

**Registration number** 12

**Application number** 2014007

**Application filing date** 25.12.2014

**Country of origin** AM

**Published designation** SEVAN TROUT

**ICGS** 29

**Type of good or specific product** Fish, fish product

**Description of special quality of product:**

Sevan trout (*Salmo ischchan*, Kessler 1877) is an endemic species for the lake, which is registered in the Red Book of Armenia (2011). Two out of four races of trout, Winter trout and Bojak are considered totally extinct, G'egharquni and Summer trout have lost industrial significance and appear separately. The evident characteristic feature of sterile trout is its colour. Black, rather large, round spots are abundantly scattered over the silvery background that often decorate the back flipper and gill covers. There sometimes may be trout species which have purple (scarlet) or orange spots on the skin. The latter are mostly smaller in size and less in quantity than the black-spotted ones. Red spots are usually more often seen on smaller trout.

The four races of Sevan trout differ by some morphological (number of lateral line scales, number of gill filaments processus, and shape of the upper and lower jaws) and environmental (spawning periods and places) indicators.

**Link with the geographical origin:**

Due to its physical, chemical, biological indicators Lake Sevan is considered to be strategic reserve of freshwater. It is one of unique freshwater lakes where conditions for growth of specific fish species are generated due to low quantity of salts. Freshwater fish meet is softer than that of sea fish, and in the contrary to those bred in artificial water basins, it is more saturated with the necessary microelements. The combination of chemical elements (total ions, minerals, fluorine, phosphorus, calcium, potassium, sodium, sulphate, silicium, etc.) creates specific conditions in the water where Sevan trout species grow. The high concentration of magnesium in the lake as well has positive impact on the fish. The climate of Sevan basin in summer is moderate warm and in winter – moderate cold. The average temperature of the lake on annual bases varies 10-12°C. The minimum temperature of the water in winter is 1-2°C which is observed in January-April and the maximum temperature reaches up to 21°C in August. Mixing of different water layers conditioned by both, different temperatures at different water layers and winds characteristic to the given area, is as well one of the special characteristics of Lake Sevan. The above mentioned special characteristics of the lake reflect on the quality of the trout living in that system, i.e. on G'egharquni and Summer trout.

**Geographical zone:** Sevan trout production takes place in the area of "Sevan" national park". The general area of the park together with the mirror of Lake Sevan covers 147.343ha and without the Lake mirror - 22.585ha. The preservative zone area is divided into four-area functional zones: nature reserves (general coverage 7464ha), preserves (general coverage 2652ha), recreational and economic. There are 4 nature reserves in the territory of the park: "Norashen", "Lijq-Arg'ich", "G'ill" and "Artanish", 2 preserves: "Gavarag'et" and "G'ihikaghnut relict". The total area of recreation zones of the park covers 4753ha, which, at separate sections, stretch along the lake shore. The park area includes 8 recreation zones. The areas of economic zone lay in the following sectors: From Sevan town to Tzovag'yugh, from Ljashen to Hayravatz, from Noratus semi-island to River Tzakqar, from River Arg'ichi to Village Tzovak and from River G'eghamasar to Artanish semi-island, as well as on Areguni south-west mountain slopes. The general coverage of the economic zone in these sections is 11.184ha.

**Name and location of the competent authorities or the organizations eligible for control of compliance to technical specifications, as well as their problems adjustment:** the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia.