



What Do Farmed Salmon Eat?

Farmed salmon eat nutrient-dense, dry pellets made from animal, plant and fish proteins of natural origin and essential vitamins and minerals.

All fish feed ingredients are approved for use by the Canada Food Inspection Agency.

Two important ingredients are fishmeal and fish oil, which ensure salmon contain high levels of omega-3 fatty acids that are good for your heart and mind. Fishmeal and fish oil primarily come from forage fish such as anchovies that are too small and bony to be eaten by humans. Our farmers source fishmeal from the by-products of local fisheries when possible.

Feed Conversion Champions

Farmed salmon are incredibly efficient when it comes to growth. Wild salmon eat 10 times their weight in smaller fish throughout their lives.

For every kilogram of feed a farmed salmon eats, it gains almost a kilogram of weight. A cow needs to eat eight kilograms of feed to put on one kilogram of weight and a pig needs to eat three kilograms of feed.

Leading the Way in Research and Innovation

Managed by the International Fishmeal and Fish Oil Organization, forage fish are plentiful. But with salmon production expected to increase globally, farmers want to make sure the forage fishery remains strong.

Canada leads the development of fishmeal and fish oil replacement. In the 1990s, wild fish based ingredients in feeds were as high as 80 per cent. Today, it's as low as 30 per cent.

Atlantic Canadian feed producers work with top researchers to develop their own feed using local ingredients whenever possible.

Feed is tailored to suit the dietary needs of salmon at each life stage, which improves digestibility and results in less waste. Our farmers also use underwater cameras to prevent overfeeding and avoid waste. This supports sustainable environmental management practices.



AU NATUREL

No dyes, chemicals or growth hormones are added to the diet of farmed salmon.



WHAT MAKES FARMED SALMON PINK?

Carotenoids – the same natural ingredients found in carrots and shrimp – are added to their diet to provide them with vitamin A and give them their pink colour.

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