

Production in China

Market consequences for the Norwegian seafood industry

Finn-Arne Egeness

Two different markets

- The European market for frozen cod fillets
 - The same raw material
 - The same product
- The Brazilian market for dried and salted fish products
 - Different raw material
 - More convenient product

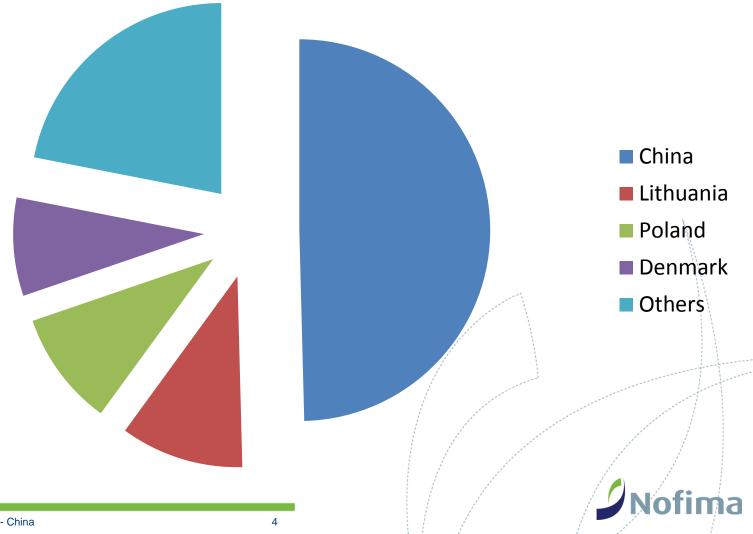


Frozen cod fillets

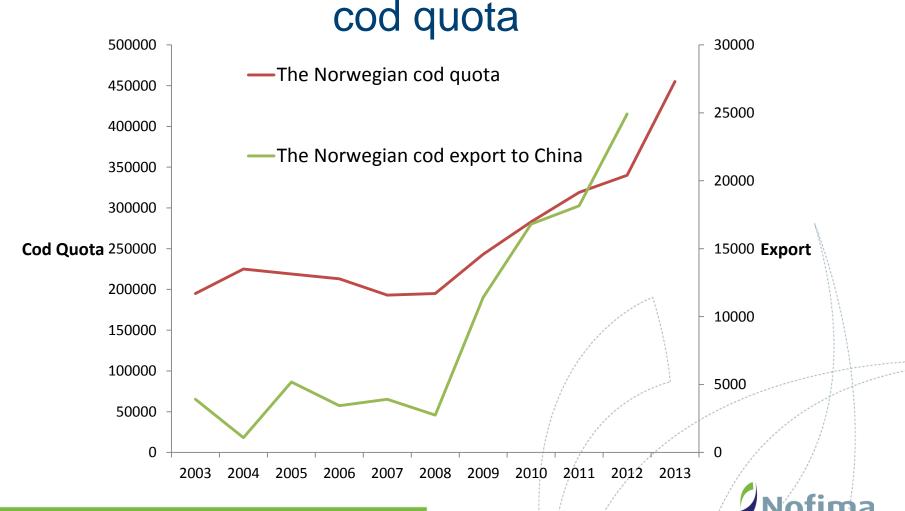
- China is both a major market and a major competitor
- The Norwegian fishing fleet
 - ☐ China is a major market
- The Norwegian seafood industry
 - ☐ China is a major competitor

