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Jokowi Furious Indonesia is Number One Importer of Fish Meal, What is Fish Meal?

President Jokowi is furious that Indonesia has become the number one importer of fishmeal. What is fishmeal really?

February 6, 2023 | 12:36 p.m. WIB



President Joko Widodo chats with fishermen in the Bulak Cumpat fishing village, Surabaya, East Java, Wednesday, April 20, 2022. During his visit, Jokowi was accompanied by Social Minister Tri Rismaharini and Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Sakti Wahyu Trenggono. ANTARA FOTO/Didik Suhartono

TEMPO.CO , Jakarta - President Joko Widodo or **Jokowi** is furious that Indonesia is still the number one importer of fishmeal. He cannot understand how difficult it is to make fishmeal **domestically**.

"Just look at tuna, skipjack, and mackerel. We are the number one **exporter** of fresh tuna, skipjack, and mackerel. The number one exporter, but also the number one importer of fishmeal," Jokowi said at the 2023 Financial Services Industry Annual Meeting, Monday, February 6, 2023.

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Fish meal is a processed fish by-product that until now has not been utilized optimally, especially for food ingredients.

Fish meal is usually obtained from whole fish, waste from fish processing, or fish that is not suitable for human consumption. This processed fish has a low water content.

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Making fishmeal from fish can be an alternative form of food ingredient, wrote the Putra Indonesia Pharmacy Academy, Malang.

The use of fish meal as a substitute for wheat flour in making biscuits is a promising alternative, especially in terms of the quality of the nutrients produced.

Anchovy flour, for example, contains quite complete nutrients such as fat, protein, and calcium. The nutrient content of anchovy flour is quite high with an energy content of 277 kcal, protein around 60 grams per 100 grams, fat 2.3 grams per 100 grams.

Then, there is also fish bone meal. Quoting the book Sustainable Fisheries, fish bone meal is a dry solid product produced by removing most of the liquid and some or all of the fat contained in the fish's body.

The processing method is also simple, namely by boiling, drying with a machine, putting it in a press machine, then into a grinder, and finally stirring it with amino powder with a *mixer*.

The benefits of fish meal and fish bone meal are that they can be used as animal feed. This is because fish meal and fish bone meal are rich in protein and amino acids.

In addition, fish meal and fish bone meal contain calcium, DHA, and EPA which are good for livestock health. How to use it is also simple, namely farmers usually mix fish meal and fish bone meal with their livestock feed.

Next: Indonesia as a fish producing country...

Indonesia as a fish producing country, engineering of fishery products is very important to be done in order to overcome the large amount of raw materials obtained so that damage does not occur and can increase the utility value of a material. One of the engineering of fish products in Indonesia is fish meal.

Indonesia's marine resources can be exploited



Wanting to Open Bullion Services



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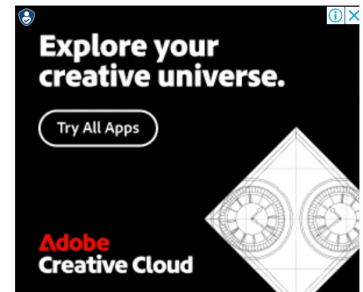
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downstream

Previously, Jokowi explained that Indonesia actually has marine resources that can provide great value if they are processed downstream. This is because two-thirds of Indonesia is waters with a sea area of 3.25 million kilometers. Unfortunately, this great potential has not been optimized.

According to Jokowi, Indonesia should be able to produce its own fishmeal. "It's funny, it's pushed out, then we import it again in the form of fishmeal. Can't we downstream this, industrialize our fish into fishmeal? How difficult is it? Is it really that difficult?" he said.

Jokowi continued, if the industry is not yet able to process domestically, it should be able to collaborate with partners at the start of its business and no longer hesitate to produce fish meal.

He then compared the condition of the Indonesian industry with China. "We see that the PRC is the number two importer of tuna, skipjack, and fresh mackerel. But, it can become the number four exporter of fishmeal," said Jokowi.

Not only highlighting the potential of fresh tuna, skipjack, and mackerel that can be processed into fishmeal, Jokowi assessed that there are still many other potentials such as seaweed and shrimp.

If processed into chitosan fertilizer, according to Jokowi, the value of its derivative products can increase 27 times. In addition, if crabs are processed into crab meat, their value can increase 3.2 times.

Not stopping at fish products, Jokowi also gave another example. Indonesia is the number one exporter of seaweed, but the raw material is exported in raw form only. While China is the number one importer of seaweed, but can become the number three exporter of carrageenan flour.

"This is what we should emulate. We should be the number one exporter of raw materials, but also the number one exporter of carrageenan. It should be like that and the added value will jump. If everything is downstreamed domestically, our country will jump, our GDP (Gross Domestic Product) will jump, our GDP (Gross Domestic Product/GDP) will jump," said Jokowi.

AMELIA RAHIMA SARI

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Jokowi

fish

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T

Andrew Triyanto Tjitra

T+ Edition March 23, 2025



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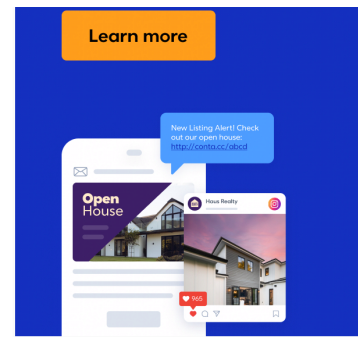
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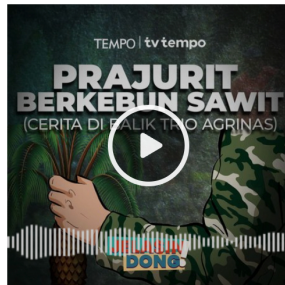
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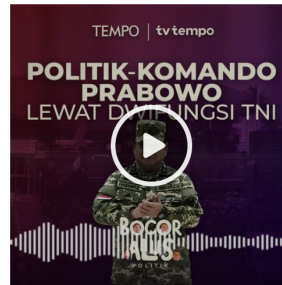
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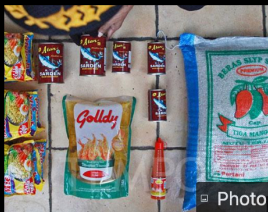


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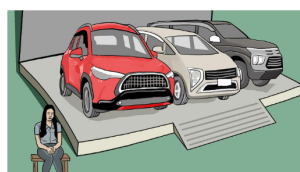


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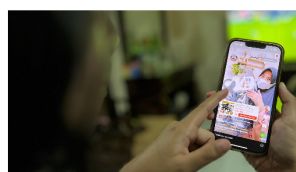
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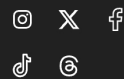
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