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CASE STUDY

MUSSEL PRODUCTION IN THE EU

EUMOFA

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Mussel production in the EU

The EU is the world's third largest producer of mussel. The main species produced are the Mediterranean mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*) and the blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*). EU mussel production originates mostly from aquaculture (96% of the production volume in 2024) and to a much lesser extent from fisheries (4%). In 2024, EU global production of mussel (all species included) amounted to 345.858 tonnes. Spain is by far the main aquaculture producer in the EU, and the third largest producer worldwide after China and Chile. Between 2015 and 2024, EU aquaculture production decreased by 25%. Production from all the major MS followed this trend: -27% in Spain, -14% in France, -16% in Italy, and -58% in the Netherlands. Mussel farming is significantly impacted by climate change, the spread of predators, spatial pressures, and pressures from human activities. National administrations and stakeholders are exploring solutions to face these challenges such as monitoring and modelling tools in Spain, or Seed Mussel Collectors (SMCs) in the Netherlands to avoid bottom-disturbing mussel seed fishing and reduce pressure on ecosystems. In order to complement EU production, more than 61.000 tonnes of mussels are imported from non-EU countries. In 2025 these imports grew by 39% compared to 2020 and mostly originate from Chile and New Zealand. In 2025, the main EU importers of mussel products from third countries were Spain, Italy, and France. Spain is also a major trader of mussel at EU level, along with the Netherlands. In 2023, EU apparent consumption of mussel (all species) reached 1,15 kg per capita, of which 72% originated from EU production. Spain and France are the main consumption markets for mussel in the EU. Consumption in Spain decreased by 28% between 2020 and 2023, by 44% in the Netherlands over the same period and deceased at a much lower rate in France (-3%).

1.1 EU production

In 2024, according to Eurostat data, **the total production of mussel in the EU** (all species combined) totalled 345.858 tonnes, of which 96% originated from aquaculture and 4% from fisheries.

Mussel farming includes both on-bottom and off-bottom techniques. **On-bottom** farming consists of growing mussels directly on sediment of the seabed in intertidal zones, while **off-bottom** farming consists of growing mussels by suspending the cultures on structures above the sediment in both intertidal and subtidal zones[1]. Off-bottom mussel cultures are suspended to fixed structures such as tables or poles. In Galicia, Spain, the main aquaculture method is the **raft culture**, known as "**bateas**", consisting of a floating platform with hanging ropes where mussels are attached, allowing a continuous production throughout the year[2]. In France, one of the farming methods consists of farming mussels on ropes wound around wooden posts, known as "**bouchot**" located in intertidal zones. In Ireland, the traditional production method consists of the use of **bag and trestle**. Another common method in the EU is the **long line cultivation** where a main rope is suspended by floating devices over hundreds of metres with vertical ropes hanging from the main rope and seeded with mussels. Located in subtidal zones, similar to raft cultures, this technique allows for continuous production[3].

In 2024, **EU aquaculture production** of mussels reached 332.318 tonnes. Spain is the main aquaculture producer with a production totalling 164.559 tonnes of mussel (all species combined) (i.e., 50% of EU aquaculture production). Other important producing MS are France and Italy, representing 15% and 13% respectively of EU aquaculture production of mussel. Two mussel species are farmed in the EU: the Mediterranean mussel (accounting for 68% of the production in 2024) and the blue mussel (32% of the production). EU aquaculture production of mussels fluctuated during the last decade, peaking in 2019 at 473.362 tonnes before decreasing until 2024. Overall, production experienced a 25% decrease between 2015 and 2024 and an 18% decrease between 2020 and 2024.

In 2024 **EU catches** of mussel amounted to 13.541 tonnes. Denmark is the most important fleet, accounting for 93% of the mussel catches. Mussel catches were also recorded in Italy (3% of the EU mussel catches in 2024), Romania (2%), France, Bulgaria, and Greece (each accounting for 1% of the EU catches). Blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) is the main species caught by EU fleets, accounting for 94% of the volume in 2024. The other species targeted by EU fisheries is the Mediterranean mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*), which accounted for 6% of the catches in 2024. Over the 2015-2024 period, EU catches of mussel declined by 78% (-43% between 2020 and 2024), mainly driven by the decrease in catches of the major producer: Danish catches experienced a 72% decline over the last decade (-44% since 2020).

