



# Non-Quota Species Factsheets

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Under Article 508(1)(c) of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), the Specialized Committee on Fisheries (SCF) may develop multiannual strategies for the conservation and management of non-quota stocks ( NQS). Accordingly, the 2021 and 2022 written reports underlined this commitment and made it a priority to ensure sustainable management of these fisheries from 2023 onwards. In paragraph 13(d) of the 2022 Written Report, the Parties committed to work expeditiously from the beginning of 2022 in the SCF Working Group with the aim of having a first set of - develop annual strategies for fisheries, ecoregions and/or key non-quota species.

In this report we provide an overview of the Dutch fisheries that target non-quota species and hence may be impacted when annual strategies are being developed.

## Table of contents

1. Noordzeekrab - Edible crab (CRE).....	4
1.1 Spatial distribution .....	4
1.2 Spotlight on Pots (FPO) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c).....	5
1.3 Available stock information.....	6
1.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	6
References.....	6
2. Gewone pijlinktvis - European squid (SQR) .....	8
2.1 Spatial distribution .....	8
2.2 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in English Channel (Division 7.d).....	9
2.3 Available stock information.....	10
2.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	10
References.....	10
3. Inktvis - Mixed Squid (SQS) .....	11
3.1 Spatial distribution .....	11
3.2 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in English Channel (Division 7.d).....	12
3.3 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c).....	13
3.4 Available stock information.....	14
3.5 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	14
4. Europese sardine - European pilchard (Sardine) (PIL).....	15
4.1 Spatial distribution .....	15
4.2 Spotlight on Trawl (OTM) fishery in Biscay and Iberian Waters (Subareas 8, 9) .....	16
4.3 Spotlight on Trawl (OTM) fishery in Southern Celtic Seas (Divisions 7.a-c, 7.f-h, 7.k) .....	17
4.4 Available stock information.....	18
4.5 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitaion.....	18
References.....	18
5. Schar - Common dab (DAB) .....	20
5.1 Spatial distribution .....	20
5.2 Spotlight on Beam Trawl (TBB) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c) .....	21
5.3 Available stock information.....	21
5.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	22
References.....	22
6. Bot - European flounder (FLE) .....	23
6.1 Spatial distribution .....	23
6.2 Spotlight on Beam Trawl (TBB) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c) .....	24
6.3 Available stock information.....	24

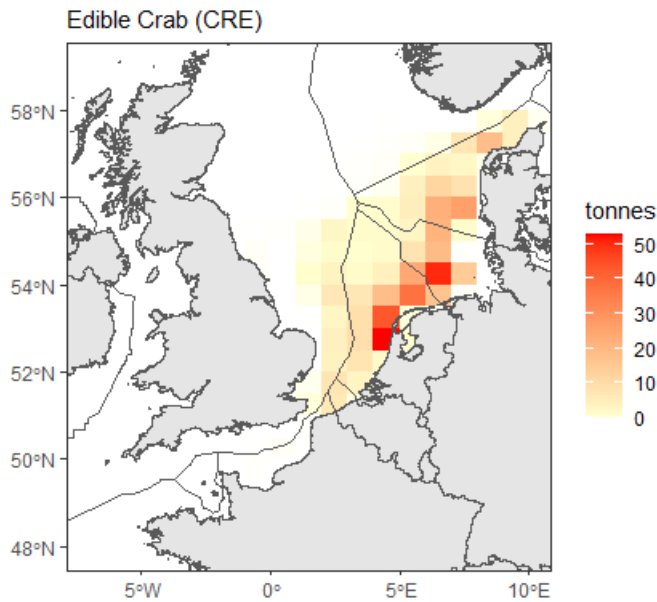
6.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	25
References .....	25
7. Rode poon - Tub gurnard (GUU).....	26
7.1 Spatial distribution .....	26
7.2 Spotlight on Beam Trawl (TBB) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c) .....	27
7.3 Available stock information .....	28
7.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	28
References .....	28
8. Mul - Striped red mullet (MUR) .....	29
8.1 Spatial distribution .....	29
8.2 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in English Channel (Divisions 7.d-e) .....	30
8.3 Available stock information .....	31
8.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	31
References .....	31
9. Kleine zilversmelt - Lesser argentine (ARY) .....	32
9.1 Spatial distribution .....	32
9.2 Spotlight on Trawl (OTM) fishery in West of Scotland (Division 6.a) .....	33
9.3 Available stock information .....	34
9.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation .....	34

# 1. Noordzeekrab - Edible crab (CRE)

## 1.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 475 - 621 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 537 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 36 tonnes (7%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 1.** The spatial distribution of landings of CRE by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 1:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of CRE by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

Skagerrak and Kattegat	North Sea		Other
3.a	4.b	4.c	
28 tonnes (5.3%)	408 tonnes (76.0%)	100 tonnes (18.7%)	0 tonnes (0.0%)

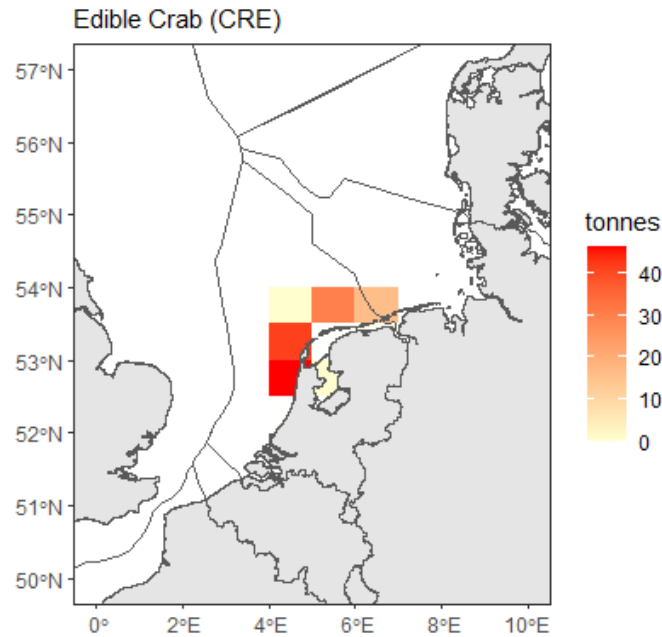
### Fishing gears

**Table 2:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of CRE by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

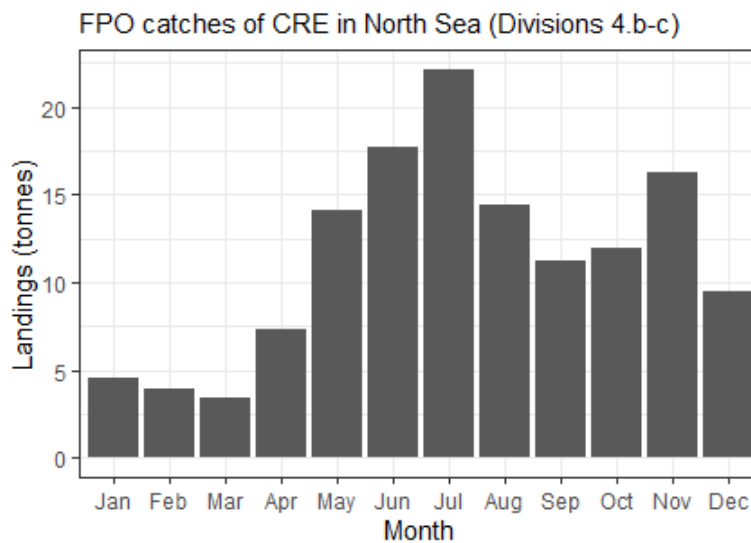
TBB	FPO	Other
354 tonnes (66%)	136 tonnes (25%)	46 tonnes (9%)
€ 901,368	€ 359,708	€ 120,927

## 1.2 Spotlight on Pots (FPO) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c)

Landings of Edible Crab accounted for an average of 75% of FPO landings in all areas, and 75% of FPO landings in Divisions 4.b-c.



**Figure 2.** Spatial distribution of FPO landings of CRE in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 3.** Average monthly landings of Edible Crab caught via Pots in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

### 1.3 Available stock information

#### Assessment

Cefas conducts a biennial assessment using sex-separated Length Cohort Analysis for five Crab Fishery Units: Central North Sea, Southern North Sea, Eastern English Channel, Western English Channel, and Celtic Sea (Cefas 2020). Landings by Dutch vessels most closely overlap the Central and Southern North Sea Crab Fishery Units. Input data include sex-specific length distributions collected via UK port sampling, landings from Marine Management Organisation (MMO), and fishing effort from logbooks and self-reported Monthly Shellfish Activity Return records.

For assessment of Edible Crab in other regions, see ICES WGCrab report (ICES 2021e).

#### Stock Status

Based on Cefas assessment in 2019, stock status is as follows:

Crab Fishery Unit	Sex	Exploitation Status	Biomass Status
Central North Sea	F	Below Fmsy target, above maximum reference point limit	At or above biomass MSY target
	M	At or above maximum reference point limit	Above minimum reference point limit, below biomass MSY target
Southern North Sea	F	Above Fmsy target	Above minimum reference point limit, below biomass MSY target*
	M	Above Fmsy target	Above minimum reference point limit, below biomass MSY target*

\*Should be treated with caution due to recent expansion of fishing activity.

