

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

FISHERIES QUARTERLY REPORT

THIRD QUARTER, 2022

July-September, 2022



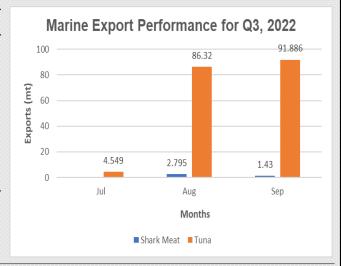
MARINE EXPORTS

The total quantity of fish products exported this quarter was 186.98mt of which, 182.755mt were tuna and 4.225mt were shark meat products. Exporting of Tuna dominates the exports in this quarter with 97.7% and only 2.3% of shark meat. The highest amount of exports was in September, and the lowest was in July with only 4.5mt which is a huge difference compared to August and September. This is because there were less number of active fishing vessels with poor catch rate in July compared to August and September.

The total quantity of fish products exported (excluding aquarium) this quarter shows a slightly increase of 28.1% from that of the previous quarter (Q2, 2022), and 86.3% decreased in comparison with the amount of fish exported in the same quarter of the previous year.

The total FOB value of fish exports recorded in this quarter was TOP 1.06 millions. This is an increase of 28.3% from the FOB value of the previous quarter which was 0.76 millions. However, there was a decreasing of 74.5% of FOB value from that of the same quarter of the previous year which was 1.86 millions.

Source: Fish exports database



*FOB = Free On Board, describes a price which includes goods plus the services at the time of offloading from the vessel at first landing This is a static value designated to each export product. The value is an historical estimate and may not represent the true present value.

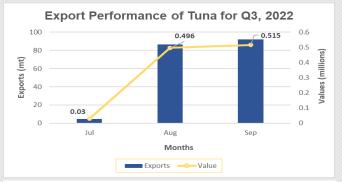
TUNA FISHERY

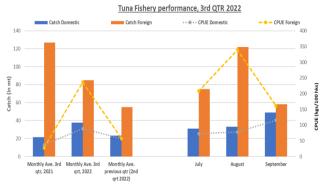
The total export quantity of tuna and associated by-catch for this quarter was 182.755 metric tons which is a 28.9% increase from the exports in the previous quarter and therefore 85.5% decreased in compared with the exports in the same quarter of previous year. The total FOB value of tuna exported in this quarter was valued at TOP\$1.04 millions which is an increase from that of the previous quarter and decrease compared to quarter 3 of previous year.

Foreign vessels continue to dominate the catch in the Tuna Fishery within this quarte with a total catch of 295.23 metric tons from 5 trips whereas a total of 122.424 metric tons of Tuna was unloaded from 28 trips of domestic fleets.

CPUE for this quarter increases from July to August then decreases in September. CPUE for domestic fleets shows an increasing trend proportion to its catch. Overall performance for Tuna domestic catch this quarter is higher than that of both the previous quarter and Q3 of previous year. The overall performance for foreign vessel catches, is higher than that of the previous quarter but lower than that of Q3, 2021.

Overall CPUE performance for domestic fleets was higher than both of previous quarter and Q3, of previous year. As for foreign fleets, it was higher than that of both Q2, 2022 and Q3, 2021.





Source: Ministry of Fisheries Tuna exports database

ARTISANAL FISHERY

The total quantity of tuna recorded in this quarter was 5.57 metric tons which is a 94% increase from the previous Quarter. The highest volume of tuna recorded during this quarter was at the Nafanua Wharf, Eua with 47% of the total catch of the fishery.

The price of tuna in the local market are at range of \$20 to \$100 per piece depending on the species and weight. Bigeye and Yellowfin are normally more expensive than skipjack at the local markets.

THIRD QUARTER 2022

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

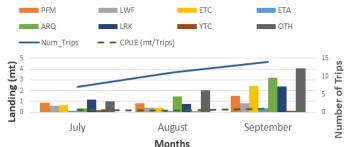
SNAPPER FISHERY

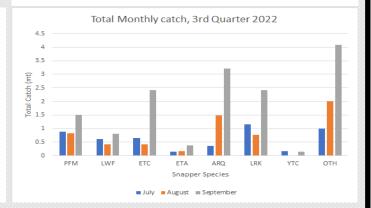
A total of 26.0213 metric tons of snapper was offloaded during this quarter caught by 13 vessels altogether with a total of 32 trips throughout the quarter. This is an 29.2% decrease from the total catch offloaded in the previous quarter. The performance for snapper fishery this quarter shows an increasing trend.

There was a slight increase in CPUE in the months of July and August and in the month of September there was a great increase in efforts.

Actual landing of this quarter is lower compared to both previous quarter and the same quarter of year 2021. However, the average catch efforts for the previous year and the 3rd quarter of 2021 were both lower than the average catch efforts for this quarter (Q3, 2022).







AQUARIUM FISHERY

The total quantity of aquarium products exported in this quarter was 36088 pieces which In compared to the previous quarter there was a slightly decreased of 1% which was a total of 36449 pieces. Hence, there was a decrease of 43.8% from that of the same quarter of the previous year. The export of aquarium products for this quarter was dominated by live hard coral with 17929 pieces, then 4596 pieces of soft corals, 3686 pieces of live fish then the least species was invertebrates with 2493 pieces.

The total FOB value of the exported aquarium products in this quarter was approximately TOP 0.223 millions which is a decreased of 1.9% from that of the previous quarter. In comparison to the same quarter of the previous year, there were also a decline of 21.8% from that value of the aquarium product exported in Q3 of previous year.



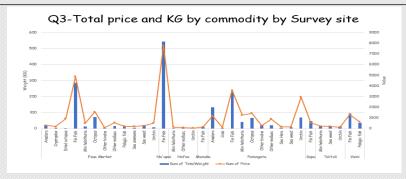
AOUACULTURE FISHERY

The very first harvesting of farmed sea cucumber from their farm cages was conducted this quarter. This activity was carried out after the HTHH volcanic eruption and tsunami which caused impacts and disruptions to the farm. However, the total harvested and processed products (*Holothuria lessoni*) for this quarter was 28843 pieces in which there were 13335 pieces of dry products were exported specifically to Australia and Hong Kong. There were 350 pieces exported to Australia and 12985 pieces were to Hong

DOMESTIC MARKET

A total of 1.8 metric tons of marine resources recorded in this quarter, with an approximately valued at 0.033 millions. In the previous quarter (Q2) there were no data recorded due to HTHH volcanic eruption and tsunami. However, in compared to Q3, 2021 there was a downfall trend for both resources recorded and its value. The average price varied according to market demand for fish but change in fish market price is determined by quantity of marine product available at that time in the market.

Source: Ministry of Fisheries Artisinal database.



Ministry of Fisheries, P.O. Box 871, Nuku'alofa, Tonga. Phone: (676 21399) Fax: (676 23891). For queries regarding this report, contact ceo@tongafish.gov.to or pohiva14@gmail.com