



Department of Fisheries

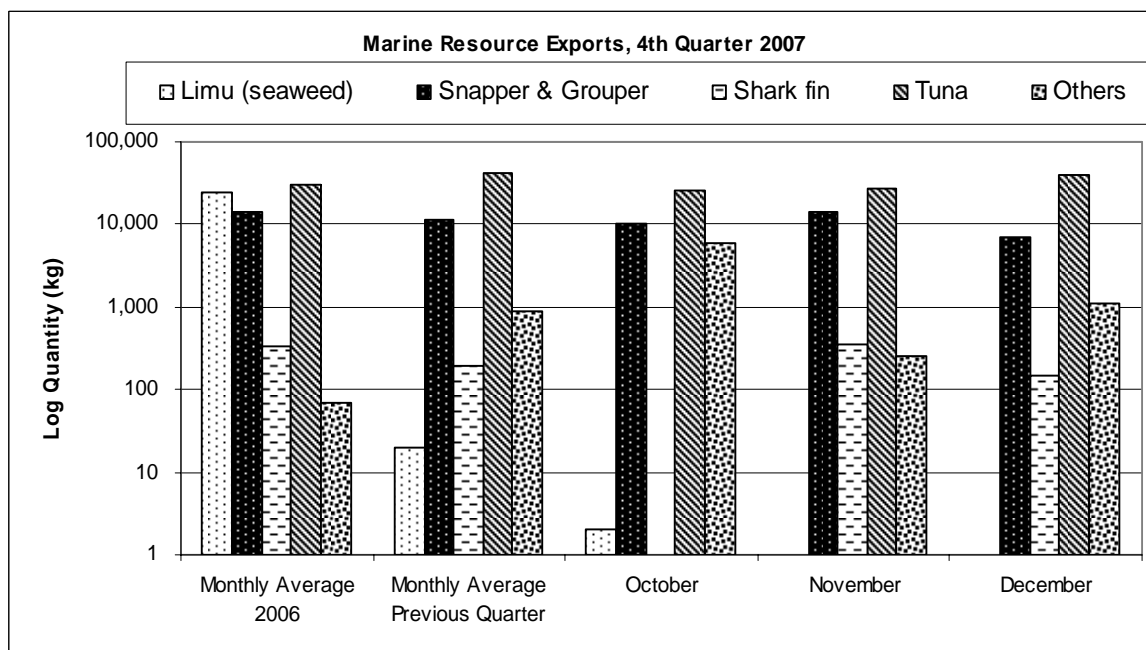
December Quarterly Report

2007

MARINE EXPORTS

The total quantity of marine products (not including aquarium products) exported in the fourth quarter of 2007 was 132,719kg. This is a 46% decrease from the quantity exported during the same period last year and a 19% decrease from that exported in the previous quarter.

The total FOB value of marine exports for the fourth quarter was TOP\$484,614. This is a less than 1% increase in the FOB value of marine resources exported during the same period last year and a 62% decrease from value of that exported in the previous quarter. The big decrease in quantity yet a minor change in value compared to the same period last year was due to big reduction in export of tuna in the fourth quarter of this year and also almost 100% reduction in export of seaweed.