#### Common management measures

Minimum landing size restrictions typically ranging from 130-150mm.

Maximum limit of 1% of detached claws in total catch.

#### Discards

Discard rates are high. There is high discard survival in pot fisheries.

#### Additional information

Stock boundaries are unclear. UK data collection may not reflect Edible Crab population landed by Dutch vessels.

### 1.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

The available CEFAS assessment does not include Dutch landings to date but there are activities underway to improve the data used with the assessment. As such, at this stage, we cannot assess the contribution of Dutch fishery to the sustainable exploitation of CRE.

#### References

Cefas. 2020. "Edible Crab (Cancer Pagurus)." Cefas Stock Status Report 2019 18 pp.

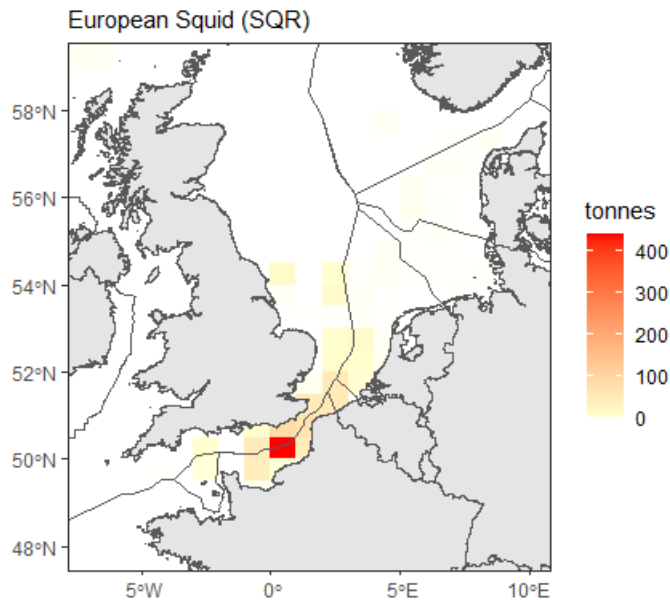
ICES. 2021. "Working Group on the Biology and Life History of Crabs (WGCRAb; Outputs from 2019 Meeting)." *ICES Scientific Reports* 3 (32): 68. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.8003>.

## 2. Gewone pijlinktvis - European squid (SQR)

### 2.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 820 - 1146 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 1032 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 410 tonnes (40%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 4.** The spatial distribution of landings of SQR by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 3:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of SQR by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

North Sea	English Channel	Other
4.c	7.d	
209 tonnes (20%)	750 tonnes (73%)	74 tonnes (7%)

### Fishing gears

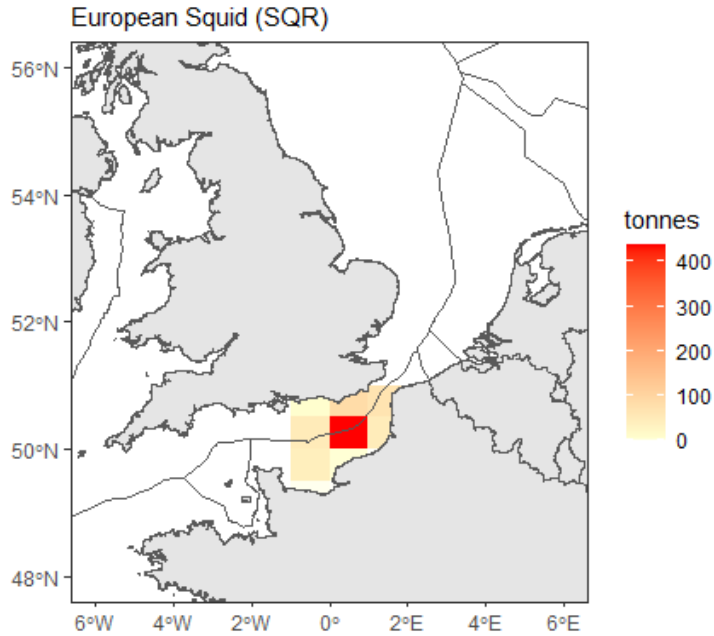
**Table 4:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of SQR by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

SSC	TBB	Other
904 tonnes (87.6%)	74 tonnes (7.2%)	54 tonnes (5.3%)
€ 2,099,849	€ 179,262	€ 129,199

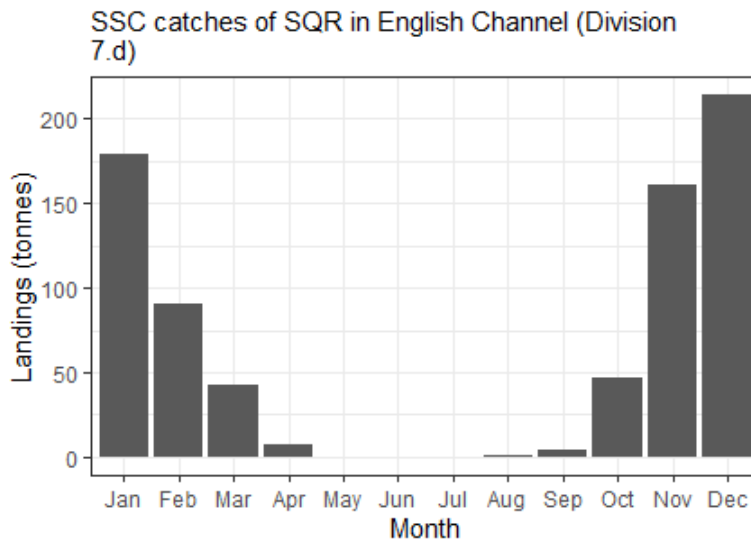


## 2.2 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in English Channel (Division 7.d)

Landings of European Squid accounted for an average of 9% of SSC landings in all areas, and 17% of SSC landings in Division 7.d.



**Figure 5.** Spatial distribution of SSC landings of SQR in Division 7.d by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 6.** Average monthly landings of European Squid caught via Flyshoot in Division 7.d by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

## 2.3 Available stock information

### **Assessment**

There is no routine assessment for this stock.

### **Stock Status**

Stock status is unknown. Survey trends in the English Channel show a slight increase of CPUE in 2016-2018 when compared with 2013-2015 (ICES 2020). Survey trends in the North Sea show stable rates of CPUE from 2013-2018. CPUE indices need further consideration before they can be used as proxies for biomass.

### **Common management measures**

In Spain and Portugal, a minimum landing size of 100mm has been set.

### **Discards**

Discard rates are not known but considered negligible.

### **Additional information**

Long-finned squid (*Loliginid*) landings are not reported at the species level by most countries.

## 2.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

Due to the lack of stock assessment availability for squids, we cannot assess the contribution of the Dutch fishery to the sustainable exploitation.

## References

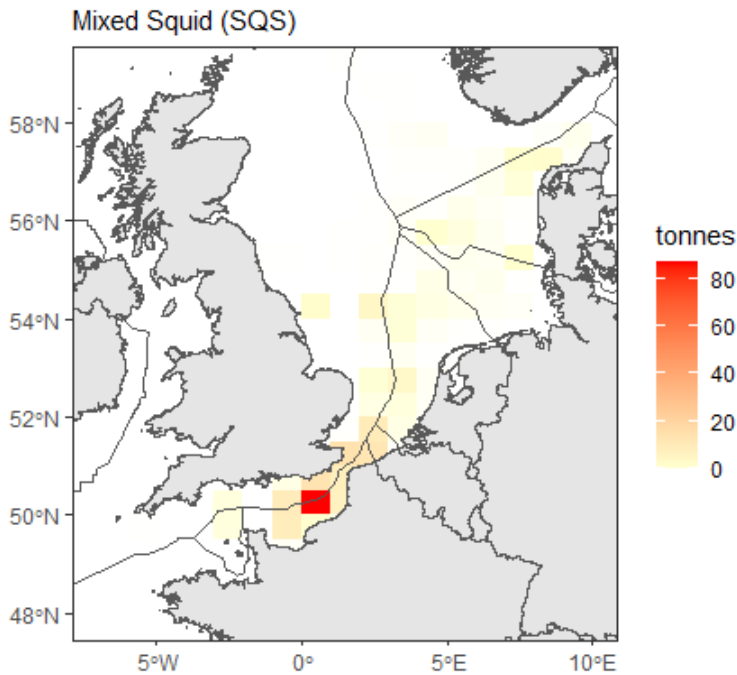
ICES. 2020. "Working Group on Cephalopod Fisheries and Life History (WGCEPH)" 2 (46): 121. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ICES.PUB.6032>.