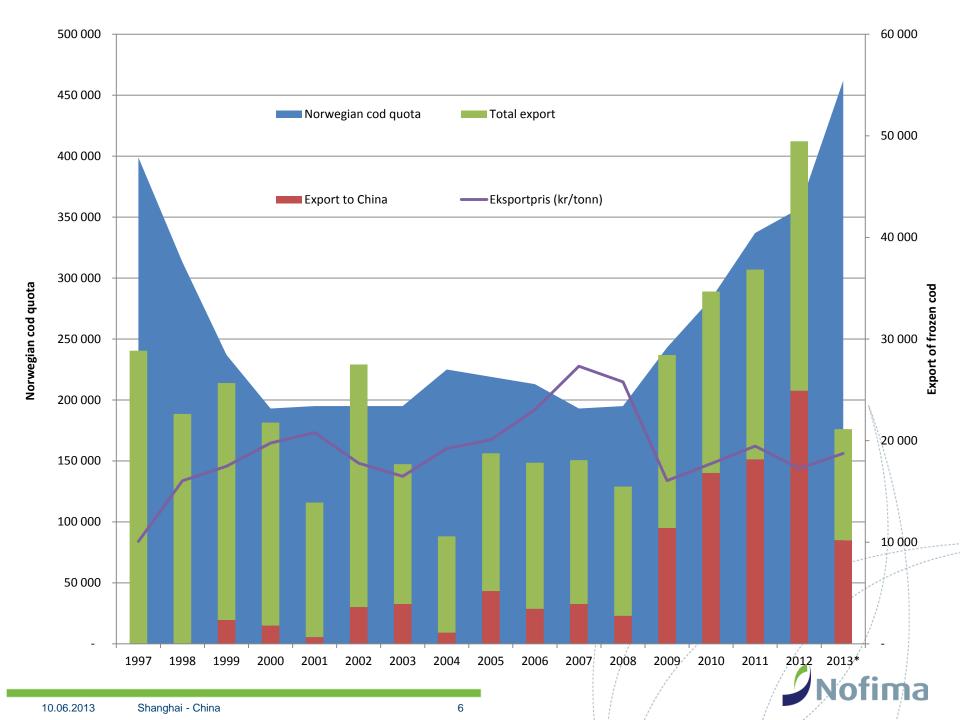


Norwegian export of frozen headed and gutted cod in value (2012)



Norwegian export of frozen headed and gutted cod to China and the Norwegian



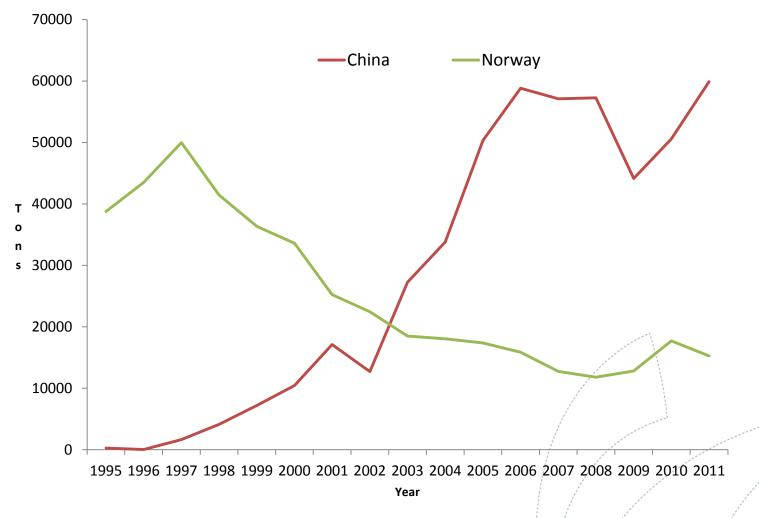


China as a competitor

- The Norwegian cod exported to China is processed and reexported to Europe as frozen cod fillets
- Norway has also been and is a major producer of this product
- How has the Chinese production affected the Norwegian export of frozen cod fillets to EU?