[1] https://aquaculture.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2024-09/Infographic_5_shellfish_v3.pdf
[2] Ibidem
[3] Ibidem

1.2 Production trends in the main producing Member States

SPAIN

Spain is the largest EU aquaculture producer of mussel, and the third largest producer in the world after China and Chile, with a production reaching 164.559 tonnes in 2024. Spanish mussel production consists exclusively of off-bottom cultures, and more specifically of raft cultures, of Mediterranean mussel. Spanish aquaculture production of mussel decreased by 27% between 2015 and 2024, and by 20% since 2020. However, over the last year (2023-2024), it has experienced a 6% increase.

Table 1. **SPANISH AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION OF MUSSEL (Mediterranean mussel, volume in tonnes live weight)**

Farming method	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Off-bottom	225.295	215.741	241.696	242.625	228.163	204.466	203.220	192.191	155.741	164.559
Other methods	12	115	19	100	32	n/a.	6	4	0	0
Total	**225.307**	**215.855**	**241.715**	**242.725**	**228.195**	**204.466**	**203.226**	**192.195**	**155.741**	**164.559**

Source: EUMOFA based on Eurostat and FAO

Despite a strong decrease in production in 2023, Galicia remains the largest mussel-producing region in Europe, supplying roughly 40% of Europe's mussels from more than 3.000 floating rafts called "bateas". This decline is due to various causes, but climate impacts remain the dominant concern[4]. Rising sea temperatures, ocean acidification, modification of upwelling patterns, among other phenomena, are thought to significantly impact mussel farming by changing plankton availability and salinity, reducing mussel growth, increasing mortality or by inducing shortages of mussel spat as shown in recent studies and industry reports[5][6][7].

Another threat to mussel production is the increase in predators affecting mussel rafts. Galician producers recently warned about the unprecedented proliferation of predators attacking mussels used for cultivation, adding another production risk alongside climate stress[8]. One of the newest developments is the reported rapid spread of the shore crab damaging cultures by consuming mussels directly on the ropes before they reach commercial size[9]. Although this crab species is native to Galicia estuaries, its proliferation and feeding on mussels during the breeding phase is unprecedented.

Spain and the Galicia region are responding to these threats by implementing **decision-support tools** for farmers, **digital monitoring** of mussel spat and **environmental modelling** to optimize mussel farming from spat collection to hatchery production. Tools are being developed by all stakeholders from research institutes to companies and technological centres. The *Centro Tecnolóxico do Mar* (CETMAR) introduced an interactive web viewer embedded in the Apromex project and co-financed by the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF), providing real-time data on mussel spat density in Galician estuaries[10]. The platform is publicly available, though primarily intended to the professionals of the mussel farming industry. Another innovation to improve mussel farming is the use of **selective breeding** to produce only female mussels. In addition to being highly valued by consumers and the canning industry, lines of monosex female mussels produced in the laboratory would ensure a stable seed supply to the sector[11]. In the context of increasingly adverse climate changes and market conditions, the objective of the mussel sector in Spain is to improve resilience rather than to expand production rapidly[12].

FRANCE

In 2024, France was the second largest EU producer of mussel with an aquaculture production amounting to 48.775 tonnes. French production consisted exclusively of off-bottom cultures of blue mussel (94% of the production in 2024) and Mediterranean mussel (6%). Over the last decade (2015-2024), French production decreased by 14%, in relation to

[4] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0044848625000821?utm
[5] Ibidem
[6] https://www.democrata.es/en/agriculture-food/mussel-producers-denounce-an-unprecedented-expansion-of-the-sea-squirt-that-devastates-mussels-on-rafts/?utm
[7] https://www.gaictech.com/en/blog/research-and-technology-at-the-service-of-mussel-farming/?utm
[8] https://www.democrata.es/en/agriculture-food/mussel-producers-denounce-an-unprecedented-expansion-of-the-sea-squirt-that-devastates-mussels-on-rafts/?utm
[9] Ibidem
[10] https://www.gaictech.com/en/blog/research-and-technology-at-the-service-of-mussel-farming/?utm
[11] Ibidem
[12] Ibidem

the 71% decline in production of Mediterranean mussel. Over the same period, blue mussel production decreased only by 2%. However, between 2023 and 2024, blue mussel production experienced a 12% decrease, while the production of Mediterranean mussel rose by 23%.

