

ABSTRACT

A Formulation of a Rational Distribution System For Fresh Fish
in Trinidad.

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The inadequacy of marketing infrastructure has been identified as one of the most severe constraints to the performance of the fishing industry in Trinidad.

This thesis aims to formulate a rational distribution system for fresh fish in Trinidad. The rationalization is based on the optimal number and location of wholesale fish markets.

To derive the optimal set, which minimizes the total cost of operating the system from the point of production or catch to the time it reaches the final consumer centers, a mixed integer linear programming model was used. Data for the model was collected via a questionnaire survey and from other secondary and tertiary sources. The optimal set identified by the model was then tested against the existing system.

The study has identified that seven wholesale fish markets at given locations will minimize total costs. Also indicated was the fact that of the two existing wholesale fish markets one is not in an optimal location and hence not cost effective, and should be moved.