EU import of frozen cod fillets





China as a competitor

- Low cost access to labor
- Manual fillet production
 - ☐ Higher yield
 - ☐ Lower investment in capital intensive technology
- Chinese industry can offer
 - Lower price than the competitors
 - Deliver according to more demanding product specifications

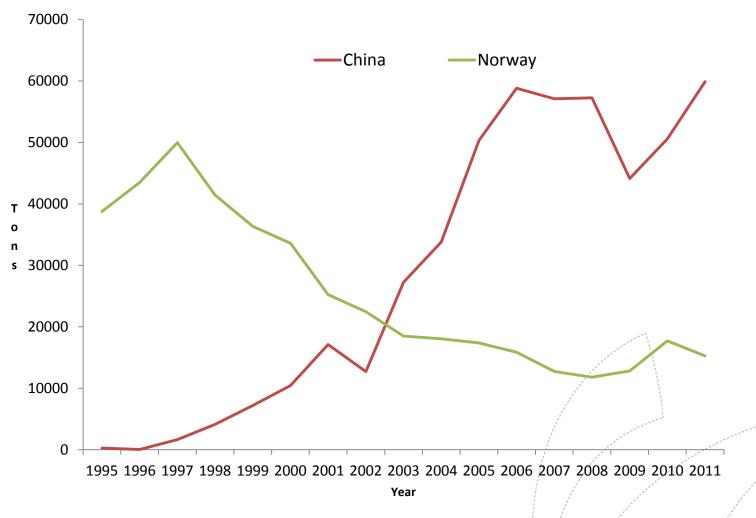


China as a competitor

- Price is the most important buying criteria
- China has the lowest production costs and offer the cheapest products
- The quality of double frozen cod fillets is acceptable to the European market
- Deliver according to more demanding product specifications



EU import of frozen cod fillets



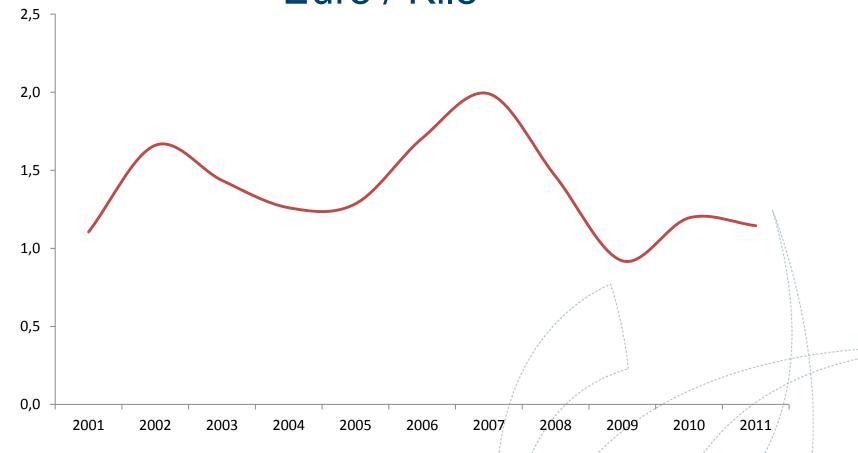


Norwegian strategies

- Increased focus on fresh fillets to avoid competition from China
 - Increased production of fresh fillets
 - ☐ Reduced production of frozen fillets
- Norwegian single frozen cod fillets still achieve a price premium



Price difference between Chinese and Norwegian frozen cod fillets imported to EU Euro / Kilo