Table 2. **FRENCH AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION OF MUSSEL BY SPECIES (volume in tonnes live weight)**

Species	Farming method	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Blue mussel	Off bottom	46.653	42.548	43.415	42.991	53.907	55.374	62.641	55.763	52.101	45.787
	Other methods	-	1.155	1.031	1.201	301	16	-	-	-	-
Mediterranean mussel	Off bottom	10.149	6.663	7.031	4.394	6.047	5.830	3.680	3.491	2.430	2.988
	Other methods	-	-	-	258	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**Total**	**56.802**	**50.366**	**51.478**	**48.844**	**60.255**	**61.219**	**66.321**	**59.254**	**54.531**	**48.775**

Source: EUMOFA based on Eurostat and FAO

Though relatively stable over the last decade, French mussel production faces similar threats and challenges to the Spanish production with recurrent mortality, warmer seawater, difficult growing conditions, as well as spat recruitment difficulty, and increasing predation. French mussel production has one name registered under the quality scheme 'Tradition Specialities Guarantees' (TSG), "Moules de Bouchot" and one Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), "Moules de Bouchot de la Baie du Mont-Saint-Michel". In the Mont-Saint-Michel Bay, the 2025/2026 season production is estimated to reach only 7.000 tonnes, against 9.000 to 10.000 tonnes during the 2022-2023 season, continuing several consecutive years of declining harvests[13]. Although the mussel quality is still satisfactory, producers have been impacted by the decreased availability of phytoplankton and by the silting up of the bay with sand reaching high levels around wooden posts, resulting in decreased space for production. In addition, producers attribute significant losses to the predation of the spider crab. It has become one of the industry's largest concerns. Several producers in Brittany report severe losses as spider crabs destroy mussel ropes before harvest.

THE NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands is among the largest EU aquaculture producers of mussels. In 2024 its production totalled 22.804 tonnes, consisting exclusively of blue mussel. Dutch mussel farms consist almost exclusively of on-bottom culture (95% of the production in 2024), and to a lesser extent of off-bottom cultures (5%). Over the decade (2015-2024), the Dutch aquaculture production of mussel declined by 58%, and by 30% since 2020. In detail, between 2015 and 2024, the production of on-bottom mussel declined by 55% while off-bottom cultures experienced an 80% decline. Over the last year (2024), production decreased by 30% overall (-30% and -29% respectively for on-bottom and off-bottom cultures).

Table 3. **DUTCH AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION OF MUSSEL (blue mussel, volume in tonnes live weight)**

Farming method	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
On bottom	48.789	47.857	39.572	40.934	34.284	29.178	29.563	26.652	30.974	21.718
Off bottom	5.421	5.317	4.397	4.548	3.809	3.242	3.285	2.961	1.528	1.086
Total	**54.211**	**53.175**	**43.969**	**45.482**	**38.094**	**32.420**	**32.848**	**29.613**	**32.501**	**22.804**

Source: EUMOFA based on Eurostat and FAO

The Wadden Sea is central to Dutch production where mussels are farmed using on-bottom techniques, depending on natural resources for seed, space, and feed[14]. Recent reports show ongoing restoration programmes, monitoring of mussel beds, and encouraging observations of large natural mussel beds in some areas. In the Wadden Sea, a mussel bed of 7.000 ha was observed in 2025, while it fluctuated around 2.000 ha over previous years[15]. The decrease in shrimps, a predator of mussel, could be one of the reasons behind this increase in the number of mussels along with other factors such as temperature and food availability. At the same time, scientists stress that climate change and human activities such as gas and salt extraction continue to alter ecosystem dynamics and require adaptive management[16].

[13] https://www.montsaintmichel.net/si-ca-continue-il-faudra-se-poser-des-questions-la-production-de-moules-de-bouchot-de-nouveau-en-recul-dans-la-baie-du-mont-saint-michel/?utm
[14] https://research.wur.nl/en/publications/production-efficiency-of-mussel-bottom-culture/
[15] https://www.wur.nl/en/longread/protection-wadden-sea-still-needs-be-made-much-better?utm
[16] Ibidem

The long-running Mussel Covenant agreed in 2008 in the context of the agreement between the Producer Organisation of the Dutch Mussel Culture, Wadden Sea environmental NGOs, and the Dutch Ministry responsible for fisheries[17]. This voluntary agreement aimed at cutting bottom-disturbing mussel seed fishing by half and continues to shift production away from harvesting wild seed in the Wadden Sea[18]. The Dutch mussel sector has been transitioning toward Seed Mussel Collectors (SMCs) consisting of either ropes or nets as settlement substrates for seeds[19]. Studies showed SMCs to be robust alternatives to wild seed capture, being more reliable every year and displaying a seed quality comparable to wild-caught seed. This transition is considered one of Europe's most advanced examples of sustainable mussel production[20].

