	Information sheet about length at first maturity in sea
	food species common in shops and markets in Brussels
	NB : Lm is smaller in warmer waters, higher in cooler waters. We recom-
Mundus maris	mend upper values as precaution against widespread overfishing.
Sprat	Distribution: Northeast Atlantic: North Sea and adjacent waters as far
(Sprattus sprattus)	north as the Lofoten Area and the west of the British Isles, and Baltic
(sprattus sprattus)	Sea south to Morocco; also in northern Mediterranean (Gulf of Lion
	and the Adriatic Sea) and Black Sea.
	Maturity : $L_m \underline{10.1}$, range 8 - 12 cm – max 16 cm TL
Sardine	Distribution: Northeast Atlantic: Iceland (rare) and North Sea, southward
(Sardina pilchardus)	to Bay de Gorée, Senegal. Mediterranean (common in the western
	part and in Adriatic Sea, rare in the eastern part), Sea of Marmara
	and Black Sea.
	Maturity: L _m <u>14.8</u> range ? - ? cm - max 27.5 cm SL, common 20 cm SL
Anchois	Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Bergen, Norway to East London, South
(Engraulis encrasicolus)	Africa (perhaps reaching Durban). Also all of Mediterranean, Black
All Mills meetings	and Azov seas, with stray individuals in Suez Canal and Gulf of Suez;
and the second s	also recorded from St. Helena. Reported from Estonia.
	Maturity: L _m 9.7, range 9 - 14 cm - max 20.0 cm SL, common 13 SL male
Hareng	Temperate; 1°C - 18°C
(Clupea harengus)	Distribution: North Atlantic: in the west, it ranges from southwestern
4	Greenland and Labrador southward to South Carolina, USA. In the
	east, it ranges from Iceland and southern Greenland southward to
	the northern Bay of Biscay and eastward to Spitsbergen and Novaya
	Zemlya in Russia, including the Baltic Sea.
	Maturity: L _m 16.7 range ? - ? cm - max 45.0 cm SL, common 30 cm SL
Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>)	Subtropical; 8°C - 24°C
	Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: southward from Trondheim Fjord (irnnclud-
	ing North Sea and weste Baltic) and Mediterranean Sea (including Sea of Marmara, Bosporus and southwestern Black Sea). Elsewhere,
	southward to Senegal, including Cape Verde.
	Maturity : L _m 30.3 range ? cm – max 70.0 cm SL male/unsexed, common 35
Limende du les en (Limende	
Limande du Japon (<i>Limanda</i>	Temperate Distribution: North Pacific: Korea and the Sea of Japan to the Sea of Ok-
aspera)	hotsk, Bering Sea, and Barkley Sound, Canada, and Alaskan Beaufort
	Sea.
	Maturity: L _m 28.9, range 21 - 24 cm – max 49.0 cm TL male/unsexed,
	common 33 cm
Northern Rock Sole	
(Lepidopsetta polyxystra)	Temperate Distribution: North Pacific: Puget Sound, Washington (USA) through the
	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands to the Kuril Islands; overlapping with
	<i>L. bilineata</i> from the extreme SE Bering Sea to Puget Sound; and with
	<i>L. mochigarei</i> in the southern Sea of Okhotsk.
	Maturity : $L_m 30.9$ range ? Cm – max 69 cm TL
	,
Carrelet (Pleuronectes	Temperate; 2°C - 15°C
platessa)	
	Distribution: Northern Sea. Reports from the Mediterranean Sea appear
A. B. B.A.	to be misidentifications of <i>P. flesus</i> .
And all and a	to be misidentifications of <i>P. flesus</i> . Maturity: L_m 30.8, range 24 - 42 cm - max 100.0 cm SL male / unsexed,
	to be misidentifications of <i>P. flesus</i> .
	to be misidentifications of <i>P. flesus</i> . Maturity: L_m 30.8, range 24 - 42 cm - max 100.0 cm SL male / unsexed,

