



MarinTrust Standard V2

By-product Fishery Assessment, THA27

Indian oil sardine (*Sardinella longiceps*) FAO 61, 71

MarinTrust Programme

Unit C, Printworks

22 Amelia Street

London

SE17 3BZ

E: standards@marin-trust.com

T: +44 2039 780 819

Table 1. Application details and summary of the assessment outcome

Fishery Under Assessment	Species:	Indian oil sardine (<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>)
	Geographical area:	FAO 61, Pacific, Northwest FAO 71, Pacific, Western Central
	Country of origin of the product:	Thailand, Pakistan, China, Oman and Japan
	Stock:	Pacific Ocean, Northwest and Western Central
Date	October 2024	
Report Code	THA27	
Assessor	Sam Dignan	
Country of origin of the product - PASS	Thailand, Pakistan, China, Oman and Japan	
Country of origin of the product - FAIL	Not applicable	

Application details and summary of the assessment outcome			
Company Name(s): South East Asian Packaging and Canning Ltd, Asian Alliance International Public Company Limited			
Country:			
Email address:		Applicant Code:	
Certification Body Details			
Name of Certification Body:		LRQA	
Assessor	Peer Reviewer	Assessment Days	Initial/Surveillance/ Re-approval
Sam Dignan	Phoebe Schouten	0.2	Surveillance 1
Assessment Period	To December 2025		

Scope Details	
Main Species	Indian oil sardine (<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>)
Stock	Pacific Ocean, Northwest and West-Central
Fishery Location	FAO 61, Pacific, Northwest FAO 71, Pacific, Western Central
Management Authority (Country/ State)	Thailand
Gear Type(s)	Purse seine, pelagic trawl
Outcome of Assessment	
Peer Review Evaluation	Pass
Recommendation	PASS

Table 2. Assessment Determination

Assessment Determination
<p>Indian oil sardine has been categorised by the IUCN as a species of Least Concern and does not appear in the CITES appendices.</p> <p>There does not appear to be any evidence of reference points or species-specific management measures for Indian oil sardine in the Pacific Ocean. Indeed, while the species seems only to be distributed (or at least concentrated) in the Indian Ocean, there is mention/records of it being present in waters of Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. Given the lack of management, the stock was assessed under Category D and a productivity susceptibility analysis (PSA) undertaken.</p> <p>In a departure from previous assessments, and to account for 1) the uncertainty as to whether the species is indeed present and caught in the Pacific Ocean and 2) the lack of any known distribution in the region against which to assess overlap, areal overlap was assumed >30% on a precautionary basis.</p> <p>The subsequent risk assessment shows that while highly susceptible as a target species, the species is also highly productive such that the species is not categorised as vulnerable to the impacts of the fishery under consideration by D1 – D3 - Minimum Requirements.</p> <p>Therefore, it meets relevant MT requirements and should be approved for use as a raw material.</p>
Fishery Assessment Peer Review Comments
<p>The peer reviewer agrees that Indian oil Sardine is not subject to any species specific management, is categorised as LC by the IUCN and is not found in ICES appendix 1 and is therefore correctly assessed as a category D species. The assessor brings up that the species is mainly concentrated in the Indian Ocean, but as there is evidence of the species being present in FAO 61 and 71 this assessment is justified.</p> <p>The species was given a 1.14 for productivity and 3 for susceptibility in Table D1 which was checked by the peer reviewer, and overall passes against table D3.</p> <p>The peer reviewer agrees with the assessment outcomes, and that Indian Oil Sardine in FAO 61 and 71 should be approved for use as Marin Trust raw material.</p>
Notes for On-site Auditor
<p>Confirm whether the species is being caught and sourced from the Pacific Ocean. If not, this Byproduct assessment is unnecessary.</p>

Species Categorisation

NB: If any species is categorised as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List, or if it appears in CITES Appendix 1, it **cannot** be approved for use as an MarinTrust raw material.

IUCN Red list Category

By-product material from a species listed by IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature) under the Red List for the following categories shall immediately fail the assessment;

- EXTINCT (E) AND EXTINCT IN THE WILD (EW)
- CRITICALLY ENDANGERED (CR) facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- ENDANGERED (EN) facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

By-product material may be used from the following categories provided that all clauses in the MarinTrust standard are passed.