Because traditional production areas are increasingly constrained by nature conservation, competing marine uses and offshore energy limiting further expansion, the industry is actively testing alternative offshore locations outside the traditional sites in the Wadden Sea and the Eastern Scheldt[21]. New locations considered include coastal areas such as the Voordelta site and offshore wind farms. Although promising in terms of pressure reduction and production enhancement, these alternatives present challenges in terms of technical and biological feasibility, as well as financial viability.

1.3 Trade

In the Combined Nomenclature (CN) used for registering EU import-export data, mussel is specifically reported as live/fresh, frozen, prepared or preserved, or smoked, dried, salted or in brine.

In 2025, **extra-EU imports** of mussel amounted to 61.113 tonnes at a value of EUR 208 million, mostly prepared or preserved (79% of total value of imports) and frozen (16% of the import value). Prepared or prepared mussels originated almost exclusively from Chile (more than 99% of the import value in 2025) and consisted exclusively of mussels of another genus than *Mytilus*. Frozen mussels were provided exclusively by New Zealand and consisted exclusively of mussels of the genus *Perna*. Spain was the main importer accounting for 46% of the extra-EU import value of mussel, followed by Italy and France (accounting each for 15% of the extra-EU import value), and to a lesser extent by Belgium (6%). Overall, over the 2020-2025 period, extra-EU imports of mussel increased significantly in volume (39%) and even more in nominal value (59%), resulting from a 15% nominal price rise. Imports of all products except smoked, dried, salted or smoked mussel, increased in volume over the period (34% for prepared or preserved mussels, 77% for frozen mussels, and 63% for fresh mussels) but real prices decreased (by 5%, 5%, and 43% respectively). Only imports of mussels smoked, dried, salted or in brine experienced a decrease over the 2020-2025 period (-60% in imported volume).

Table 4. **EXTRA-EU IMPORTS OF MUSSEL IN 2025 (tonnes net weight, nominal price in EUR/kg, price evolution in real terms)**

		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Evol. 2025/20* in real terms
Live/fresh	Volume	3.564	1.585	2.756	7.045	5.111	5.822	63%
	Price	2,04	1,22	1,11	1,18	1,24	1,41	-43%
Frozen	Volume	2.729	2.603	4.318	4.479	3.453	4.843	77%
	Price	6,02	5,37	6,36	6,92	6,94	7,00	-5%
Prepared or preserved	Volume	37.468	42.942	43.663	46.212	52.415	50.359	34%
	Price	2,83	2,66	3,12	3,33	3,03	3,27	-5%
Smoked, dried, salted or in brine	Volume	225	34	63	40	40	89	-60%
	Price	4,25	22,44	16,20	15,97	18,96	15,32	-5%
Total	**Volume**	**43.987**	**47.164**	**50.799**	**57.776**	**61.019**	**61.113**	**39%**
	Price	**2,97**	**2,77**	**3,30**	**3,35**	**3,11**	**3,41**	**-6%**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

**Price evolution is given on real terms using the GDP deflator (base=2020)*

In the same year, **EU exports to third countries** were limited compared to imports and amounted to 6.596 tonnes at a value of EUR 29 million. Prepared or preserved mussels accounted for 68% of the total extra-EU export value, fresh mussels 19% of the total extra-EU export value, frozen mussels 11%, and mussels smoked, dried, salted or in brine 2%.

[17] https://qsr.waddensea-worldheritage.org/reports/fisheries
[18] https://www.wur.nl/en/longread/protection-wadden-sea-still-needs-be-made-much-better?utm
[19] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0144860924000256?utm
[20] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0144860924000256?utm
[21] https://www.aquaeas.org/Program/PaperDetail/42953?utm

The main destinations in value terms were the USA (24% of the total value), followed by Switzerland (19%), and to a lesser extent by the UK (12%) and Morocco (9%). Spain was by far the main exporter of mussels to third countries (47% of the extra-export value), followed to a lesser extent by France (11%), Italy (9%), Denmark (7%), and the Netherlands (7%). Extra-EU exports have decreased by 16% in volume while increasing by 12% in nominal value since 2020, due to a 34% increase in nominal price over the same period (10% in real terms). The main visible impact of declining production in the EU is the strong decline of extra-EU export volumes of live/fresh mussel (-54%) over the 2020-2025 period.

