

Microbiological Criteria for fishery products intended for export to EU

This document is for guidance only. For regulatory purposes please cross check with the latest version of the EU regulation referred to on EUR-Lex <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html>

(Last updated 18 July 2018)

Type of Product	EU Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 (subject to specific test methods)
Ready to Eat products	<p><i>Listeria monocytogenes:</i> In products that support growth of Listeria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Absence in 25 g before leaving the processing facility in 5 of 5 samples- Max 100 cfu/g when at the market in 5 of 5 samples. <p>In products that do not support growth of Listeria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 100 cfu/g in 5 of 5 samples <p><i>Salmonella:</i> In cooked crustaceans and shell fish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Absence in 25 g in 5 of 5 samples <p><i>E. coli:</i> Process Criteria for Shelled and shucked products of cooked crustaceans and molluscan shellfish</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1-10 MPN/g where at least 3 of 5 samples shall be ≤1 MPN/g <p><i>Coagulase-positive staphylococci</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 10²-10³cfu/g where at least 3 of 5 samples shall be ≤100cfu/g
All other fish products excl. bivalves, gastropods	No legal criteria

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<p>Fishery products from fish species associated with a high amount of histidine. (EU: Particularly fish species of the families: Scombridae, Clupeidae, Engraulidae, Coryfenidae, Pomatomidae, Scombresosidae. US: Tuna, mahi-mahi, and related fish Myanmar: Hilsa and Lotia</p>	<p><i>Histamine:</i> Frozen, fresh, dried, cooked: Max 100mg/kg (average of 9 samples, where 2 samples may be 100-200mg/kg and no samples may be >200mg/kg)</p> <p>Fermented fishery products: Max 200mg/kg (average of 9 samples, where 2 samples may be 200-400mg/kg and no samples may be >400mg/kg)</p> <p>Fish Sauce: Max 400mg/kg</p>
<p>Bivalve molluscs (Clams, oysters, scallops) gastropods, tunicates</p>	<p>See the Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 for microbiological criteria and Regulation (EC) 853</p>