- VULNERABLE (VU) facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.
- NEAR THREATENED (NT) does not qualify for above now, but is close or is likely to qualify for, a threatened category in the near future.
- LEAST CONCERN (LC) Widespread and abundant.
- DATA DEFICIENT (DD) and NOT EVALUATED (NE)

Table 3. Species Categorisation Table

Common name	Latin name	Stock	Management	Category	IUCN Red List Category ¹	CITES Appendix 1 ²
Indian oil sardine	<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>	Pacific Ocean, Northwest and Western Central	No	D	LC	No

¹ <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

² <https://cites.org/eng/app/appendices.php>

CATEGORY D SPECIES

Category D species are those which are not subject to a species-specific management regime. In the case of mixed trawl fisheries, Category D species may make up the majority of landings. The comparative lack of scientific information on the status of the population of the species means that a risk-assessment style approach must be taken.

D1	Species Name	Indian oil sardine (<i>Sardinella longiceps</i>)	
	Productivity Attribute	Value	Score
	Average age at maturity (years)	1.9 – 2 years	1
	Average maximum age (years)	2.8 years	1
	Fecundity (eggs/spawning)	19,028	2
	Average maximum size (cm)	21.5 cm	1
	Average size at maturity (cm)	15.42 cm	1
	Reproductive strategy	Broadcast spawner	1
	Mean trophic level	2.4	1
	Average Productivity Score		1.14
	Susceptibility Attribute	Value	Score
	Availability (area overlap)	>30%	3
	Encounterability (the position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear)	Targeted	3
	Selectivity of gear type	Retained	3
	Post-capture mortality	Retained	3
	Average Susceptibility Score		3.0
	PSA Risk Rating (From Table D3)		PASS
	Compliance rating		PASS
	Further justification for susceptibility scoring (where relevant)		
	Given the uncertainty as to whether the species is indeed present and caught in the Pacific Ocean, and the lack of any known distribution in the region against which to assess overlap, areal overlap is assumed >30% on a precautionary basis.		
	References		
<i>Sardinella longiceps</i> Valenciennes, 1847. Indian oil sardine: https://www.fishbase.se/summary/1511			
Standard clauses 1.3.2.2			

Table D2 - Productivity / Susceptibility attributes and scores.

Productivity attributes	High productivity (Low risk, score =1)	Medium productivity (Medium risk, score = 2)	Low productivity (High risk, score = 3)
Average age at maturity	<5 years	5 – 15 years	>15 years
Average maximum age	<10 years	10 – 25 years	>25 years
Fecundity	>20,000 eggs per year	100 – 20,000 eggs per year	<100 eggs per year
Average maximum size	<100 cm	100 – 300 cm	>300 cm
Average size at maturity	<40 cm	40 – 200 cm	>200 cm
Reproductive strategy	Broadcast spawner	Demersal egg layer	Live bearer
Mean Trophic Level	<2.75	2.75 – 3.25	>3.25

Susceptibility attributes	Low susceptibility (Low risk, score =1)	Medium susceptibility (medium risk, score = 2)	High susceptibility (High risk, score = 3)
Areal overlap (availability) Overlap of the fishing effort with the species range	<10% overlap	10 – 30% overlap	>30% overlap
Encounterability The position of the stock/species within the water column relative to the fishing gear, and the position of the stock/species within the habitat relative to the position of the gear	Low overlap with fishing gear (low encounterability).	Medium overlap with fishing gear.	High overlap with fishing gear (high encounterability). Default score for target species
Selectivity of gear type Potential of the gear to retain species	a Individuals < size at maturity are rarely caught	a Individuals < size at maturity are regularly caught	a Individuals < size at maturity are frequently caught
	b Individuals < size at maturity can escape or avoid gear.	b Individuals < half the size at maturity can escape or avoid gear.	b Individuals < half the size at maturity are retained by gear.
Post-capture mortality (PCM) The chance that, if captured, a species would be released and that it would be in a condition permitting subsequent survival	Evidence of majority released post-capture and survival.	Evidence of some released post-capture and survival.	Retained species or majority dead when released

D3	Average Susceptibility Score		
	1 - 1.75	1.76 - 2.24	2.25 - 3
Average Productivity Score	1 - 1.75	PASS	PASS
	1.76 - 2.24	PASS	PASS
	2.25 - 3	PASS	TABLE D4