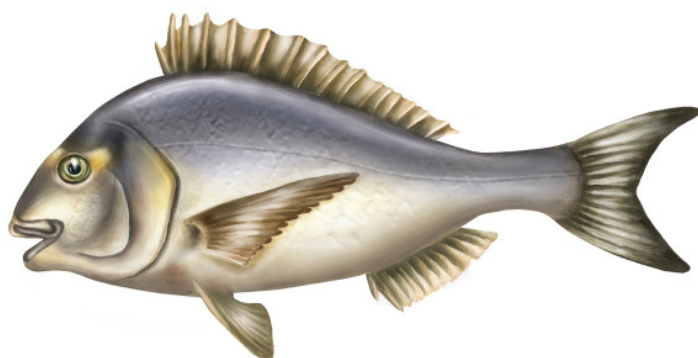


# Gilthead Seabream

(farmed and wild)



## Biology facts

<b>Depth Range</b>	demersal, 1–150 m
<b>Max Age</b>	11 years
<b>Maturity Age</b>	1-3 years
<b>Max Size</b>	70 cm
<b>Max Weight</b>	17.2 kg
<b>Prey</b>	zoobenthos, mussels, oysters
<b>Other</b>	Common throughout Mediterranean Sea, frequent in eastern and south-eastern Mediterranean Sea, very rare in Black Sea, Atlantic from British Isles to Cape Verde and around the Canary Islands.

## Fishery Facts

<b>Latin Name</b>	<i>Sparus aurata</i>
<b>Fishing Method</b>	aquatic cultivation in lagoons, open sea cages, earth ponds, landbased farms
<b>Annual catch</b>	aquaculture 107 620 t (FAO 2006)
<b>Main fishing nations</b>	aquaculture: Greece 38 413 t, Turkey 16 735 t, Spain 12 784 t, Italy 9 000 t (all 2003)

### Spendenkonto

Postbank, KTO: 2 061 206, BLZ: 200 100 20

Greenpeace ist vom Finanzamt als gemeinnützig anerkannt. Spenden sind steuerabzugsfähig.

## Main Concerns

- There are no official statistics on the frequency and size of escapes from aquaculture frams. But escapes of Seabream from sea cages in the Mediterranean have been recorded, especially during storms. There is a risk that the escaped fish from fish farms and those from farmed fish spawn will compete with wild fish for mates, space and prey. Farmed sea bream are genetically different to wild sea bream and there is a risk that they will interbreed with wild fish resulting in genetic changes in the wild population (Dempster et al. 2007, Dimitriou et al. 2007).
- Seabass farms lead to an accumulation of organic matter and the biodegradation of this creates anoxic (no oxygen) or intermittent anoxic conditions, production of undesirable gases, and causes the elimination of seabed-dwelling organisms and sea grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) (Belias et al. 2003).

## Main Sources

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<http://www.fao.org/docrep/field/007/af003e/AF003E02.htm>

<http://www.fishbase.org/Summary/SpeciesSummary.php?id=1164>

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