

Possibilities of processing and marketing of products made from Antarctic krill

by

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document has been prepared as part of the FAO's Regular Programme activities concerned with the state and prospects of world fisheries. The study was designed to provide a realistic assessment of the prospects for the future development of the krill resources, based on recent technological developments and experiences. Through such studies, FAO seeks to anticipate developments that might affect the future demand and supply of fishery products. The authors of the paper worked in consultation with Dr. Z. Russek of the Sea Fishery Institute of Gdynia.

ABSTRACT

The potential development of krill has attracted attention for several years and has led to the publication of a large number of papers. Only a few of these, however, (most notably FAO reports prepared by Grantham in 1977 and McElroy in 1980) have dealt with all aspects of krill development in economic terms, from harvesting through processing to marketing. Since the preparation of the earlier FAO reports, research has introduced new elements concerning krill stock estimates and processing techniques. The progress made in processes and equipment for the production of peeled meat from krill is especially important since it indicates that products for human consumption, acceptable to the consumer, can be obtained. However, difficulties in solving economic and marketing problems still remain and it is these that, in the long run, will determine the viability of krill development.

The present study, based on the available literature and original analyses, takes into account the limitation resulting from the properties of the raw materials and presents the current state of possible commercial-scale uses of krill-processing technologies into products for human consumption, animal feed and industrial purposes. It also outlines views on marketing problems and provides examples of costs and prices of krill products already being produced or expected to be produced in the near future.

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