Food fish production from domestic aquaculture increased by 6% in 2018

Vienna, 2019-12-18 – In 2018, a total of 4,084 tonnes of food fish was produced in Austria by 492 active fish farms. According to Statistics Austria, this means an increase of 5.7% compared to the previous year.

Sales volumes increased for rainbow and salmon trout (+4.2% to 1,358 tonnes), common carp (+4.3% to 647 tonnes), brown and lake trout (+16.2% to 461 tonnes), elsaesser char (+49.1% to 299 tonnes) as well as arctic char (+14.8% to 272 tonnes), while declines were recorded for brook trout (-7.2% to 511 tonnes) and african catfish (-5.5% to 421 tonnes).

In 2018, the production in hatcheries and nurseries amounted to 18.7 million eggs (+18.4%) and 20.7 million juveniles of all ages (+3.0%). Among juvenile fish, salmonids were most represented – with rainbow and salmon trout (2.2 million eggs and 5.0 million juveniles), brown and lake trout (3.4 million eggs and 2.8 million juveniles) as well as brook trout (2.2 million eggs and 1.9 million juveniles).

Despite the overall increase of production, there were some significant losses in 2018 as well. Aquaculture producers mentioned predators (especially otters, herons and cormorants) and lack of water (drought due to the high temperatures) as the main causes of production losses, followed by flooding and reconstruction work.

For more detailed results and further information concerning statistics of aquaculture please refer to our website.

Information on methods, definitions: The survey on aquaculture production is based on Ordinance Federal Law Gazette II No. 344/2012 (available in German only) issued by the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Environment and Water Management. Within the survey on aquaculture production, the annual production of edible and stocking fish is determined. Respondents needed to specify the quantity that originated from their own aquaculture facility and was marketed in the reporting period. Fish bought in from other facilities, income from sea fishing and stocking fish produced for use in the respondent’s own business were not included.

Food fish production¹) in tonnes 2016 to 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Salmonidae</th>
<th>Cyprinidae</th>
<th>Others</th>
<th>Total production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>2,912.9</td>
<td>713.2</td>
<td>458.3</td>
<td>4,084.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>2,708.3</td>
<td>680.9</td>
<td>476.5</td>
<td>3,865.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>2,454.6</td>
<td>666.3</td>
<td>364.6</td>
<td>3,485.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Aquaculture production. – Compiled on 18 December 2019. – Rounding differences are not equalised. – ¹) Meaning of "ready-to-eat", under market conditions, independent of the actual further use; in live weight.

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