Table 5. **EXTRA-EU EXPORTS OF MUSSEL IN 2025 (tonnes net weight, nominal price in EUR/kg, price evolution in real terms)**

		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Evol. 2025/20* in real terms
Live/fresh	Volume	4.496	3.173	3.219	2.127	1.728	2.067	-54%
	Price	2,11	2,76	2,94	3,41	3,54	2,63	2%
Frozen	Volume	507	737	818	750	1.027	834	65%
	Price	3,77	3,30	3,51	3,57	3,68	3,87	-16%
Prepared or preserved	Volume	2.704	2.800	2.794	2.861	3.135	3.561	32%
	Price	5,16	5,31	5,90	5,92	5,35	5,53	-12%
Smoked, dried, salted or in brine	Volume	149	144	187	234	148	133	-11%
	Price	3,58	3,48	4,12	3,85	5,31	5,67	30%
Total	**Volume**	**7.856**	**6.854**	**7.018**	**5.971**	**6.038**	**6.596**	**-16%**
	Price	**3,29**	**3,87**	**4,21**	**4,65**	**4,55**	**4,41**	**10%**

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of Eurostat-COMEXT data.

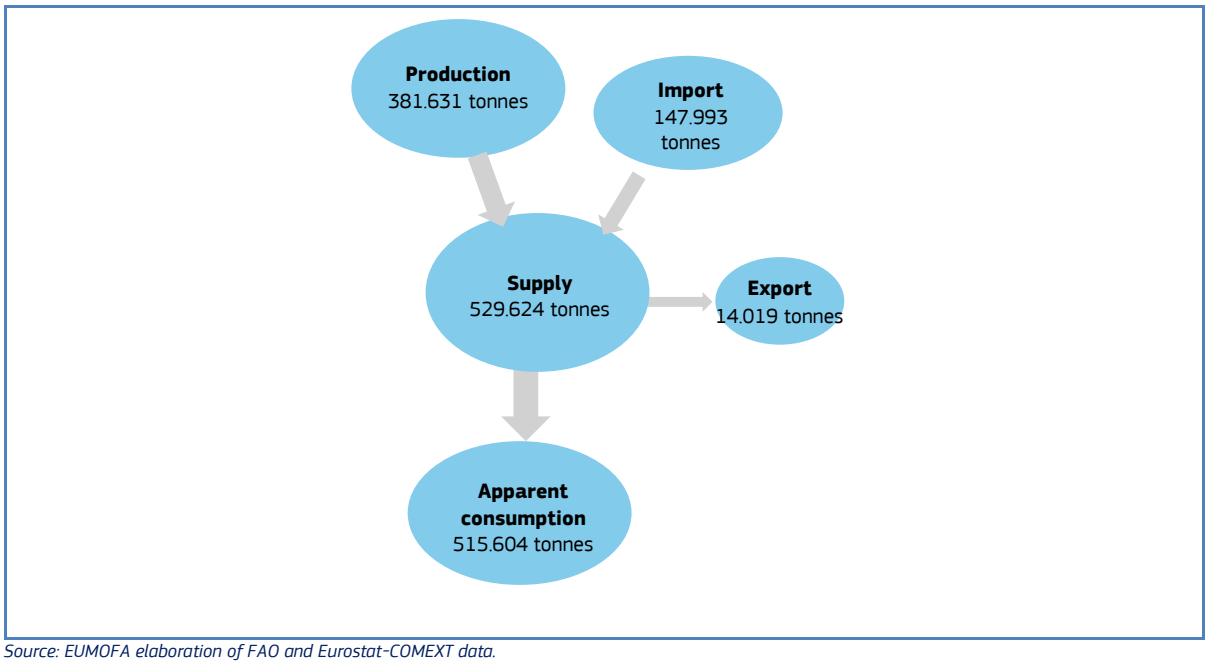
**Price evolution is given in real terms using the GDP deflator (base=2020)*

Intra-EU exports of mussel remained stable over the period with extra-EU imports offsetting the decline in EU production. In 2025, intra-EU exports amounted to 191.496 tonnes at a value of EUR 403 million. Intra-EU exports consisted mostly of fresh mussels, which accounted for 70% of the fresh export value, whereas prepared or preserved mussels represented 22%, frozen mussels accounted for 8% of the value, and mussels smoked, dried, salted or in brine for 1%. Intra-EU exports were dominated by the Netherlands and Spain which accounted for 41% and 25% respectively of intra-EU export value. The main destination markets were Belgium (28% of export value), France (21%), Italy (14%), and the Netherlands (13%).