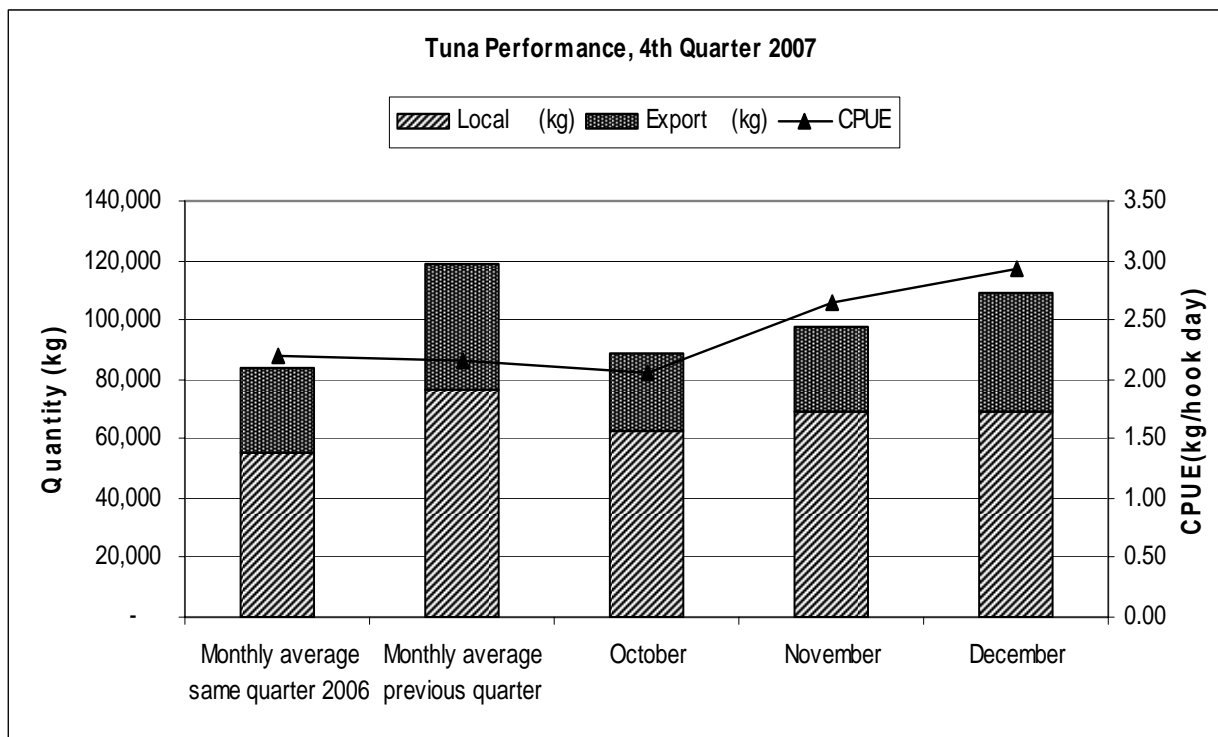


TUNA FISHERY

The export quantity of tuna and associated by-catch for this quarter increased by 11% as compared to the same quarter of last year and decreased by 27% as compared to the third quarter of 2007. The local price for all tuna species including swordfish ranges between T\$8.00 to T\$12.00/kg. The total FOB values of tuna exported in the fourth quarter 2007 were TOP\$323,757. This is a 288% increase from the values of tuna exported in the same period last year and a 71% decrease from that exported in the previous quarter.

The international prices for skipjack was steadily decreased by the end of November 2007 as a result of slight improvement in catches. The international prices for yellowfin remained steady throughout the same month due to continuing limited supply. The Bangkok prices for albacore prices remained steady throughout November also due to lack of demand.

All 9 licensed tuna fishing were actively fishing during the 4th quarter of 2007. The total catch quantity for the quarter was 294.3 metric tons and it is decreased by 18% in comparison to the previous quarter. Throughout the quarter the catch is climbing up monthly. Similarly, the CPUE trend is increasing it reveals a good sign in the tuna fishery.

