish from Alaska during March, together with smaller local landings, were responsible for the decline in total receipts for the month.

Receipts of fresh and frozen fish and shellfish from local sources totaled 2,231,000 pounds.

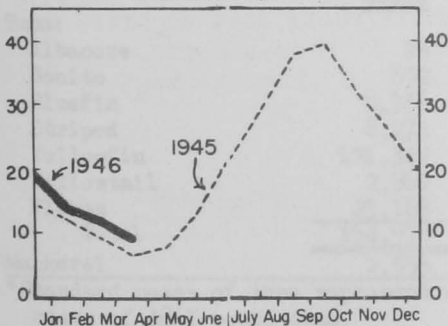
Landings by the local otter-trawl fleet totaled 1,511,000 pounds, or about 40 percent of the total receipts. Nearly a million pounds of rockfish were received by Seattle dealers during March, which tended to glut the market, despite concerted efforts of the industry to dispose of the fish through regular channels of distribution.

The cumulative 1946 total to March 31 was 11,006,000 pounds, 3 percent less than the cumulative total to March 31, 1945.

SEATTLE RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds



COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NORTH PACIFIC
in millions of pounds



NORTHWEST COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Approximately 2½ million pounds of fish and shellfish were frozen in Washington, Oregon, and Alaska cold-storage plants during March, according to the Service's Market News Office at Seattle. This was 18 percent less than the February freezings, but 158 percent larger than the March 1945 figure of 999,000 pounds. Alaska led all other areas, with a total of 1,662,000 pounds frozen, of which 1,623,000 pounds were bait and animal food. There were 308,000 pounds of rock cod filets frozen in Washington and Oregon.

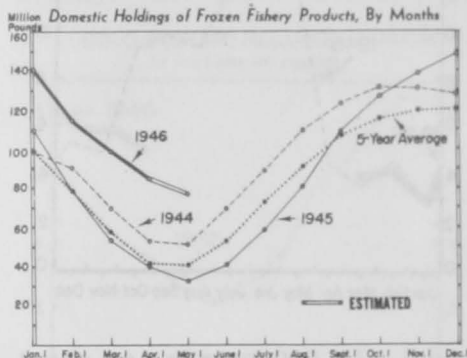
Holdings of fish and shellfish on April 1 for all areas totaled 9,332,000 pounds. This represented a decrease of 21 percent compared with holdings on March 1, but showed an increase of 48 percent over the April 1, 1945 figure. The largest decline was noted in holdings of fish, while shellfish inventories declined only 6 percent from the previous month.

Heaviest inventories of cured fish, 592,000 and 188,000 pounds respectively, were shown for mild-cured salmon and salted herring.



United States

COLD-STORAGE FREEZINGS AND HOLDINGS: Holdings of frozen fish and shellfish declined 15 million pounds during March and on April 1 totaled 84,265,000 pounds. This was 112 percent above holdings on April 1, 1945, and 103 percent above the 5-year average for this date, according to the Service's Current Fishery Statistics No. 261.



Freezings of fishery products in domestic cold-storage plants totaled 11,077,000 pounds during March. This brought the total freezings during the first three months of 1946 to 23,535,000 pounds as compared with 16,000,000 pounds during the same period of 1945, an increase of 47 percent.

