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Green Week 2019: Eye-catching displays on a bed of ice

Presentation in Hall 14.1 by the Hamburg-based FIZ featuring fish, crustaceans and molluscs from oceans, ponds, rivers and lakes

Record expenditure: In 2017 Germans spent 3.9 billion euros on fish and other seafood

The Fish Information Centre (FIZ), which is based in Hamburg, is inviting visitors to come and view, smell and taste its products at the International Green Week Berlin 2019. Between 18 and 27 January a bed of ice will be packed with an eye-catching display of fresh fish, crustaceans and molluscs from the world's oceans as well as from ponds, rivers and lakes in various regions of Germany. Among the items on display which can form the basis for many a delicious meal are large fish such as cod, smelling of the sea, and tiny smelt, with a delicate aroma of fresh cucumber. Culinary discoveries can also be found among the shellfish and the many different kinds of crayfish and prawns in Hall 14.1. Visitors will be able to sample small servings of pollock, cod and redfish, fried without using any fat. Delicacies made using octopus and squid are another culinary highlight.

According to Dr. Matthias Keller, general manager of the FIZ, "the long-term positive trend in sales of fish and other seafood in Germany was confirmed in 2017. Consumer expenditure in 2017 on fish and other seafood rose to a record level of some 3.9 billion euros. The amount by weight also rose, from 410,423 tonnes to 413,496 tonnes in 2017, and this upward tendency has continued into 2018."

The only area in which the FIZ has observed a decline is in the amount eaten away from home, where per capita consumption was 13.5 kilograms in 2017 (2016: 14.4 kg). Salmon, Alaskan pollock, herring, tuna and trout have retained their popularity and currently account for around three-quarters of all the fish consumed. There was considerable demand in 2017 for preserved fish and marinades, which are now the most popular seafood items, ahead of frozen fish products. Consumers also bought large numbers of products made from shrimps and molluscs.

In 2017 the largest volume of fish continued to be bought by consumers in Bremen (6.1 kg per capita), Hamburg (5.8 kg), Schleswig-Holstein (5.6 kg) and Berlin (5.6 kg), although there is still some room in shopping trolleys in Baden-Württemberg (4.2 kg), the Saarland (4.2 kg) and Rhineland-Palatinate (4.4 kg).

The display by the FIZ at the fair receives financial support from the European Union, European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF), Germany's federal government and the state of Schleswig-Holstein.

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