### 3. Inktvis - Mixed Squid (SQS)

#### 3.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 104 - 253 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 203 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 77 tonnes (38%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 7.** The spatial distribution of landings of SQS by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 5:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of SQS by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

North Sea		English Channel	Other
4.b	4.c	7.d	
19 tonnes (9.2%)	43 tonnes (21.2%)	137 tonnes (67.6%)	4 tonnes (2.0%)

#### Fishing gears

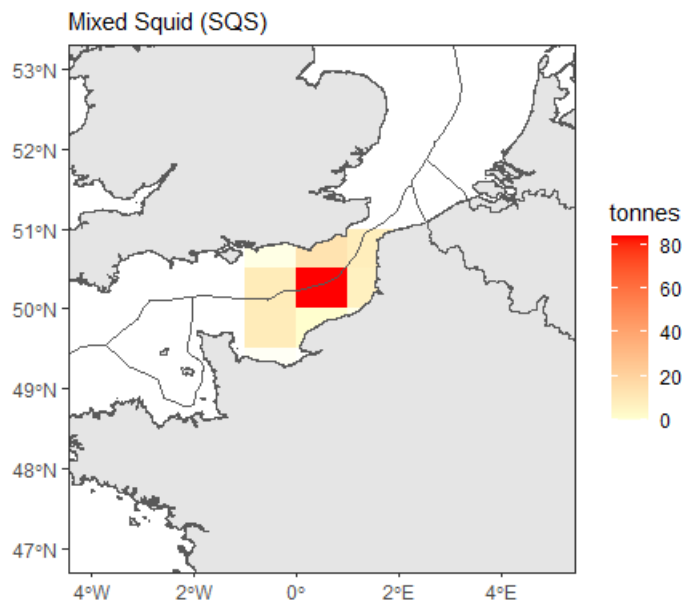
**Table 6:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of SQS by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

SSC	OTB	Other
168 tonnes (83.0%)	24 tonnes (11.6%)	11 tonnes (5.4%)

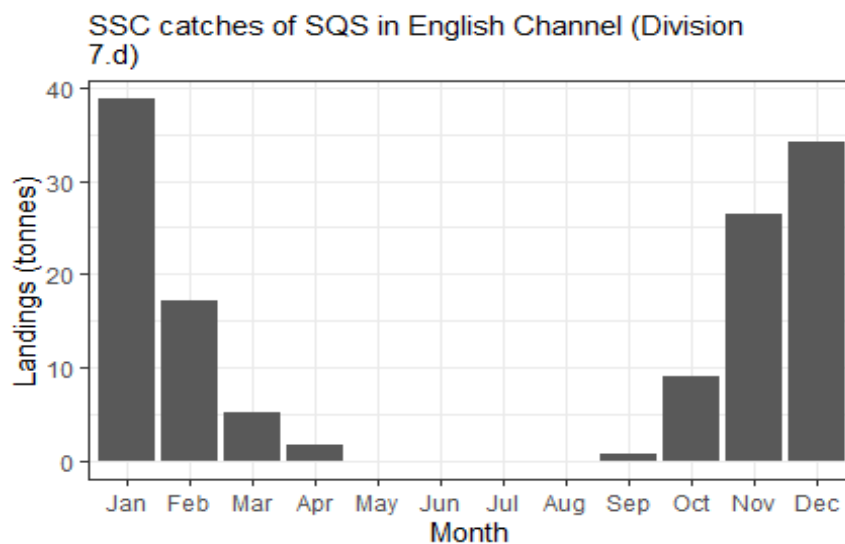
SSC	OTB	Other
€ 398,271	€ 53,573	€ 27,256

### 3.2 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in English Channel (Division 7.d)

Landings of Mixed Squid accounted for an average of 2% of SSC landings in all areas, and 3% of SSC landings in Division 7.d.



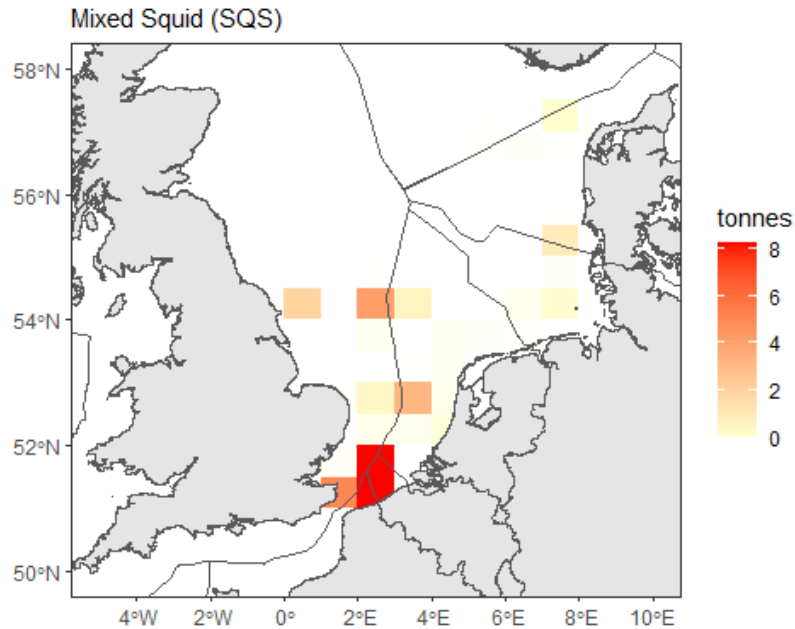
**Figure 8.** Spatial distribution of SSC landings of SQS in Division 7.d by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



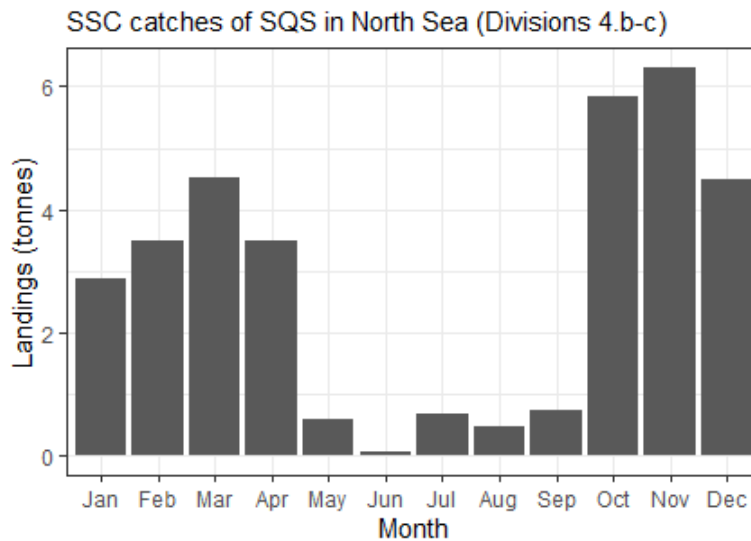
**Figure 9.** Average monthly landings of Mixed Squid caught via Flyshoot in Division 7.d by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

### 3.3 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c)

Landings of Mixed Squid accounted for an average of 0% of SSC landings in all areas, and 1% of SSC landings in Divisions 4.b-c.



**Figure 10.** Spatial distribution of SSC landings of SQS in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 11.** Average monthly landings of Mixed Squid caught via Flyshoot in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

### 3.4 Available stock information

There is limited information available for mixed species landings. Squid landings reported at the family level make it difficult to assess trends. Biological data are not collected for all species in all areas under the DCF. Surveys are not specifically targeting cephalopods and may not be useful in assessing relative abundance.

### 3.5 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

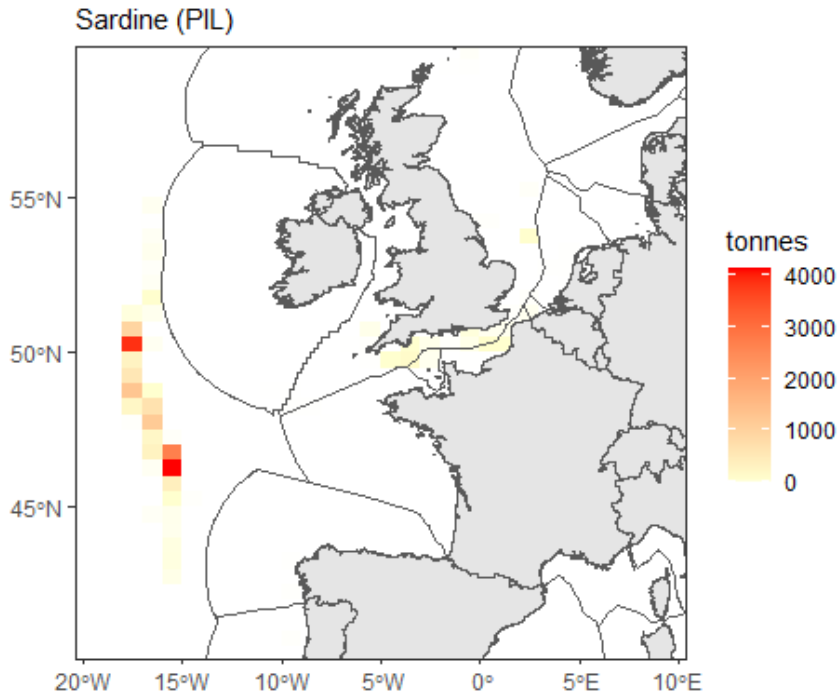
Due to the lack of stock assessment availability for squids, we cannot assess the contribution of the Dutch fishery to the sustainable exploitation.

