Research on China’s Cold Chain Logistics of Aquatic Product

Kim Hyung Geun*, Hong Jin Young**

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I . Preface

With the rapid development of economy as well as the adjustment of agricultural structure and the enhancement of household consumption level, the production and turnover of fresh agricultural product increase by years. The whole society has presented higher demands for the safety and quality of fresh agricultural product.

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* first author, Silla Univ. Assistant professor. Dept. of international studies.
** Corresponding Author, Inha Univ. Research Professor.Jungsok research institute of international logistics and trade.
Followed by vegetables, aquatic product has the most turnover in China’s whole market of agricultural products. According to China’s fishery year book, the total output of national aquatic product in 2011 was 56,032,100 ton, increasing 4.28% compared with that of 2010. The per capita availability of national aquatic product was 41.59 kg, increasing 1.52 kg equaling 3.79% compared with that of 2010. According to customs statistics, the total import and export of national aquatic product in 2011 was 8,161,200 ton, hitting a total amount of 25,809,000,000 dollars, respectively increasing 3.97% and 26.74% on year-on-year basis. The turnover of fishery industry and the output value of service industry is 359,434 billion Yuan, realizing an increase of 121,281 billion Yuan.1)

Compared with other animal food, aquatic product contain high content of moisture, protein and enzyme. While being stored and transported, these chemical components in aquatic product would easily change. This would cause aquatic product’s deterioration and seriously impact its appearance, smell and nutritive value. Eventually, the loss of these chemical components greatly reduce aquatic product’s use value and economic value.2) Temperature, however, is the main element that impacts the speed of chemical change of aquatic product. For example, low temperature could reduce the enzyme activity. Therefore, cold chain logistics is an important means to guarantee the quality and safety of aquatic product during the process of circulation.

However, a lot of problems exist in China’s cold chain logistics of aquatic product. For example, the development of cold chain fails to meet the increasing demand and circulation of aquatic product. According to the Development Planning

1) 农业部渔业统计年鉴. 2011.1-10.