

The value of product attributes at the retail level



Background and purpose

- Increasingly producers and retailers introduce seafood products with new attributes
- As a result each product category often contains many products with numerous different product attributes
 - Environmentally friendly, healthy, best quality, provenance, etc
- Different attributes have different costs and market values
 - MSC certification has a certain cost but unknown value
 - Branding may be very costly
 - Other attributes may be low cost eg adding a "low fat" label to a low fat product is almost free of cost
- What is the actual market value of the individual product attributes on seafood?



Research method

- In-store product and price observations
- 8 UK chains observed via 8 supermarkets in Glasgow:
 - Asda, Coop, Tesco, M&S, Lidl, Morrisons, Sainsbury's,
 Waitrose
- Weekly observation of prices of a range of products:
- Fresh (fish counter), chilled (pre-packed) and frozen cod, haddock, Alaska pollock, salmon, and mackerel
- Approx 500 products in total (frequent additions and deletions)
- Photos used to identify attributes & changes over time
- Started October 2010 for whitefish and mackerel
- Started October 2011 for salmon
- Econometric price analysis









Specially selected prime fillets of succulent cod, skinless and boneless. A highly versatile fish that can be partnered with a wide range of flavours and sauces, at its best when just lightly cooked. Line caught, from Iceland's well managed and sustainable fishery

Waitrose SUSTAINABLY SOURCED line caught prime icelandic cod fillets

PRICE 17.99 £ 5.07 DISPLAY UNTIL / USE BY WEIGHT

PRICE PER KG

21 MAR 0.282kg CAUGHT IN THE NORTH



WILD CHUM SALMON OR WILD PINK SALMON FILLETS



2 FILLETS

· FROZEN ·

2506





rich in omega 3

2 salmon fillets with soy, ginger & honey marinade

succulent oily fish, ready to cook in an asian inspired marinade with red peppers and pak choi

microwave straight from the freezer in 3-4 minutes

Responsibly farmed

BEST BEFORE END

SEP 2012

03401

Keep frozen: see back panel





ICELANDIC COD FILLETS

Sourced from a responsibly managed fishery

500ge

inclusive of presective to glaz

KEEP FROZEN

Best Before End: See back of pack







2 Icelandic Cod Fillets The finest fillets of carefully boned and skinless cod, fished

from the clear, icy waters of the North Atlantic Sea



Best Before End: When stored at -18°C or below

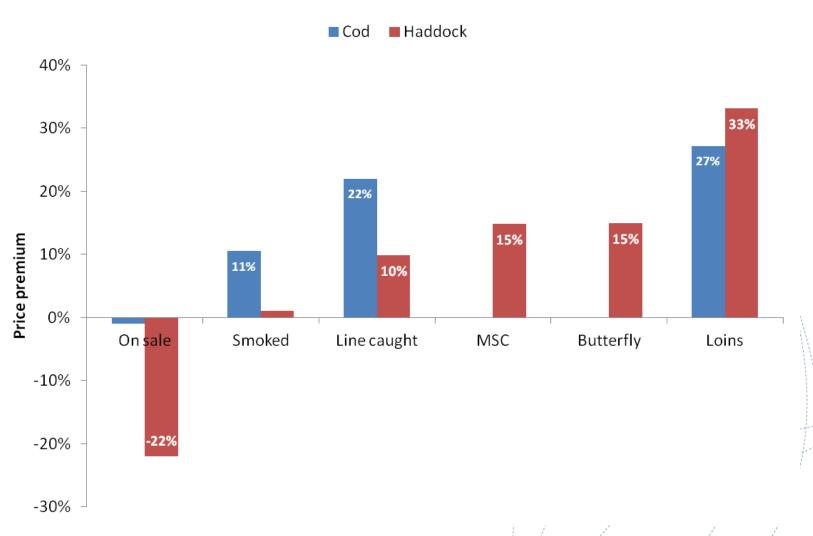
09 FEB 2013 12040

250g Net of ice glaze: 237g

Serving Suggestion

Keep frozen

Results chilled pre-packed whitefish





Planned work (2012)

- Within the differentiation project research identified:
 - The value of attributes on frozen whitefish
 - The value of attributes on smoked salmon
 - The value of attributes on salmon overall (branding, ecolabelling, CoO, wild/farmed)
- Within the MSC project analysis of the data aims to:
 - Reveal any price premium for eco-labels
 - Changes in the number of eco-labelled products over time
 - Identify co-existing attributes & impacts



Future work

- Significant opportunities for important and unique research
- Explore how various attributes are valued over time, e.g.:
 - What is the value of different eco-labels over time?
 - What is the value of brands, origin and other attributes over time?
- Explore supermarket positions over time (price, product range, product positioning)
- The mackerel case (with and without MSC and back again?...)
- Study how price premiums are shared in the value chain (requires additional data)
- Need funding for data collection after 2012 (approx NOK 100 000 a year) and to explore selected research questions....

