

Europe Aquaculture Market Size and Forecast (2021 - 2031)

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Abstracts

The Europe Aquaculture Market is projected to grow significantly, reaching an estimated US\$ 27,809.8 million by 2031, up from US\$ 20,114.4 million in 2024. This growth reflects a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.7% from 2025 to 2031, indicating a robust expansion in this sector.

Executive Summary and Market Analysis

The food industry in Europe is undergoing a transformative shift, with aquaculture emerging as a vital component in several key economies, including Germany, France, the UK, and Italy. Countries like Spain and France have recognized the strategic importance of aquaculture, integrating it into their food supply systems. However, there is an urgent need for enhanced aquaculture policies across other EU member states to fully realize the sector's potential.

European aquaculture products are increasingly viewed as premium offerings, essential to the continent's food ecosystem. The term "aquatic chicken," which has gained popularity in media discussions about farmed salmon, underscores the mainstream appeal and versatility of these products. As consumer preferences evolve, there is a noticeable shift from red meat to seafood, particularly in countries like France, the UK, and Italy.

Strategic Insights

Market Segmentation Analysis

The Europe Aquaculture Market can be segmented by product type and culture

environment. By product type, the market includes categories such as Fish, Salmon, Tuna, Cod, Other Fish, Aquatic Plants, Crustaceans, Mollusca, and Others. In 2024, the Fish segment was the dominant category. In terms of culture environment, the market is divided into Freshwater, Marine Water, and Brackish Water, with the Brackish Water segment leading in market share in 2024.

Market Outlook

Government support is crucial for the growth of aquaculture, particularly in fish production and other aquatic species. As global demand for fish as a primary protein source continues to rise, aquaculture has emerged as a strategic solution to meet this demand sustainably. Traditional inland and marine fisheries have historically contributed to seafood supply; however, overfishing has led to significant threats to marine ecosystems. In contrast, aquaculture presents a more sustainable alternative, with substantial potential for growth and a promising future as a key contributor to food security.

Recognizing the importance of aquaculture, governments worldwide are implementing favorable initiatives and supportive policies that create a conducive environment for growth in the industry. These initiatives include investments in research, the establishment of legal frameworks, and the development of infrastructure necessary for both large-scale and small-scale aquaculture operations. By fostering an enabling environment, government actions are unlocking the full potential of this dynamic sector.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO) has highlighted a significant gap between current seafood supply and projected global demand. By 2030, seafood demand is expected to exceed 260 million tonnes, while current production levels are estimated to reach only 210 million tonnes. This growing disparity presents a clear opportunity for aquaculture, positioning it as a vital element of future food systems. With progressive initiatives and government support, the global aquaculture market is being propelled toward a more sustainable and prosperous future.

Country Insights

The Europe Aquaculture Market is also analyzed by country, with key markets including Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the Rest of Europe. In 2024, the Rest of Europe held the largest market share. Countries such as Russia, Austria, Poland, Portugal, and Turkey have been included in the analysis of the Rest of Europe, showing slow but notable growth in the production and consumption of fish and

processed fish products. The demand for fish and fish protein in these regions is expected to rise during the forecast period, driven by increasing awareness of the health benefits associated with fish consumption. Additionally, a diverse range of product offerings is positively impacting market growth in these countries.

Company Profiles

Key players in the Europe Aquaculture Market include Cooke Aquaculture Inc., JBS SA, Bakkafrøst, Blue Ridge Aquaculture, Inc., Cermaq Group AS, Danish Salmon, Leroy Seafood Group ASA, Mowi ASA, Stolt-Nielsen Ltd, and Thai Union Group PCL. These companies are employing various strategies such as expansion, product innovation, and mergers and acquisitions to deliver innovative products to consumers and enhance their market share.

In conclusion, the Europe Aquaculture Market is poised for significant growth, driven by changing consumer preferences, government support, and the increasing importance of sustainable seafood production. As the market evolves, it will play a crucial role in addressing the growing demand for seafood and ensuring food security across the continent.

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