

Name Ikan Empurau
Sarawak

Country Malaysia

Date of registration:
05/02/2015



Source: MyIPO

Main characteristics/features

Ikan Empurau Sarawak is regarded as the king of Sarawak river fish with a reputation for its large size and palatable taste. The body is elongated and compact. The scales are large and ctenoid, with dark brownish to reddish body colouration above the lateral line and lighter silvery hues on the underside to provide camouflage in its natural environment. The Empurau prefers swift, clear, rocky-bottomed streams and deep pools in upper areas of the river basin. In terms of taxonomy the species is similar to the fish Semah (*tor dourensis*). It has an extended fleshy median lobe under the lower lip.

Geographical area

Ikan Empurau Sarawak can be found in the major upper reaches of the rivers in Sarawak, mainly Ulu Batang Ai, Batang Rejang, Baram, Adang and Limbang.

Production/processing

Ikan Empurau Sarawak is ranked as the most expensive freshwater fish in the state of Sarawak. It can fetch more than one thousand Malaysian Ringgit per kilogram due to a high demand and its unique reputation. The fish exhibits an ontogenetic diet, feeding on minute aquatic animals and browsing on rock bottom algae in its juvenile stage and then switching to parts of larger plants like fruit or flowers. The fish flesh tends to deposit fats and oils in the belly area when there is a glut of fruit available due to excessive intake of this food source. A fully grown of Ikan Empurau Sarawak measures 90 to 100 cm in length with a body height of 30 to 40 cm and weighs 30 to 40 kg.

Link between product and territory

From indigenous knowledge, three types of Empurau based on colour differentiation are known locally, namely, Empurau Burak-White Empurau, Empurau Merah (red), and Empurau Chelom refer to Red Empurau. Sarawak is a long pollution free freshwater river rich in natural food mainly from plant parts that fall into the water along the river bank especially from the Dipterocarp plant family that grow along the riverside.

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Competent authority Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)

GI rights holder/GI association Sarawak Information Technology and Resources Council (SITRC)

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Type of product Fish

Control body

File number GI2015-00003

Websites www.sma.gov.my