1.4 Consumption (volume and prices)

In 2023, apparent consumption of mussel (all species included) at EU level was estimated at 515.604 tonnes LWE (-3% compared to 2020), representing a per capita consumption of 1,15 kg. Supply reached 529.624 tonnes LWE (-4% compared to 2020), originating mostly from EU production (fisheries and aquaculture production accounting for 72% of the volume) and to a lesser extent from imports (28% of the volume). Exports were limited, reaching 14.019 tonnes. The level of self-sufficiency fell from 80% in 2020 to 74% in 2023.

Figure 1. **APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF MUSSEL[22] AT EU LEVEL IN 2023 (TONNES LWE)**



Source: EUMOFA elaboration of FAO and Eurostat-COMEXT data.

At MS level, the main consumption market for mussel was France with an apparent consumption of 122.894 tonnes LWE in 2023, or 1,80 kg per capita. Apparent consumption in Spain reached 119.456 tonnes LWE (2,484 kg per capita) and Dutch apparent consumption reached 7.157 tonnes LWE (0,40 kg per capita). French apparent consumption remained relatively stable between 2020 and 2023 (-3%), while Dutch and Spanish apparent consumption experienced significant declines over the same period: -44% in the Netherlands and -28% in Spain. The mussel Spanish market is supplied mainly by national production (70% of the volume in 2023). The Dutch market is also supplied mainly by national production (53% of the supply) and to a lesser extent by imports (47%) while the French market relies more on imports (58% of the national supply) than on domestic production (42%). The level of self-sufficiency for mussel in Spain was estimated at 130% in 2023 (against 123% in 2020) and at 454% in the Netherlands (against 254% in 2020), but only at 45% for the French market (against 48% in 2020).

Table 6. **APPARENT CONSUMPTION OF MUSSEL IN SPAIN, FRANCE, AND THE NETHERLANDS IN 2023 (all mussel species included volume in tonnes live weight equivalent)**

	EU-27	Evol. 2023/20	Spain	Evol. 2023/20	France	Evol. 2023/20	Netherlands	Evol. 2023/20
Production (1)	381.631	-11%	155.742	-24%	55.143	-10%	32.501	0%
Imports (2)	147.993	+21%	66.539	+50%	76.586	+6%	29.245	-2%
Supply (1)+(2)	529.624	-4%	222.281	-11%	131.729	-2%	61.746	-1%
Exports (3)	14.019	-12%	102.825	+24%	8.835	+34%	54.589	+10%
Apparent consumption (1)+(2)-(3)	515.604	-3%	119.456	-28%	122.894	-3%	7.157	-44%
Per capita consumption (kg per capita)	1,150	-3%	2,484	-24%	1,800	-5%	0,402	-45%

Source: EUMOFA elaboration of FAO and Eurostat-COMEXT data.