## 4. Europese sardine - European pilchard (Sardine) (PIL)

### 4.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 14 510 - 22 628 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 17 867 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 390 tonnes (2%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 12.** The spatial distribution of landings of PIL by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 7:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of PIL by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

West of Ireland	Biscay and Iberian Waters	Other
7.k	8.d	
8063 tonnes (45.1%)	9090 tonnes (50.9%)	714 tonnes (4.0%)

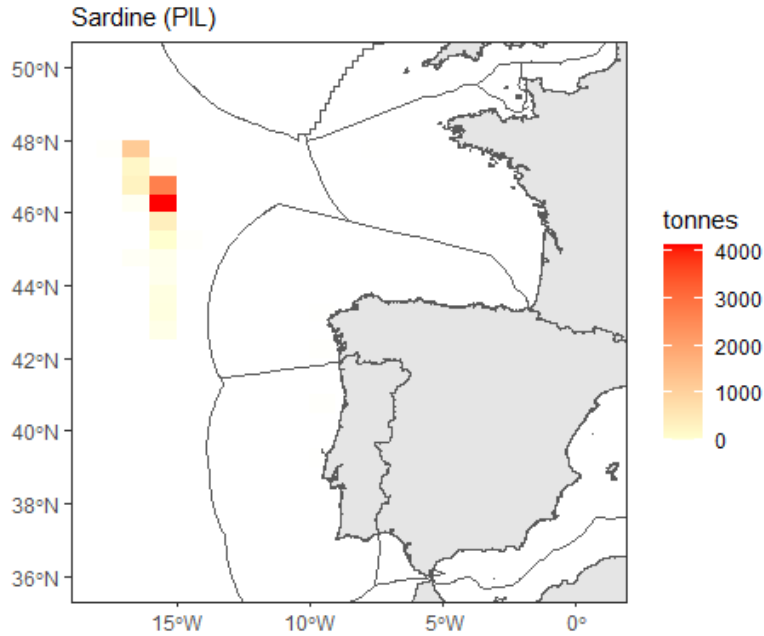
### Fishing gears

**Table 8:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of PIL by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

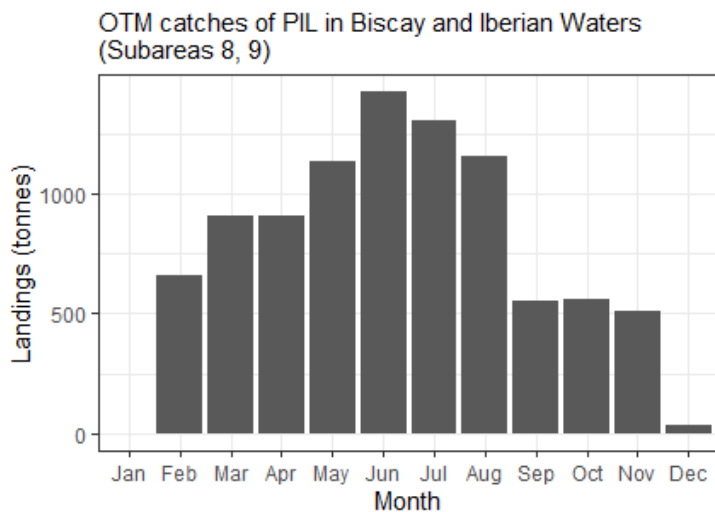
OTM	Other
17829 tonnes (100%)	37 tonnes (0%)
€ 17,033,377	€ 29,892

## 4.2 Spotlight on Trawl (OTM) fishery in Biscay and Iberian Waters (Subareas 8, 9)

Landings of Sardine accounted for an average of 4% of OTM landings in all areas, and 71% of OTM landings in Subareas 8, 9.



**Figure 13.** Spatial distribution of OTM landings of PIL in Subareas 8, 9 by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

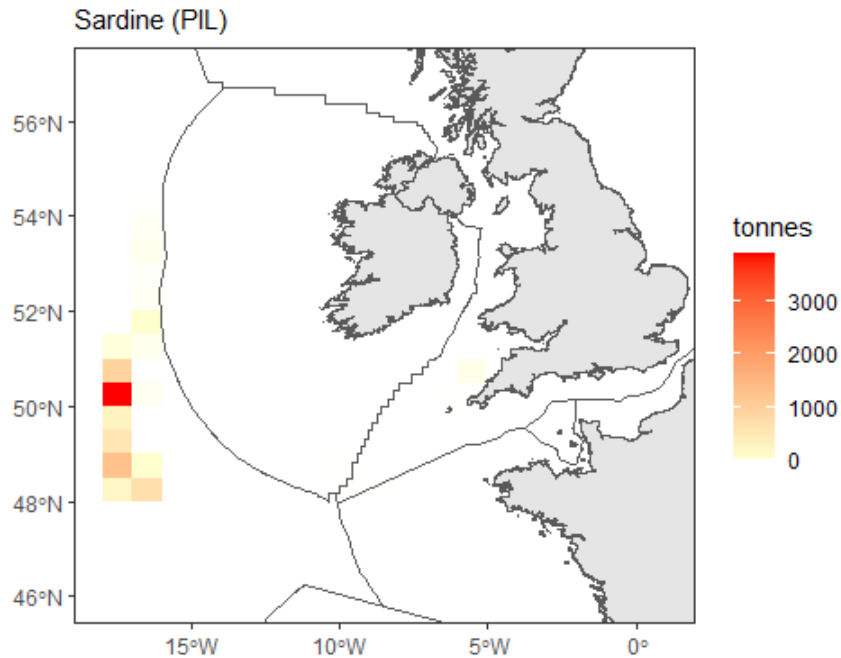


**Figure 14.** Average monthly landings of Sardine caught via Trawl in Subareas 8, 9 by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

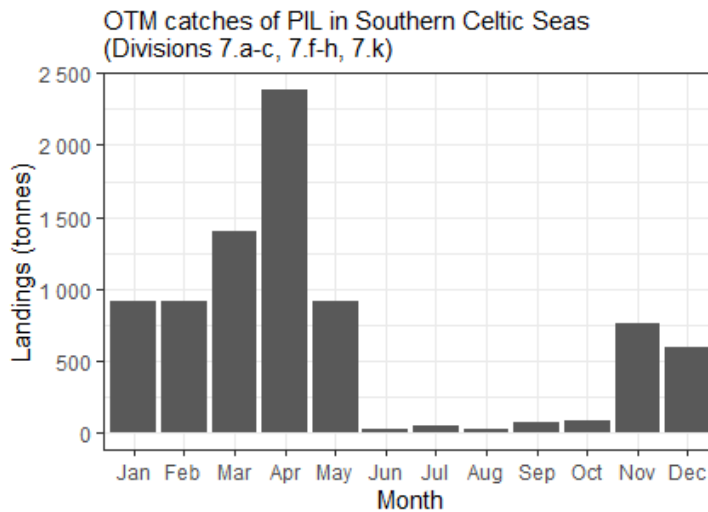


### 4.3 Spotlight on Trawl (OTM) fishery in Southern Celtic Seas (Divisions 7.a-c, 7.f-h, 7.k)

Landings of Sardine accounted for an average of 3% of OTM landings in all areas, and 17% of OTM landings in Divisions 7.a-c, 7.f-h, 7.k.



**Figure 15.** Spatial distribution of OTM landings of PIL in Divisions 7.a-c, 7.f-h, 7.k by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 16.** Average monthly landings of Sardine caught via Trawl in Divisions 7.a-c, 7.f-h, 7.k by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

## 4.4 Available stock information

ICES provides recurring advice on several sardine stocks, including sardine in subarea 7 (ICES 2022c), divisions 8.a-b and 8-d (ICES 2022a), and divisions 8.c and 9.a (ICES 2022b).

### Assessment

Sardine stocks in divisions 8.a-b and 8.d and divisions 8.c and 9.a have analytical assessments and provide advice based on the MSY approach. In addition, for sardine in divisions 8.c and 9.a, ICES provides additional catch scenarios following harvest control rules proposed for a management plan for 2021-2026 (ICES 2021b).

The sardine stock in subarea 7 does not have a quantitative assessment and was most recently benchmarked in 2021 (ICES 2021a). Precautionary advice is provided based on a harvest control rule for short-lived species using the PELTIC acoustic survey.

### Stock Status

For the three stocks that ICES currently considers, stock status is as follows:

Sardine Stock	Exploitation Status	Biomass Status
Subarea 7	Unknown	Unknown. Increasing since 2017.
Divisions 8.a-b and 8.d	Above Fmsy and Fpa, below Flim	Below MSY Btrigger and Bpa, above Blim
Divisions 8.c and 9.a	Above Fmsy and Fpa, below Flim	Above MSY Btrigger, Bpa, and Blim

### Discards

Negligible.