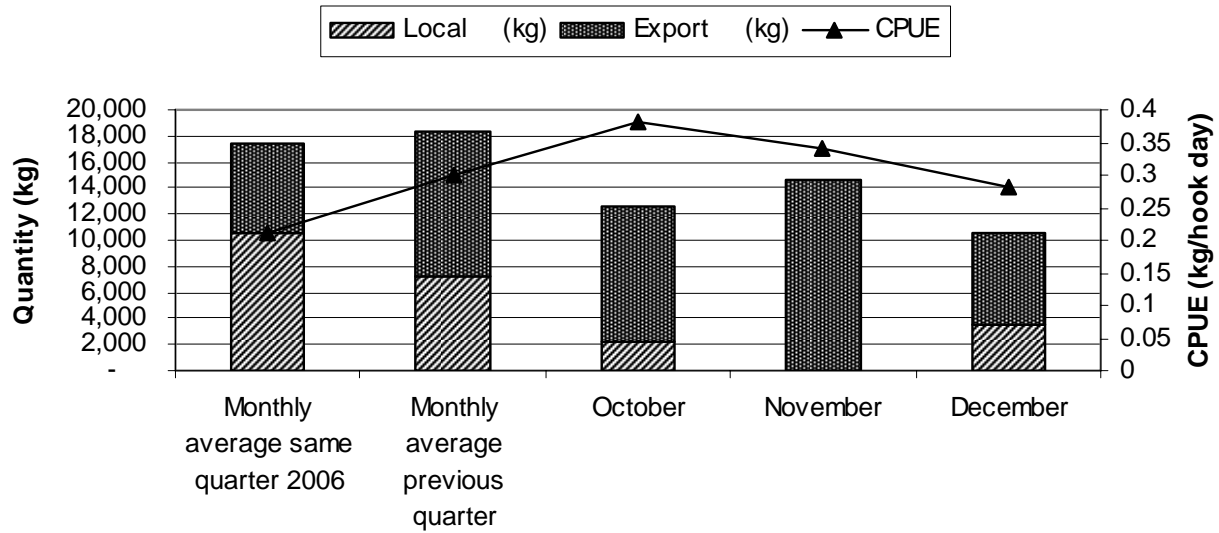


SNAPPER FISHERY

The total quantity of snapper and grouper exported in the fourth quarter 2007 was 32.0 metric tons. This is 58% increased in the quantity of snapper and grouper exported during the same period last year and a 4% decrease compared to the previous quarter.

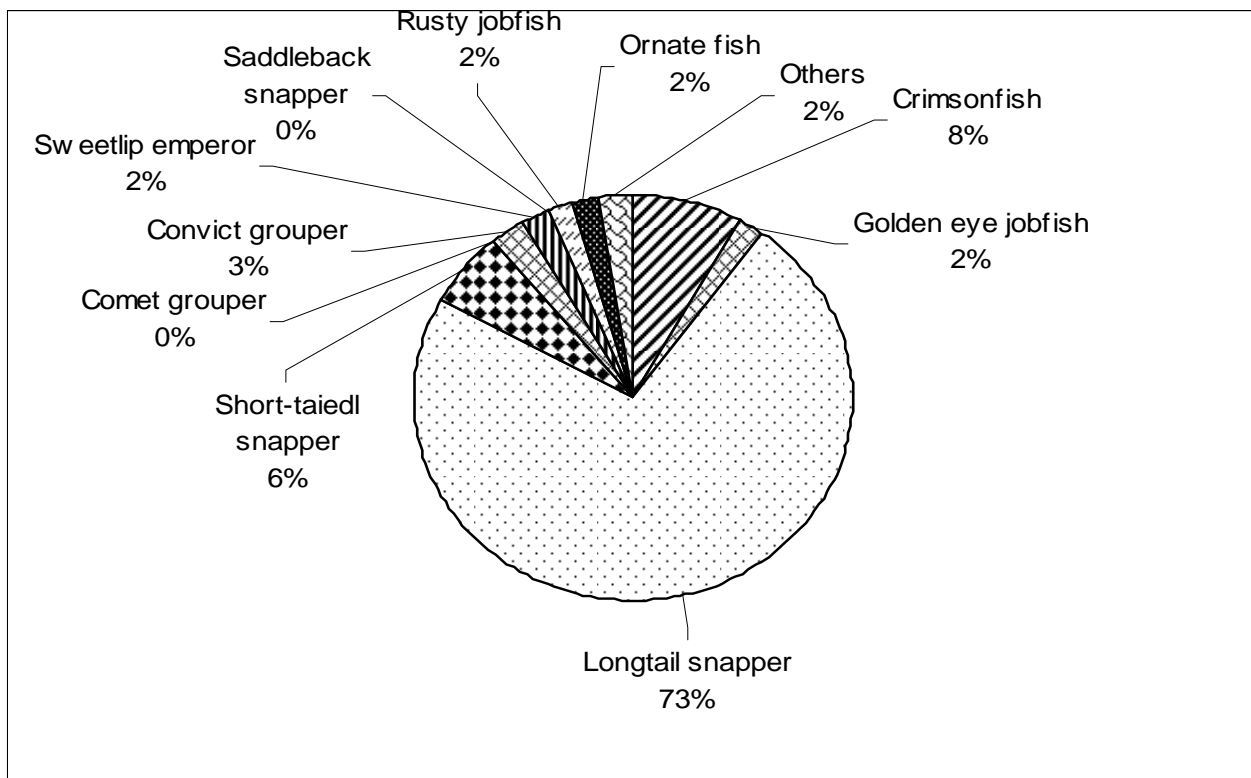
The total FOB values of snapper and grouper exported in the fourth quarter 2007 was TOP\$111,969. This is a 453% increase from the values of snapper and grouper exported in the same period last year and a 4% decrease from that exported in the previous quarter.