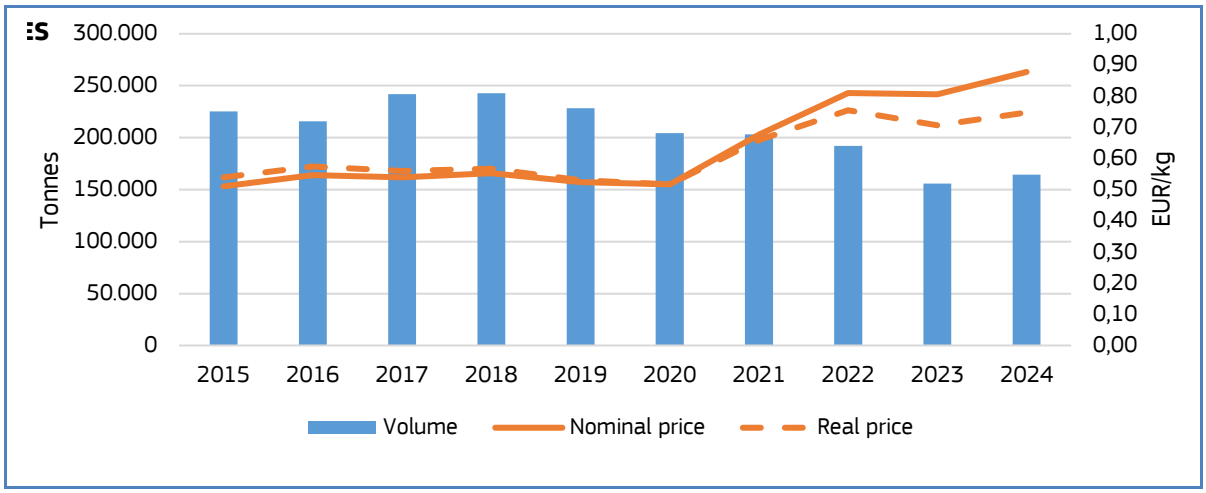
[22] All mussel species included

1.5 Prices

EX-FARM PRICES

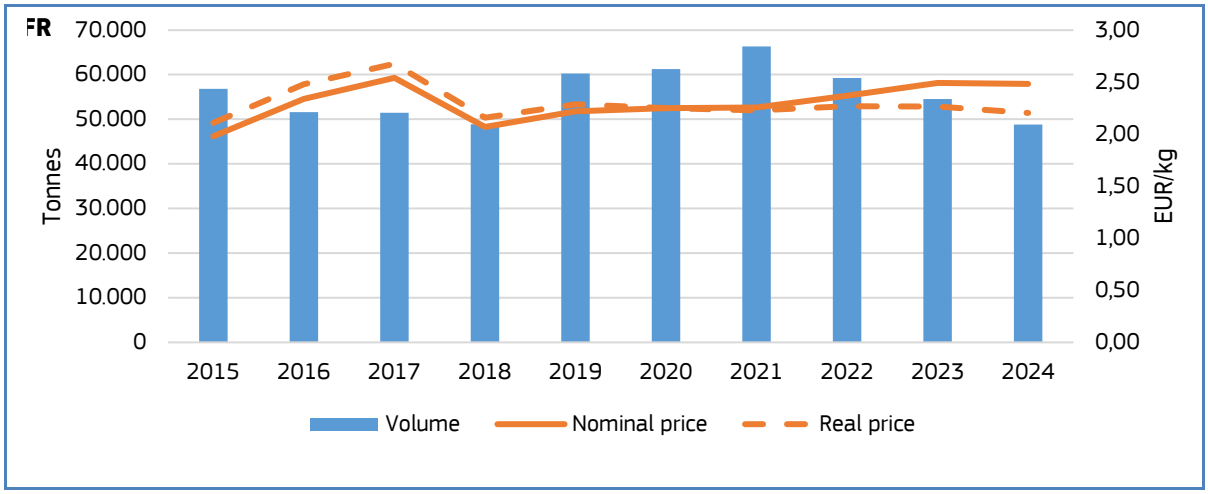
In 2024, ex-farm nominal prices of mussels were the highest in France, reaching 2,48 EUR/kg, followed by the Netherlands where nominal prices reached 1,34 EUR/kg and Spain where they reached 0,75 EUR/kg. Over the 2020-2024 period, prices increased most in Spain (+70% in nominal terms; +45% in real terms) while nominal prices increased at lower rates in the Netherlands and France: respectively +20% (-3% in real terms) and +10% (-2% in real terms).

Figure 2. **FARM PRICE OF MUSSEL IN SPAIN (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT, PRICE IN EUR/KG)**