### Additional information

The boundary between stocks in subareas 7 and 8 is unclear; prior to 2017 the areas were assessed together (ICES 2017).

## 4.5 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

The Netherlands have a small contribution to the 8a,b-d stock and most of the catches are taken in subarea 7, division 8c,9a that show biomasses to be increasing or above MSY Btrigger. Fishing mortality for the latter stock is however above Fmsy and even Fpa.

## References

ICES. 2017. "Report of the Benchmark Workshop on Pelagic Stocks (WKPELA)," ACOM:35, 278.

ICES. 2021a. "Benchmark Workshop on Selected Stocks in the Western Waters in 2021" 3 (31): 504. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ICES.PUB.8137>.

ICES. 2021b. "Request from Portugal and Spain for an Updated Advice for 2021 on Catch Opportunities for Sardine (*Sardina Pilchardus*) in Divisions 8.c and 9.a (Cantabrian Sea and Atlantic Iberian Waters)," 9. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.8203>.

ICES. 2022a. "Sardine (*Sardina Pilchardus*) in Divisions 8.a-b and 8.d (Bay of Biscay)," 6. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772452>.

ICES. 2022b. "Sardine (*Sardina Pilchardus*) in Divisions 8.c and 9.a (Cantabrian Sea and Atlantic Iberian Waters)," 8. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772455>.

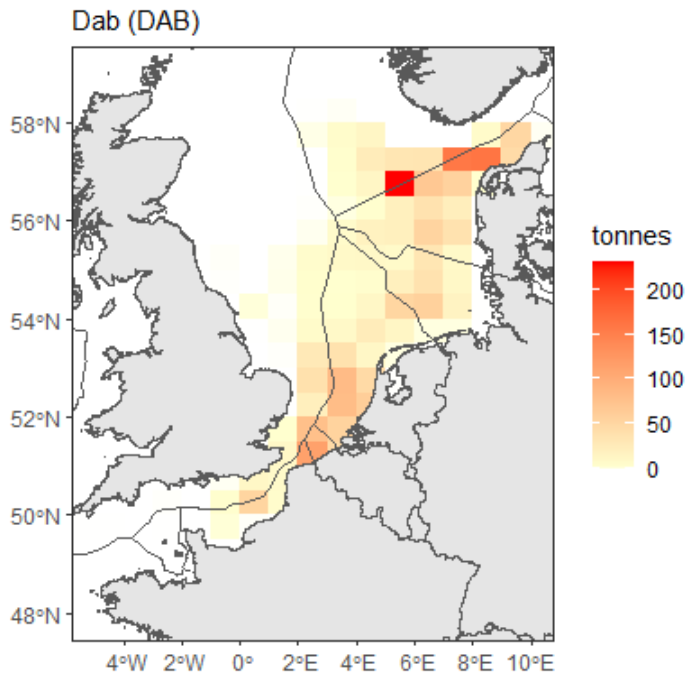
ICES. 2022c. "Sardine (*Sardina Pilchardus*) in Subarea 7 (Southern Celtic Seas and the English Channel)," 5. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19772449>.

## 5. Schar - Common dab (DAB)

### 5.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 1744 - 3065 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 2341 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 228 tonnes (10%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 17.** The spatial distribution of landings of DAB by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 9:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of DAB by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

Skagerrak and Kattegat	North Sea		Other
3.a	4.b	4.c	
269 tonnes (11.5%)	1314 tonnes (56.1%)	651 tonnes (27.8%)	108 tonnes (4.6%)

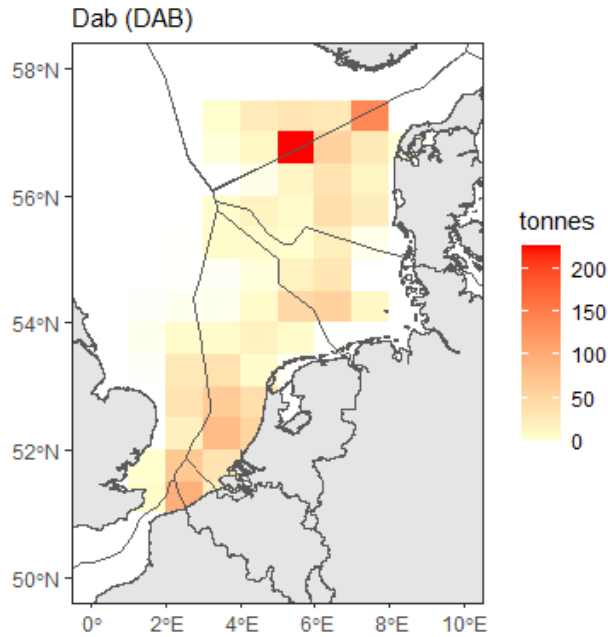
### Fishing gears

**Table 10:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of DAB by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

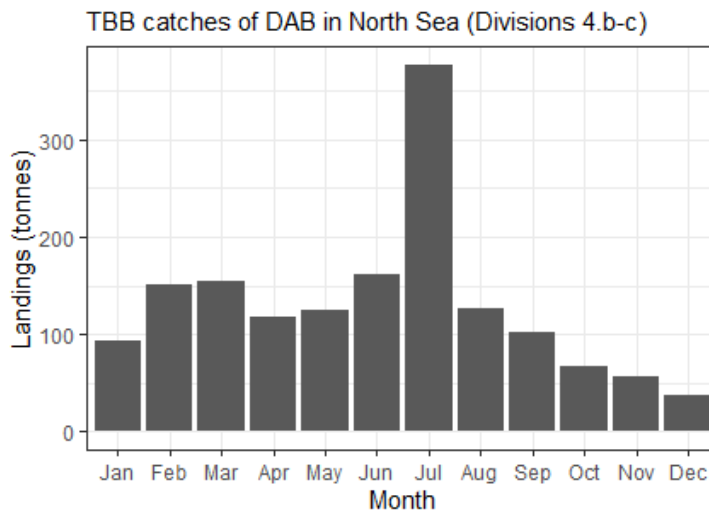
TBB	SSC	Other	OTB
1839 tonnes (78.54%)	248 tonnes (10.58%)	129 tonnes (5.52%)	125 tonnes (5.36%)
€ 1,586,483	€ 214,755	€ 121,367	€ 113,777

## 5.2 Spotlight on Beam Trawl (TBB) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c)

Landings of Dab accounted for an average of 5% of TBB landings in all areas, and 5% of TBB landings in Divisions 4.b-c.



**Figure 18.** Spatial distribution of TBB landings of DAB in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 19.** Average monthly landings of Dab caught via Beam Trawl in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

## 5.3 Available stock information

### Assessment

ICES provides recurring advice for dab in subarea 4 and division 3.a based on the MSY approach (ICES 2022). The EU multiannual management plan (EU 2018) covers this stock, however there is no management agreement with Norway or the UK.

### **Stock Status**

Fishing pressure is below the  $F_{MSY}$  proxy. Relative biomass is above the MSY  $B_{trigger}$  proxy.

### **Common management measures**

#### **Discards**

High. Dab is a bycatch species for demersal fisheries targeting plaice and sole in the North Sea.

#### **Additional information**

ICES has advised that the lack of catch limit for dab is low risk, provided that the target species are fished sustainably and that dab remain within safe biological limits (ICES 2017).

## 5.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

Given that the stock is in safe biological limits, there are no concerns related to the Dutch fishery in relation to sustainable exploitation.