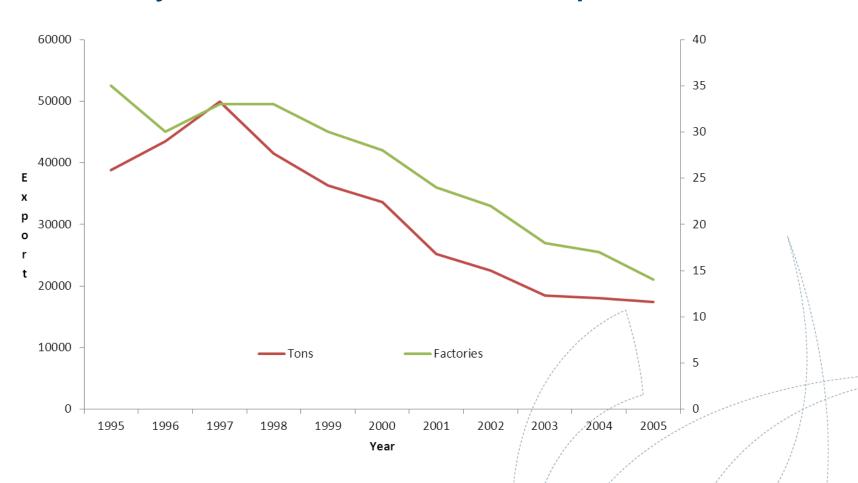


Summary

- China is both a market and a competitor for Norway
- China is the biggest exporter to EU due to low price
- The Norwegian export of frozen fillets of cod to EU has been reduced by 75 % during the last 15 years
- Norway still achieve a price premium for frozen cod fillets, average EURO 1,4 last 10 years
- Small sized market segments



Number of whitefish filleting factories in Norway and total cod fillet export to EU









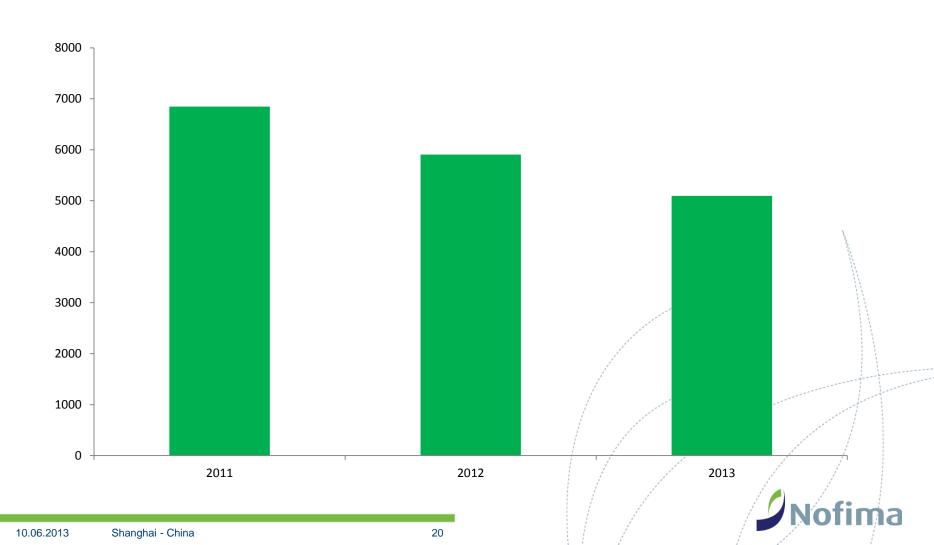
Brazilian market for dried and salted fish products

- Dried and salted cod is the original «bachalau» in Brazil
- Due to limited purchasing power there is a demand for cheaper alternatives
- Dried and salted saithe (*Pollachius virens*) has been a cheaper alternative produced in Norway
- Salted Alaska pollock (Alaska theragramma) produced in China is a fast growing alternative to saithe





Norwegian export of dried and salted saithe to Brazil (January – April)



Saithe

Alaska pollock





Summary

- Price is an important buying criteria for those who can not afford dried and salted Cod
- Alaska pollock is winning market shares
- Alaska pollock versus satihe on the consumer level
 - Cheaper alternative
 - Whitere
 - More conveniente





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Topics to discuss

- What is the most important buying criteria when buying frozen raw material from Norway?
- From which nations do you buy frozen headed and gutted cod?
- How flexible are you when buying frozen raw material? Can you replace Northeast Atlantic Cod (Gadus morhua) with Pacific Cod (Gadus macrocephalus) when producing frozen cod fillets?
- How do you percive the competition from the Norwegian seafood industry and their production of frozen cod fillets?

10.06.2013

Shanghai - China

 Have cheaper cod fillets from China made market development possible?