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Food fish production fell by 4.1% in 2022

Rainbow and salmon trout were sold the most

Vienna, 2023-12-20 – According to Statistics Austria, a total of 4 719 tonnes of fish for human consumption was produced in Austrian aquaculture facilities in 2022. This is 4.1% or 202 tonnes less than in 2021. The number of enterprises active in this area rose in the same period by 0.4 % to a total of 544.

In 2022, sales volumes of almost all fish species fell compared to the previous year. In terms of quantity, the most important fish species from domestic aquaculture were rainbow and salmon trout (–2.6 % to 1 691 tonnes), brook trout (–3.6 % to 661 tonnes), common carp (–9.2 % to 560 tonnes), brown and lake trout (+1.5 % to 511 tonnes), African catfish (–12.8 % to 431 tonnes), elsässer char (+5.0 % to 414 tonnes) as well as arctic char (–0.2 % to 280 tonnes).

The production in hatcheries and nurseries amounted to 17.3 million eggs (–47.5 %) and 30.6 million juveniles of all ages (+22.5 %) in 2022. Among juvenile fish, salmonids were most represented – by rainbow and salmon trout (2.3 million eggs and 4.5 million juveniles), brown and lake trout (3.7 million eggs and 2.8 million juveniles) as well as brook trout (2.4 million eggs and 1.9 million juveniles).

Aquaculture producers mentioned predators such as otters, herons and cormorants as main cause for production losses, followed by environmental factors (heat waves, water shortage, floods etc.) and associated water quality problems. In addition, increasing production costs (feed, energy etc.) and market difficulties (less demand) were also reported as causes for declines in sales.

For detailed results and further information on aquaculture production please refer to our [website](#).

Table 1: Production of fish for human consumption¹ in tonnes 2020 to 2022

Year	Salmonidae	Cyprinidae	Others	Total production
2022	3 565.2	617.0	536.5	4 718.7
2021	3 611.2	679.6	629.7	4 920.4
2020	3 271.8	687.1	568.0	4 526.9

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Aquaculture production. – Rounding differences are not equalised.

1) Meaning of ready-to-eat, under market conditions, independent of the actual further use; in live weight.

Table 2: Production of fish eggs in 1 000 pieces 2020 to 2022

Year	Salmonidae	Cyprinidae	Others	Total production
2022	15 978.6	1 245.7	45.9	17 270.2
2021	16 920.8	5 953.4	10 046.4	32 920.6
2020	18 505.5	778.1	4 085.4	23 369.0

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Aquaculture production. – Rounding differences are not equalised.

Table 3: Production of juvenile fish in 1 000 pieces 2020 to 2022

Year	Salmonidae	Cyprinidae	Others	Total production
2022	19 560.8	837.9	10 191.6	30 590.4
2021	22 405.0	1 452.0	1 124.7	24 981.7

Year	Salmonidae	Cyprinidae	Others	Total production
2020	18 502.2	1 460.6	1 241.9	21 204.6

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Aquaculture production. – Rounding differences are not equalised.

Information on methodology, 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.

Aquaculture refers to the rearing or keeping of aquatic animals (fish, crustaceans, shrimp etc.) with the aim of increasing production beyond what is possible under natural conditions using appropriate techniques. The aquatic animals in question remain the property of a natural or legal person or the subject of legal claims arising from contractual obligations (e.g. in connection with the stocking of wild waters) throughout the rearing or keeping process, including harvesting or catching.

Aquaculture production means the quantity of fish, crabs, shrimp etc., produced under the previously mentioned circumstances and sold or delivered (live, raw or processed). Quantities for self-supply, trade (purchase and direct resale) as well as quantities from fishing (incl. angling/sport fishing) do not count as aquaculture production and are therefore excluded from the survey.

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