### References

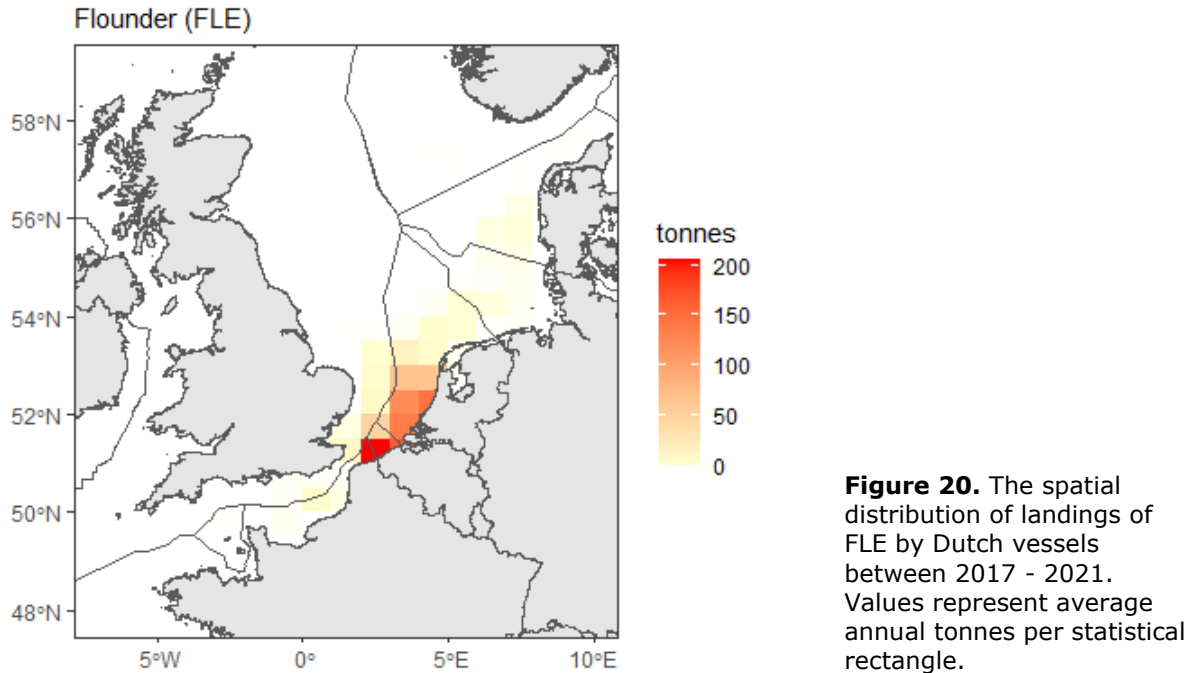
- EU. 2018. "Regulation (EU) 2018/973 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 Establishing a Multiannual Plan for Demersal Stocks in the North Sea and the Fisheries Exploiting Those Stocks, Specifying Details of the Implementation of the Landing Obligation in the North Sea and Repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 676/2007 and (EC),” no. No 1342/2008. , L 179: 1–13. <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/973/oj>.
- ICES. 2017. "EU Request on a Combined Dab and Flounder TAC and Potential Management Measures Besides Catch Limits." 8. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5290>.
- ICES. 2022. "Dab (Limanda Limanda) in Subarea 4 and Division 3.a (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat)," 10. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19447901>.

## 6. Bot - European flounder (FLE)

### 6.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 780 - 1236 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 1040 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 38 tonnes (4%) were caught in UK waters.



**Table 11:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of FLE by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

North Sea	Other
4.c	
987 tonnes (95%)	53 tonnes (5%)

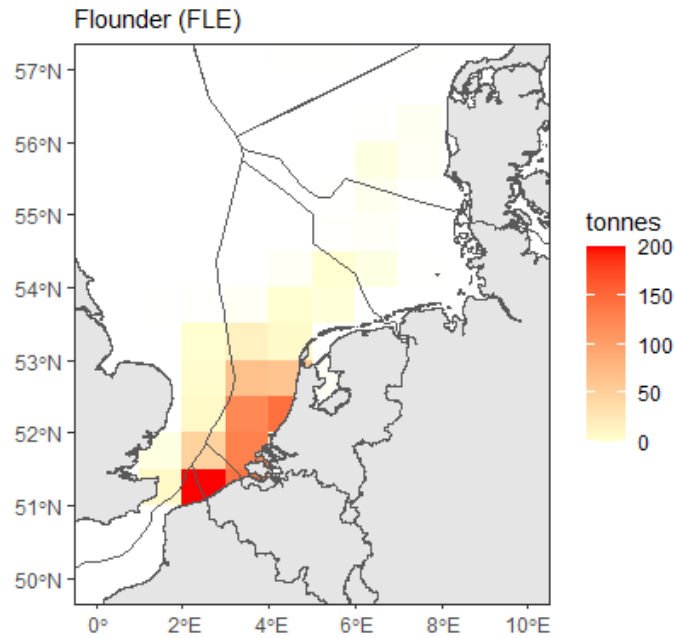
#### *Fishing gears*

**Table 12:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of FLE by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

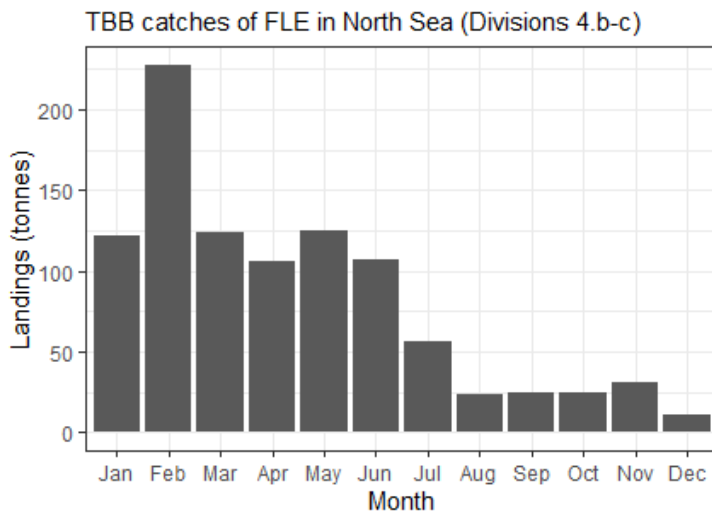
TBB	Other
982 tonnes (94%)	57 tonnes (6%)
€ 798,196	€ 46,304

## 6.2 Spotlight on Beam Trawl (TBB) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c)

Landings of Flounder accounted for an average of 3% of TBB landings in all areas, and 3% of TBB landings in Divisions 4.b-c.



**Figure 21.** Spatial distribution of TBB landings of FLE in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 22.** Average monthly landings of Flounder caught via Beam Trawl in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

## 6.3 Available stock information

### Assessment



ICES provides precautionary advice for flounder in subarea 4 and division 3.a (ICES 2021).

### **Stock Status**

Fishing pressure is below  $F_{MSY}$  proxy. There is no defined biomass reference point so stock size status is unknown. Relative biomass has decreased since 2015.

### **Common management measures**

#### **Discards**

High. Flounder is a bycatch species for demersal fisheries targeting plaice and sole in the North Sea. The recent reported discard rate is 29% of the total catch; however, this does not include data from beam trawlers targeting brown shrimp.

#### **Additional information**

ICES has advised that the lack of catch limit for flounder is low risk, provided that the target species are fished sustainably and that flounder remain within safe biological limits (ICES 2017).

## **6.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation**

The Netherlands catches the majority of the flounder catches in the North Sea and area 3a. Although the stock is assessed to be fished below  $F_{msy}$ , the stock is declining in size and may become a concern in the future.

### **References**

ICES. 2017. "EU Request on a Combined Dab and Flounder TAC and Potential Management Measures Besides Catch Limits." 8. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.5290>.

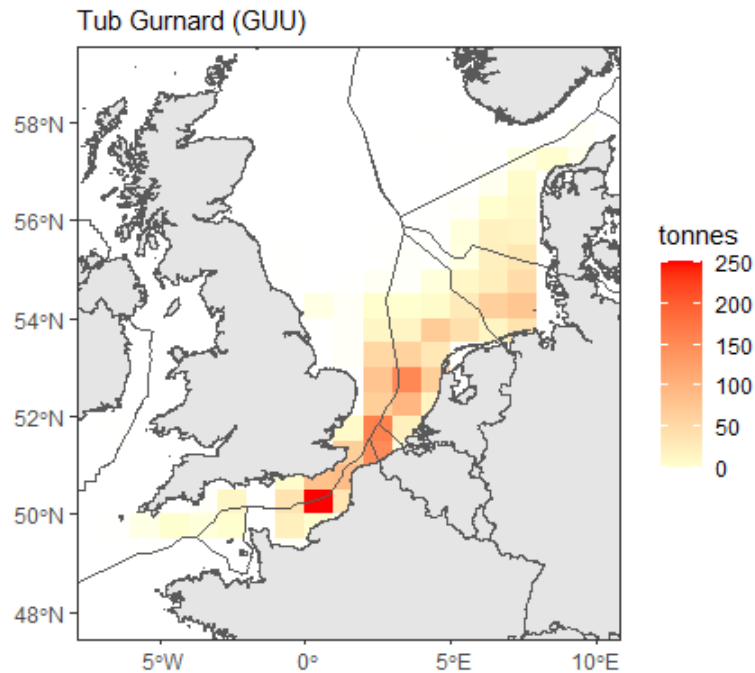
ICES. 2021. "Flounder (*Platichthys Flesus*) in Subarea 4 and Division 3.a (North Sea, Skagerrak and Kattegat)," 10. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7753>.

