

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 1954Weight Relationship between Fresh and Salted Fish.

By Birger Rasmussen

The International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries has expressed the wish to obtain more accurate conversion factors for Greenland Cod. In international statistics the figures for quantities of fish landed usually apply to fish in round fresh condition as it comes over the side of the ship. The catches of the Norwegian long-liners in Greenland waters are, however, salted, and the statistical figures at disposal usually refer to salted cod unloaded in Norway. In order to convert the latter figures for use in international statistics it is necessary to have a sufficiently exact conversion factor.

On 30 July, while fishing in the Holsteinsborg Deep, 100 cod of different sizes were taken directly from the long-line. Each fish was measured and weighed in round fresh condition. Thereafter the weight of the fish was taken in gutted and headless condition. A tag with a serial number was fastened to the neck of each fish. The cod was thereafter split, washed and salted in the hold of the ship. On 15 August the whole catch of salted fish, and also the marked specimens, were transferred to a transportship. Here we had the opportunity to weigh the fish again. It was further planned to weigh the fish for the third time while it was unloaded in Norway a month later. This last weighing could unfortunately not be carried out as planned. We have, however, through the receivers of the salted fish obtained information on the average loss in weight during the period from receiving the salted fish in Greenland waters until delivered in Norway. The loss of weight during this transport is averagely 7.5%. The results of the weighings are shown in tables I and II.

Table I

Conversion from salted to round fresh weight.

No. of Cod	A Round fresh kg.	B Salted 15 days kg.	C Conversion factor (BxC=A)
13	45.8	15.91	2.88
16	55.91	19.54	2.86
15	52.14	18.18	2.87
17	78.08	26.58	2.93
17	78.96	27.19	2.89
14	57.85	20.28	2.85
92	368.74	127.68	2.89
Less 7.5% loss of weight		9.58	
Total	92	368.74	<u>3.12</u>

Table II

Conversion from salted to gutted headless weight.

No. of fish	A Gutted headless kg.	B Salted 15 days kg.	C Conversion factor (BxC=A)	
13	27.71	15.91	1.74	
16	34.97	19.54	1.79	
15	33.07	18.18	1.82	
17	49.20	26.58	1.85	
17	50.19	27.19	1.85	
14	36.63	20.28	1.80	
92	231.77	127.68	1.81	
Less 7.5% loss of weight		9.58		
Total	92	231.77	118.10	<u>1.96</u>

The mean weight of a single cod as it comes over the side of the ship is 4.0 kg. In gutted and headless condition the mean weight is 2.51 kg. When delivered after 15 days in salt, the mean weight per fish is 1.39 kg. A month later, when delivered as salted cod in Norway the weight is 1.28 kg.

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