Turbot (Scophthalmus maximus)	 Temperate Distribution: Northeast Atlantic: throughout the Mediterranean and along the European coasts to Arctic Circle; also found in most of the Baltic Sea. Subspecies <i>Psetta maxima maeotica</i> in the Black Sea. Maturity: L_m 34.7, range 41 - 54 cm - max 100 cm TL male / unsexed, common 50 cm
Maquereau (Scomber scombrus ou S. japonicus)	Temperate Distribution: North Atlantic: including the Mediterranean. Maturity : L _m 28.7, range 29-30 cm – max 60 cm, common 30 / 35 cm
Morue (Gadus morhua)	 Temperate Distribution: North Atlantic and Arctic: Ungava Bay in Canada along the North American coast to Cape Hatteras; North Carolina in the western Atlantic. East and west coast of Greenland; around Iceland; from Barents Sea including the region around Bear Island along the European coast to Bay of Biscay. Maturity: L_m 63.4, range 31 - 74 cm – max 200 cm, common 100 cm
Merlu, Merlan, Brochet de mer (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)	 Temperate Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Norway and Iceland, southward to Mauritania. Also in the Mediterranean Sea and along the southern coast of the Black Sea. Maturity: L_m 42.8, range 20 - 70 cm – max 140 cm, common 45 cm male
Lieu noir, Merlan noir (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	 Temperate Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Barents Sea, Spitsbergen to Bay of Biscay, around Iceland. Western Atlantic: southwest Greenland, Hudson Strait to North Carolina, although rare at the extremes of the range. Maturity: L_m 39.1 range ? - ? cm – max 130 cm, common 60 cm
Bass (Dicentrarchus labrax)	Subtropical; 8°C - 24°C Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Norway to Morocco, the Canary Islands and Senegal. Also known from the Mediterranean and Black Sea. Absent from White, Barents, Baltic and Caspian Seas Maturity : L _m 32.3, range 23 - 46 cm – max 103 cm, common 50 cm
Dorade (Sparus aurata)	 Subtropical Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: British Isles, Strait of Gibraltar to Cape Verde and around the Canary Islands; also in the Mediterranean. Reported from the Black Sea. Reports from New Zealand refer to Pagrus auratus. Maturity: L_m?, range 33 - 40 cm – max 70 cm, common 35 cm
Dorade (Pagellus bogareveo)	 Temperate Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: Norway, Strait of Gibraltar to Cape Blanc in Mauritania, Madeira, Canary Islands, and western Mediterranean (rare beyond the Sicilian Strait). Reported from Iceland. Maturity: L_m 31.4 range ? - ? cm – max 70 cm, common 30 cm

Dorade (Dentex dentex)	 Subtropical Distribution: Eastern Atlantic: British Isles to Cape Blanc, Mauritania; (exceptionally further south) Senegal and around the Canary Islands and Madeira. Common south of 40°N (Spain, North Africa) in the Mediterranean. Maturity: Lm <u>34.6</u> range ? - ? cm – max 100 cm, common 50 cm
Thon rouge (Thunnus thynnus)	 Subtropical; 3°C - 30°C Distribution: Western Atlantic: Labrador and Newfoundland to Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Sea to Venezuela and Brazil. Eastern Atlantic: Lofoten Islands off Norway to Canary Islands, including the Mediterranean and the southern part of the Black Sea. Reported from Mauritania. There is a subpopulation off South Africa. Maturity: L_m range 97 - 110 cm – max 458 cm TL male, common 200 cm
Albacore, Yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)	 Tropical; 15°C - 31°C Distribution: Worldwide in tropical and subtropical seas, but absent from the Mediterranean Sea. Maturity: L_m 103.3, range 78 - 158 cm – max 239 cm FL male / unsexed, common 150 cm FL
Patudo (Thunnus obesus)	 Subtropical; 13°C - 29°C Distribution: Atlantic, Indian and Pacific: in tropical and subtropical waters. Absent in the Mediterranean. Maturity: L_m?, range 100 - 125 cm - max 250 cm TL, common 180 cm FL
Bonito (Katsuwonus pelamis)	 Tropical; 15°C - 30°C Distribution: Cosmopolitan in tropical and warm-temperate waters. Not found in the Black Sea. Maturity: L_m 40.0, range 40 - 45 cm – max 110 cm FL, common 80 cm FL
Carpe (Cyprinus carpio)	 Subtropical; 3°C – 35°C - freshwater Distribution: Europe to Asia: Black, Caspian and Aral Sea basins. Intro- duced throughout the world. Wild stocks are only present naturally in rivers draining to the Black, Caspian, Aral Sea and in the Danube. Maturity: L_m 34.9, range 25 - 36 cm – max 120 cm TL, common 31 cm
Pangasius (Pangasianodon hypophthalmus)	 Tropical; 22°C – 26°C - freshwater Distribution: Asia: Mekong, Chao Phraya, and Maeklong basins. Intro- duced into additional river basins for aquaculture. Maturity: Females take min. 3 years to reach sexual maturity in captivity (being then >3 kg in weight), while males often mature in 2nd year, probably taking about the same time in the wild – max 130 cm.
Crevette rose (Pandalus borealis?)	Circumpolar Distribution: North Atlantic; -2°C - 12°C, preferred 4°C Maturity: L _m ? - max. total length 12 cm male, 16 cm female

Crevette grise (Crangon crangon)	 Distribution: Southern North Sea, although also found in the Irish Sea, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and Black Sea, as well as off much of Scandinavia and parts of Morocco's Atlantic coast. Maturity: females reach sexual maturity at a length around 22–43 mm, while males are mature at 30–45 mm. Max 8.9 cm total length
Crevette géante tigrée (Penaeus monodon)	Tropical - aquaculture Distribution: Southeast Asia Maturity: >4 cm, range ? - max. total length 33,6 cm male/unsexed
Crevette blanche (Litopenaeus vannamei)	Sub-tropical to tropical – originally from South America/Pacific, now also cultured in Asia because more robust against white spot disease than <i>P.</i> <i>monodon</i> Distribution : Eastern tropical Pacific from Mexico to southern Peru Maturity : ?, max. total length 23 cm
Homard (Homarus gammarus)	 Distribution: North Atlantic Ocean, from Labrador to North Carolina in the western North Atlantic, from Arctic Norway to Morocco, including the British Isles and the Mediterranean Sea. Maturity: The size at sexual maturity varies with temperature, range 70-100 mm - max 65.0 cm TL male, common 40 cm



