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CATCH STATISTICS FOR THE CANADIAN
ALBACORE FISHERY, 1952-1985

by

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CATCH STATISTICS FOR THE CANADIAN ALBACORE FISHERY, 1952-1985

Historically, the fishery for albacore (Thunnus alalunga) has been of minor importance to the Canadian (British Columbia) fisheries economy. Landings by Canadian vessels over the past 33 years have fluctuated erratically between 0 and 3558 tonnes for a variety of economic and environmental reasons (see accompanying table and figure). The small catches in 1984 and 1985 (50-56 tonnes) are attributed to the low abundance of albacore in areas fished by the Canadian fleet.

Canadian fishermen have traditionally fished albacore with salmon troller-type gear and feathered jigs within 200 miles of the North American coast from central British Columbia (about 52°N Lat.) southward to northern California (about 35°N Lat.). In recent years, a few vessels have fished farther offshore, some as far as 1000 - 1400 miles off the Washington-Oregon coast (135°-150°W Long.).

Canadian landings of albacore (Thunnus alalunga) from the northeast Pacific Ocean, 1952-1985 (weights in tonnes).

Year	Catch	Year	Catch
1952	71	1969	1,365
53	5	1970	354
54	-	71	1,587
1955	-	72	3,558
56	17	73	1,270
57	8	74	1,207
58	74	1975	101
59	212	76	252
1960	5	77	53
61	4	78	23
62	1	79	521
63	5	1980	212
64	3	81	200
1965	15	82	104
66	44	83	225
67	161	84	50
68	1,028	85	56

CANADIAN LANDINGS OF ALBACORE TUNA (TONNES)