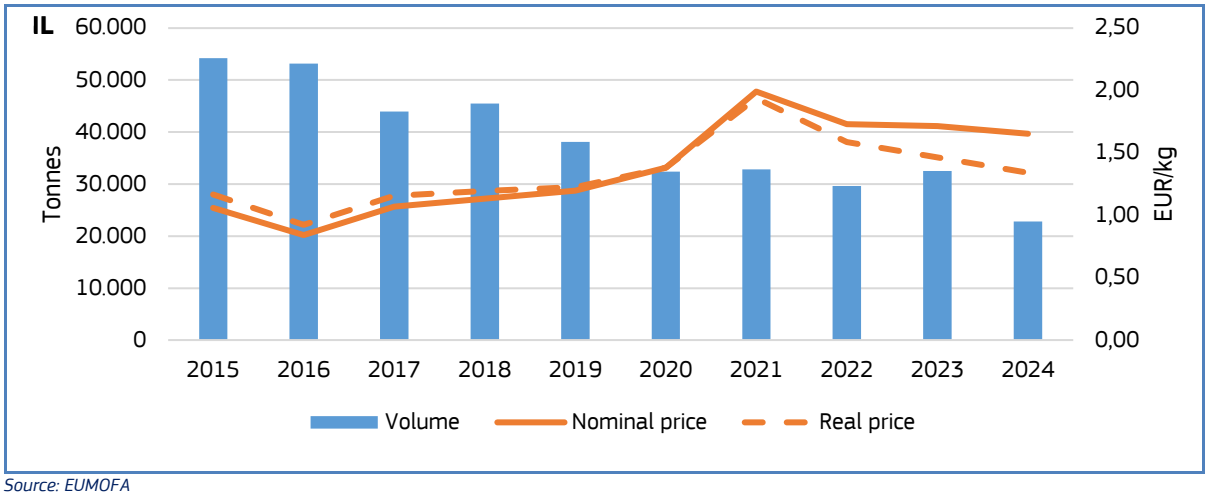
Source: EUMOFA

Figure 3. **FARM PRICE OF MUSSEL IN FRANCE (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT, PRICE IN EUR/KG)**



Source: EUMOFA

Figure 4. **FARM PRICE OF MUSSEL IN SPAIN, FRANCE, AND THE NETHERLANDS (VOLUME IN TONNES NET WEIGHT, PRICE IN EUR/KG)**



Source: EUMOFA

WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices of mussel are available in Spain and France. Over the 2020-2025 period, nominal wholesale prices were higher in France than in Spain. In 2025, wholesale prices of fresh mussels in Spain reached 2,29 EUR/kg, while wholesale prices for "moule de bouchot" in France reached 3,77 EUR/kg. Prices rose at a significantly higher rate in France (+59% in real terms) than in Spain (+5% in real terms).

Table 7. **WHOLESALE PRICES OF MUSSEL IN SPAIN AND FRANCE (nominal price in EUR/kg)**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Evol. 2025/20* in real terms
Spain - fresh	1,80	1,87	2,00	2,17	2,26	2,29	+5%
France – "moule de bouchot"	2,10	2,35	3,19	4,50	4,05	3,77	+59%

Source: Mercamadrid, RNM Rungis

**Price evolution is given in real terms using the GDP deflator (base=2020)*

RETAIL PRICES

Retail prices of mussel increased significantly over the 2020-2025 period. In **Spain**, according to data from the *Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación* (MAPA), prices for fresh mussels increased by 39% in nominal terms (+15% in real terms) reaching 3,91 EUR/kg, prices for frozen mussels rose by 30% (+8% in real terms) reaching 9,14 EUR/kg, and those of prepared or preserved mussels increased by 28% (+6% in real terms) reaching 10,86 EUR/kg.

Retail prices in **France** are available for fresh and frozen mussels. Nominal prices for fresh mussels reached 5,31 EUR/kg in 2025, increasing by 12% since 2020 (-1% in real terms), while prices for frozen mussels reached 9,40 EUR/kg in 2024[23], increasing by 16% between 2020 and 2024 (+3% in real terms).

In **the Netherlands**, retail prices are available for household consumption of fresh mussels. Nominal prices of fresh mussels rose by 14% between 2020 and 2025 (-10% in real terms), reaching 4,69 EUR/kg.

[23] Latest available year

Table 8. **RETAIL PRICES OF MUSSEL IN SPAIN, FRANCE, AND THE NETHERLANDS (nominal price in EUR/kg)**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Evol. 2025/20* in real terms
Spain – fresh	2,81	3,66	3,79	3,81	3,95	3,91	+15%
Spain – frozen	7,04	7,2	7,92	8,64	9,07	9,14	+8%
Spain – prepared or preserved	8,51	8,64	10,05	11,03	10,31	10,86	+6%
France – fresh	4,76	4,76	5,47	5,58	5,37	5,31	-1%
France - frozen	8,10	8,50	8,50	9,40	9,40	n.d.	n.a.
Netherlands - fresh	4,10	4,20	4,34	4,39	4,45	4,69	-10%

Source: Spain: Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación; France: RNM Rungis, FranceAgriMer; Netherlands: Household consumption Europanel on EUMOFA

**Price evolution is given in real terms using the GDP deflator (base=2020)*

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