

created, first, because of the large shipments of imports that are steadily being placed on the U.S. market and, second, because of the large stocks of fish meal that are stored in Peru (670-700,000 thousand tons at the end of March) and in other exporting countries that can be shipped here on short notice in unrestricted amounts. Also, there is indication that the current high rate of world production will continue to increase. On April 24, the Peruvian government granted almost a 20% increase in the anchovy catch, raising this year's limit from 8 to 9.5 million metric tons, which would produce 1.7 million metric tons of fish meal. This would be an increase of approximately 270,000 metric tons over the previous year. In this connection, according to the forecast made at the April 2-5 meeting of the Executive Council of the International Association of Fish Meal Manufacturers, the principal exporting countries expect to export 3 to 3.2 million metric tons of fish meal in 1968. At the rate at which imports came into the United States the first three months of this year, approximately 809,000 tons of this would be destined for the U.S. market (Table 7).

TABLE 7.—U.S. SUPPLY OF FISH MEAL AND SOLUBLES, JANUARY-MARCH, 1968 AND 1967
FISH MEAL
[In tons]

Item	3 months ending with March		Total, 1967
	1968	1967	
Domestic production:			
Alewives.....			5,506
Groundfish.....	(1)	2,086	5,702
Herring.....	1,433	773	9,492
Menhaden ²		(1)	119,134
Tuna and mackerel ³	3,610	10,767	31,062
Unclassified.....	2,690	1,060	30,869
Total.....	7,733	14,686	201,765
Shellfish meal and scrap.....	(4)	(4)	9,749
Grand total meal and scrap.....	(4)	(4)	211,514
Imports:			
Canada.....	10,993	11,160	46,626
Peru.....	155,981	99,097	442,547
Chile.....	10,783	7,193	40,937
Norway.....	13,652	39,614	113,243
Other countries.....	3,207	3,476	8,133
Total.....	194,616	160,540	651,486
Grand total, fish meal.....	202,349	175,226	863,000

¹ Included with unclassified.

² Includes small quantities of other species.

³ Includes anchovies.

⁴ Not available on a current monthly basis.

FISH SOLUBLES

[In tons]

Item	3 months ending with March		Total, 1967
	1968	1967	
Domestic production (wet weight).....	2,655	5,333	74,657
Imports:			
Canada.....	309	336	1,283
Mexico.....	10	34	440
Peru.....	612		1,653
Other countries.....		293	293
Total.....	931	663	3,669
Grand total.....	3,586	5,996	78,326

Source: U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Branch of Fishery Statistics, 1815 North Fort Myer Dr., room 502, Arlington, Va., 22209.