Snapper Performance, 4th Quarter 2007



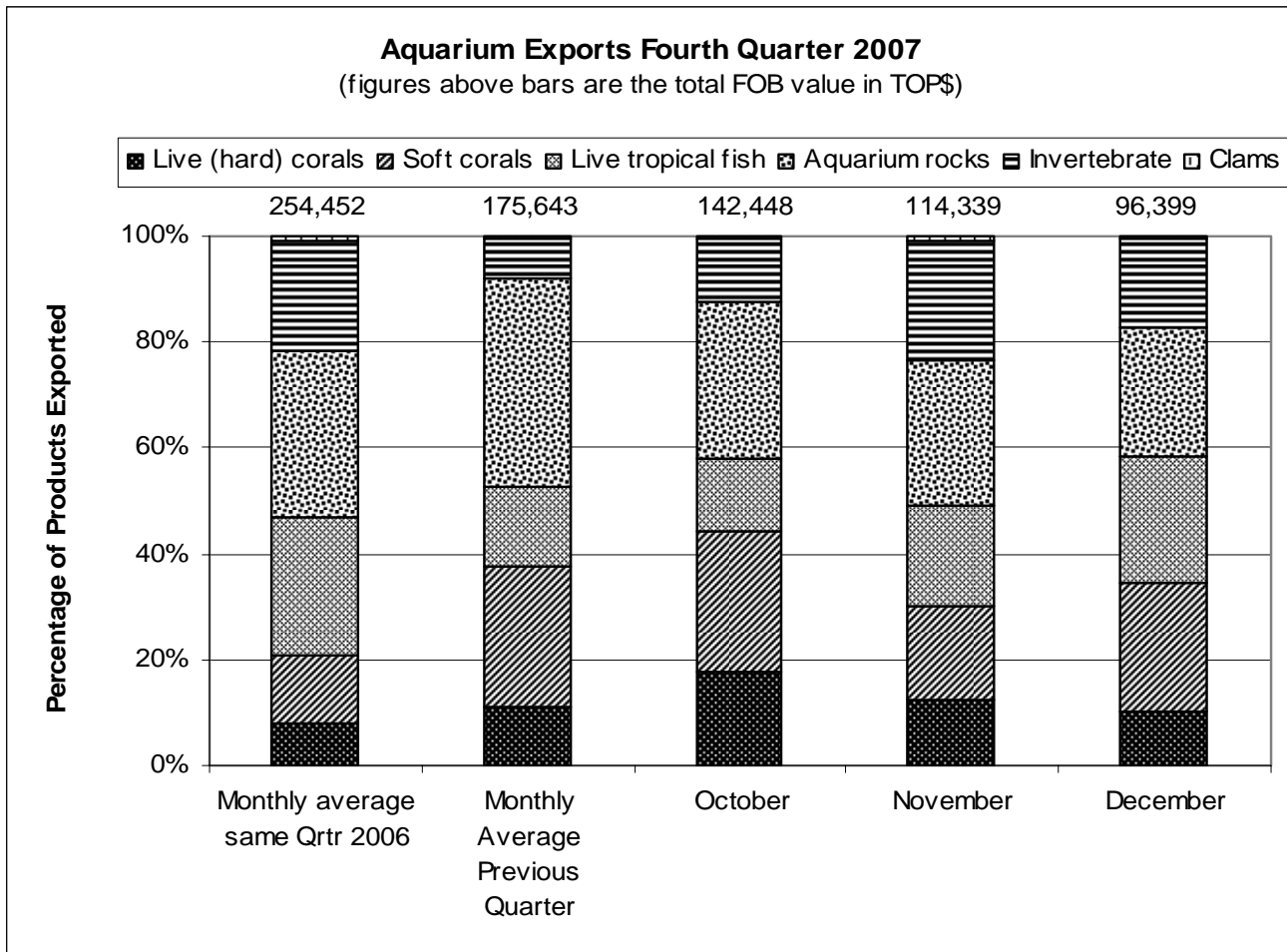
There were 15 out of 22 licensed fishing vessels were actively fishing during the fourth quarter of 2007. Many vessels stopped fishing during this quarter due to poor catch. Total landed catch of 37.8 metric tons was recorded in this quarter and it decreased by 27.5 % by weight in comparison to the previous quarter.

Catch composition



AQUARIUM FISHERY

The total FOB value of the exported aquarium products in the second quarter of 2007 was TOP\$353,186. This is a 33% decrease from the value of products exported in the previous quarter and a 54% decrease from the value exported in the same quarter of 2006.



SEAWEED FISHERY

In this quarter only 2kg of seaweed were exported. This is an almost 100% decrease for both the quantity exported in the previous quarter and the same quarter of last year. This tremendous decline has been caused by lack of seaweed market available for exporters in Tonga.