## 7. Rode poon - Tub gurnard (GUU)

### 7.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 1849 - 3035 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 2217 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 678 tonnes (31%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 23.** The spatial distribution of landings of GUU by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 13:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of GUU by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

North Sea		English Channel	Other
4.b	4.c	7.d	
749 tonnes (33.8%)	900 tonnes (40.6%)	537 tonnes (24.2%)	32 tonnes (1.4%)

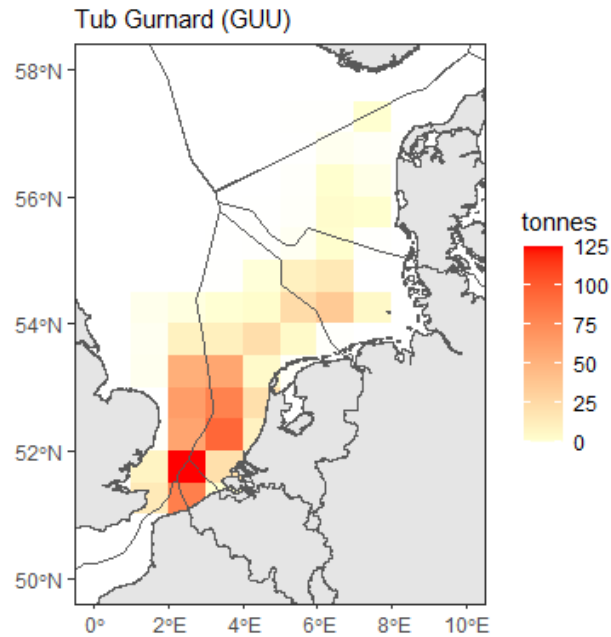
### Fishing gears

**Table 14:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of GUU by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

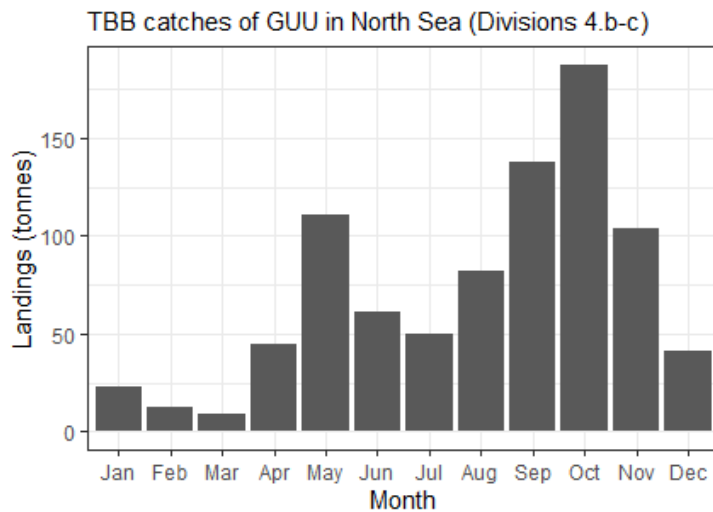
SSC	TBB	Other
1281 tonnes (58%)	867 tonnes (39%)	68 tonnes (3%)
€ 2,023,968	€ 1,359,863	€ 111,511

## 7.2 Spotlight on Beam Trawl (TBB) fishery in North Sea (Divisions 4.b-c)

Landings of Tub Gurnard accounted for an average of 2% of TBB landings in all areas, and 3% of TBB landings in Divisions 4.b-c.



**Figure 24.** Spatial distribution of TBB landings of GUU in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 25.** Average monthly landings of Tub Gurnard caught via Beam Trawl in Divisions 4.b-c by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

### 7.3 Available stock information

#### **Assessment**

There is currently no assessment for tub gurnard.

#### **Stock Status**

Unknown.

#### **Common management measures**

Currently, there are no technical measures and no minimum landing size in place.

#### **Discards**

Discard rates are variable but high. Tub gurnard is bycaught in mixed demersal fisheries.

#### **Additional information**

While the FAO species code GUU refers to the species tub gurnard, it is likely that some landings of mixed gurnards (e.g., red, grey) are reported as GUU (ICES 2021a, 2021b). ICES provides limited advice for red and grey gurnards ICES (2022), but there is not enough information to advise on tub gurnard.

### 7.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

Due to the lack of stock assessment availability for Tub Gurnard, we cannot assess the contribution of the Dutch fishery to the sustainable exploitation.

### References

ICES. 2021a. "Benchmark Workshop on Selected Stocks in the Western Waters in 2021" 3 (31): 504. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ICES.PUB.8137>.

ICES. 2021b. "Red Gurnard (*Chelidonichthys Cuculus*) in Subareas 3-8 (Northeast Atlantic)," 4. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.7757>.

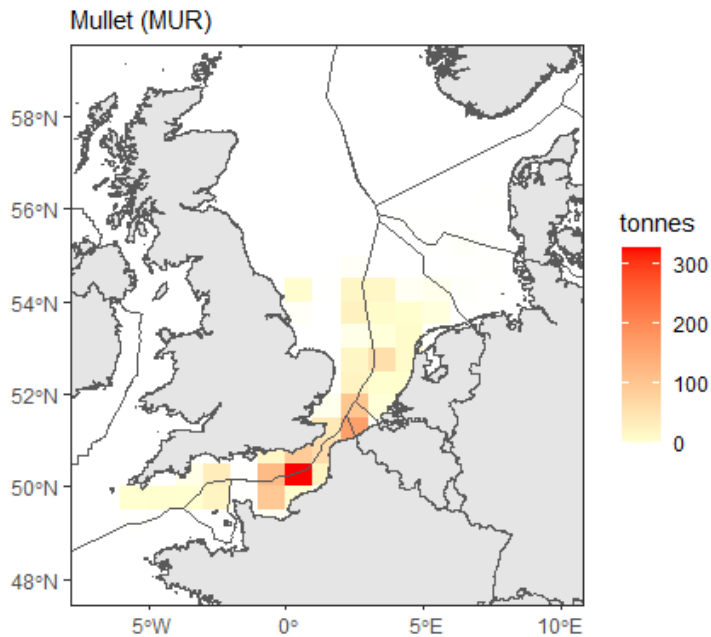
ICES. 2022. "Grey Gurnard (*Eutrigla Gurnardus*) in Subarea 4 and Divisions 7.d and 3.a (North Sea, Eastern English Channel, Skagerrak and Kattegat)," 7. <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.19447934>.

## 8. Mul - Striped red mullet (MUR)

### 8.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 907 - 1893 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 1358 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 532 tonnes (39%) were caught in UK waters.



**Figure 26.** The spatial distribution of landings of MUR by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021. Values represent average annual tonnes per statistical rectangle.

**Table 15:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of MUR by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

North Sea		English Channel	Other
4.b	4.c	7.d	
103 tonnes (7.6%)	437 tonnes (32.2%)	751 tonnes (55.3%)	67 tonnes (5.0%)

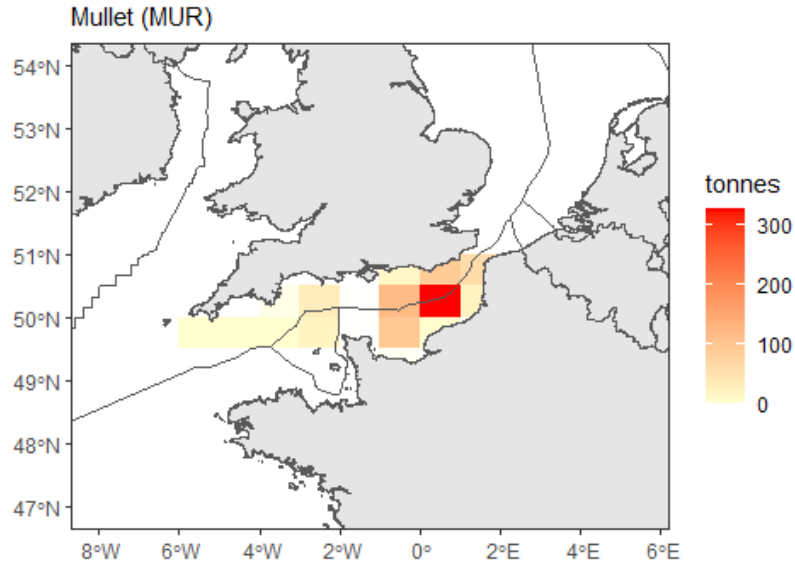
#### *Fishing gears*

**Table 16:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of MUR by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

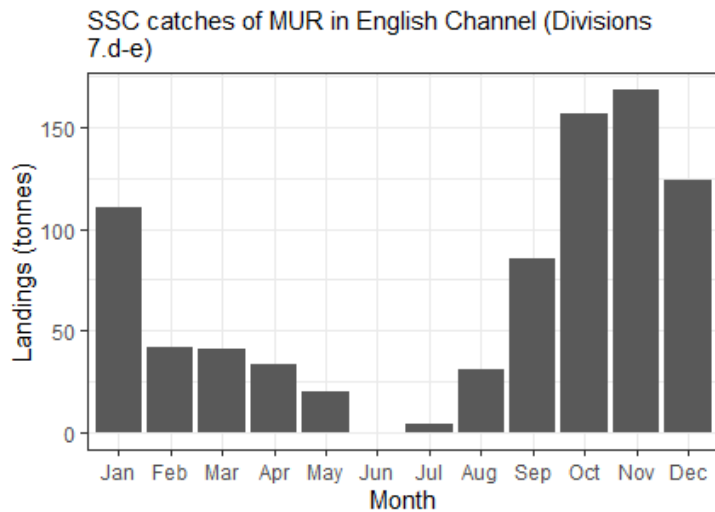
SSC	Other
1304 tonnes (96%)	54 tonnes (4%)
€ 6,195,991	€ 298,666

## 8.2 Spotlight on Flyshoot (SSC) fishery in English Channel (Divisions 7.d-e)

Landings of Mullet accounted for an average of 10% of SSC landings in all areas, and 18% of SSC landings in Divisions 7.d-e.



