

Wild Pink and Spiny Scallops

SPECIES

Pink Scallop (*Chlamys rubida*)

Spiny Scallop (*Chlamys hastata*)

ABOUT

Scallops are bivalve invertebrates belonging to the family *Pectinidae* of phylum *Mollusca*. Occurring all along the British Columbia (BC) coast, Spiny scallops are found subtidally from 5-150 metres (16-492 feet) in depth, while Pink can be found to a depth of 200 metres (656 feet). Spiny scallops prefer gravel or rocky bottom. Pink prefer a sand or mud substrate. Both prefer areas with some current.



Spiny scallop (left)
Pink scallop (back)

Both species have distinctive fluted, fan-shaped shells that are ivory and pink in colour. Adult scallops reach about 8.4 cm (3.35 inches) in size. Minimum size for harvest is 5.5 cm (2.17 inches) in the dive fishery and 4.8 cm (1.88 inches) for the trawl fishery. Size is measured through the longest diameter of the shell perpendicular to the hinge for both species. Harvested in the inshore areas of Georgia Strait to southern Johnstone Strait, in limited locations, by dive and trawl.

The meat colour ranges from ivory to pinkish-white and can have a tender yet sometimes chewy texture. It is sweet and moist.

STOCK STATUS

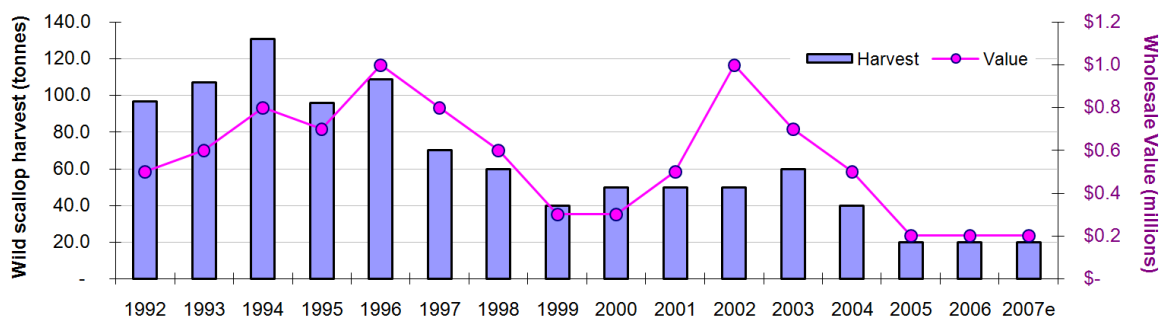
Biologically-based stock assessments for the pink and spiny scallop are undertaken by harvesters to provide data to the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) who establishes local area total allowable catch (TACs) (*DFO - Fisheries Management*).

MANAGEMENT

BC's scallop fishery is managed federally by DFO. The experimental scallop harvests are managed by local area TACs, using precautionary exploitation rates, and minimum size limits. Other management measures are limited entry, hails, traceability tagging, logbooks, fish slips, refugia and permanent closures (*DFO - Fisheries Management*).

PRODUCT VALUE

Approximately 20 tonnes sold at \$0.2 million in 2007 (*BC Seafood Industry Year in Review*).



e: estimate

LIFE HISTORY

Unlike most bivalves, both pink and spiny scallops are free swimming. Scallops have a large central adductor muscle that assists in swimming. When faced with danger, they propel themselves away from the danger by clapping their valves together and forcing water out through openings on both sides of their shell hinge. This motion is repeated until the scallop is out of danger.

Pink and spiny scallops have separate sexes and are mature at 2 years of age. Spiny scallops spawn from mid-August to late October while pink scallops spawn from January to March in southern British Columbia, with mass fertilization occurring in the water column. The fertilized eggs develop into planktonic larvae that drift for 3-4 weeks and are dispersed by water currents before they settle.

Scallops are suspension feeders, feeding mainly on phytoplankton, detritus and zooplankton. Predators of scallops include sea stars, octopus, snails, fishes, and boring worms.

PRODUCTS

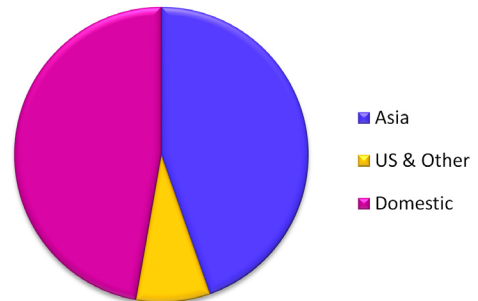
Scallops are sold fresh whole, fresh shucked, and frozen.

PRODUCT MARKET

The market for pink and spiny scallops is primarily domestic due to limited production at this time.

MARKET TREND

Limited markets due to licensing changes and biomass survey requirements established since 2000 are restricting the growth of this industry. Domestic demand for trawl-caught scallops is described as very good.

**LINKS**

DFO - Fisheries Management Plans: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/fishmgmt_e.htm

BC Seafood Industry Year in Review: www.env.gov.bc.ca/omfd/reports/index.html

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA): <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/toce/shtml>

BCSeafood.ca: www.bcseafood.ca/index.php

Fish and Seafood Online: <http://www.ats-sea.agr.gc.ca/sea-mer/index-eng.htm>