**Figure 27.** Spatial distribution of SSC landings of MUR in Divisions 7.d-e by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 28.** Average monthly landings of Mullet caught via Flyshoot in Divisions 7.d-e by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

## 8.3 Available stock information

### **Assessment**

ICES provides precautionary catch advice for mullet in subarea 4 and divisions 7.d and 3.a (ICES 2019). The stock has an age-based assessment, from which only trends are considered.

### **Stock Status**

Unknown in relation to reference points. Relative biomass decreased from 2015 to 2018. Relative exploitation (F) increased from 2016 to 2018.

### **Discards**

Unknown, assumed negligible because there is no minimum landing size and there is a market for small fish.

### **Additional information**

The assessment uses length data from France and the UK and age data from the UK, and sampling is limited to the eastern English Channel. The stock will be benchmarked in 2023 (WKBMSYSPIC2).

## 8.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

The Netherlands are accountable for approximately half of the catches of Striped red mullet in this area. The decline in SSB and increase in F in recent years are pointing in the direction of overexploitation of the stock.

## References

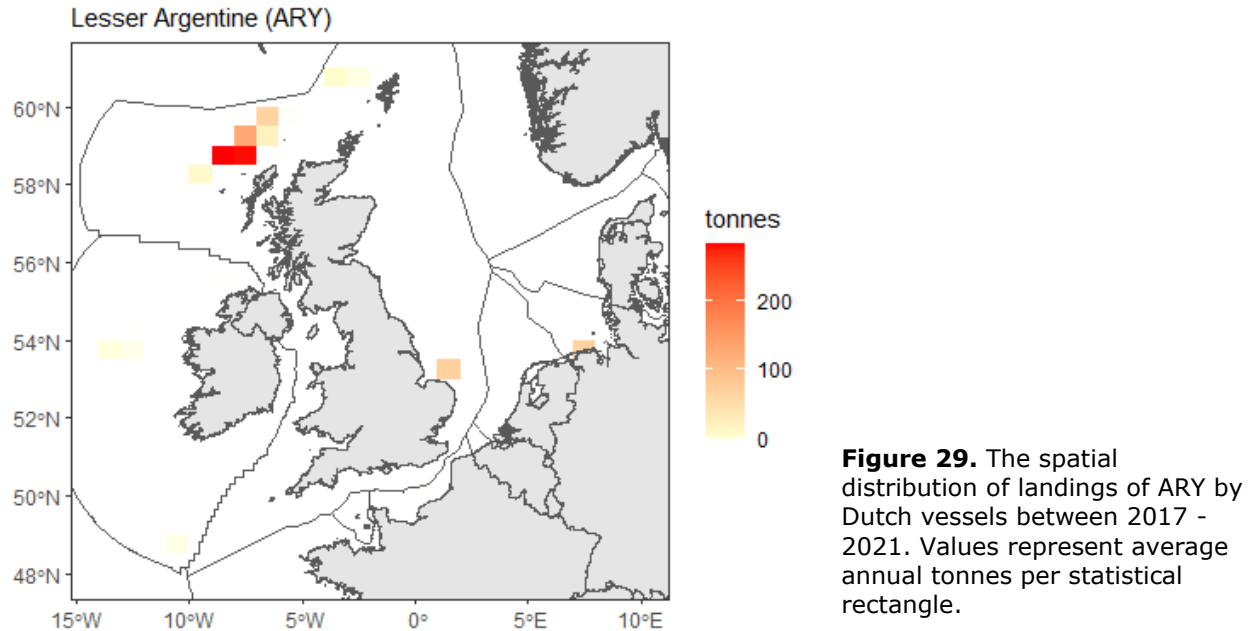
ICES. 2019. "Striped Red Mullet (*Mullus Surmuletus*) in Subarea 4 and Divisions 7.d and 3.a (North Sea, Eastern English Channel, Skagerrak and Kattegat)." <https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.advice.4863>.

## 9. Kleine zilversmelt - Lesser argentine (ARY)

### 9.1 Spatial distribution

**Landings by Dutch vessels (all areas, all fishing activity):** 0 - 1584 tonnes yr<sup>-1</sup> (annual range between 2017 - 2021)

**Percentage landings by Dutch vessels in UK waters:** Out of the annual average of 947 tonnes landed by Dutch vessels, an average of 872 tonnes (92%) were caught in UK waters.



**Table 17:** Average annual landings (2017 - 2021) of ARY by Dutch vessels by division. Areas comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

North Sea	West of Scotland	Other
4.b	6.a	
141 tonnes (15%)	792 tonnes (84%)	13 tonnes (1%)

#### Fishing gears

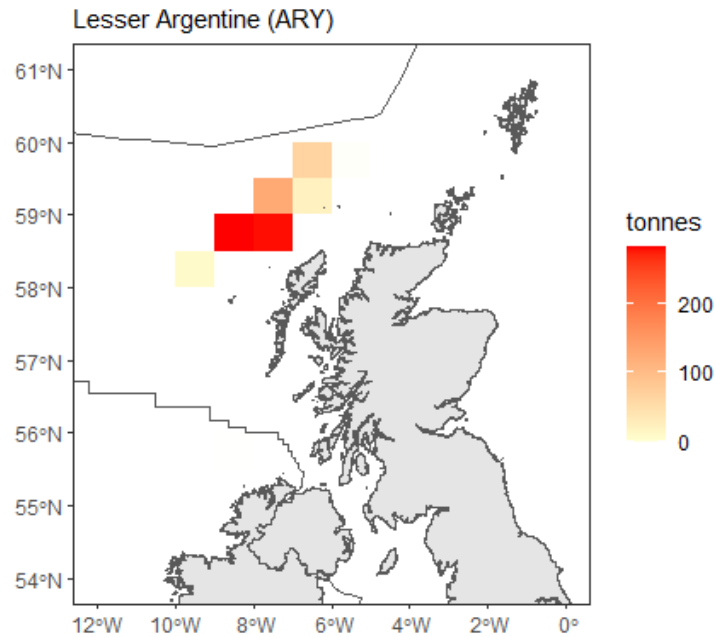
**Table 18:** Average annual landings and average economic value (2017 - 2021) of ARY by Dutch vessels by gear type. Gears comprising less than 5% of the species catch by weight are pooled into the "Other" category.

OTM	Other
947 tonnes (100%)	0 tonnes (0%)
€ 496,998	€ 33

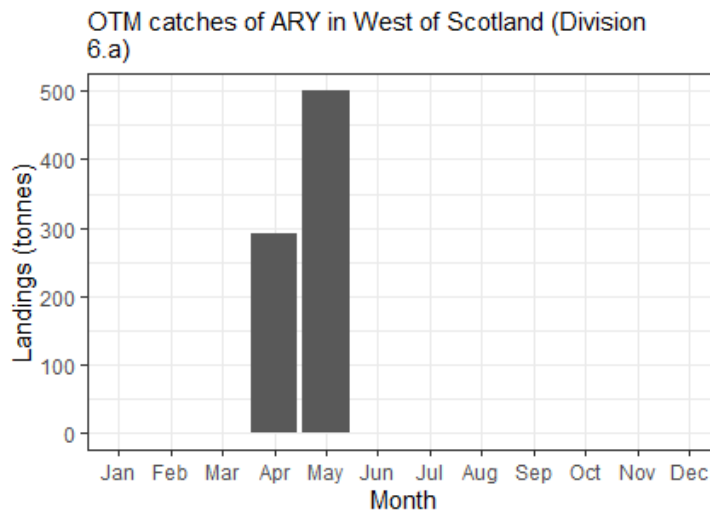


## 9.2 Spotlight on Trawl (OTM) fishery in West of Scotland (Division 6.a)

Landings of Lesser Argentine accounted for an average of 0% of OTM landings in all areas, and 2% of OTM landings in Division 6.a.



**Figure 30.** Spatial distribution of OTM landings of ARY in Division 6.a by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.



**Figure 31.** Average monthly landings of Lesser Argentine caught via Trawl in Division 6.a by Dutch vessels between 2017 - 2021.

### 9.3 Available stock information

#### **Assessment**

There is no assessment of lesser silver smelt (ARY).

#### **Stock Status**

Unknown.

#### **Additional information**

ICES provides advice for several stocks of a related species, greater silver smelt (ARU). In general lesser silver smelt (ARY) has a more southern distribution, but there is overlap between the two species, making identification and misreporting a concern.

### 9.4 Contribution of Dutch fishery to sustainable exploitation

The stock assessment of greater silver smelt indicates a sustainable exploitation with biomasses above  $BMSY_{trigger}$  and fishing mortality below  $F_{msy}$ . Given that life history is likely similar for both silver smelt species, it is expected that exploitation on lesser silversmelt is at appropriate fishing mortality levels as well.