



Catfish Processing

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Catfish Processing Up 14 Percent from Last Year

Farm-raised catfish processed during January 2013 totaled 29.5 million pounds round weight, up 14 percent from January 2012. The average price paid to producers was 81.9 cents per pound for January 2013, down 1.1 cents from last month and 42.9 cents below a year ago.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during January 2013 totaled 16.0 million pounds, up 19 percent from the comparable month in 2012. Sales of fresh fish, at 5.76 million pounds, were up 17 percent from January 2012 and represented 36 percent of total sales. Frozen fish sales, at 10.2 million pounds, were up 20 percent from a year ago and accounted for the remaining 64 percent of total fish sales. Sales of whole fish represented 21 percent of the total fish sold, fillets accounted for 57 percent, and the remaining 22 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. The total end of the month inventory decreased 13 percent from last month and was down 38 percent from a year ago.

The total fresh and frozen average price for January 2013 was \$2.76, down 67 cents from a year ago. The January 2013 average price received by processors for total fresh fish was \$2.59 per pound, down 86 cents from last year. Prices for fresh whole fish were \$1.81 per pound, down 63 cents from January 2012. Prices for fresh fillets were down \$1.03 from a year ago at \$3.70 per pound. Total frozen fish averaged \$2.85 per pound, down 57 cents from January 2012. Prices for frozen whole dressed fish were down 27 cents at \$2.77 and frozen fillets at \$3.20 per pound were down \$1.06 from a year ago.

Imports for consumption of *Ictalurus* spp., *Pangasius* spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes for December 2012 totaled 14.1 million pounds, down 38 percent from the amount imported in December 2011. Imports were from Brazil, China, French Polynesia, Norway, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The *Ictalurus* spp. imports totaled 432 thousand pounds, which were from China.

Fresh catfish fillet exports totaled 79.0 thousand pounds, with 44.6 thousand pounds going to Canada and the rest going to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Jordan, Nigeria, St. Maarten, the Islands of Turks and Caicos, and United Arab Emirates. Exports of frozen catfish fillets reported for December 2012 totaled 22.6 thousand pounds, going to the Bahamas.

Import and export data are compiled by the United States Census Bureau.

2012 Annual Catfish Processing Down 10 Percent

Farm-raised catfish processed during 2012 totaled 300 million pounds, 10 percent below the 334 million pounds processed in 2011. The average price paid to producers in 2011 was \$.98 per pound, 19 cents below the 1.17 cents paid last year.

Net pounds of processed catfish sold in 2012 totaled 161 million pounds, down 3 percent from the 167 million pounds sold last year. The 2012 average price received for processed fish was \$3.08 per pound, down 31 cents from a year ago. Inventory on hand at the end of 2012 totaled 9.0 million pounds, a decrease of 30 percent from the 12.9 million pounds on hand at the close of 2011.

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Farm-Raised Catfish Processed and Prices Paid to Producers by Month – United States: 2012-2013

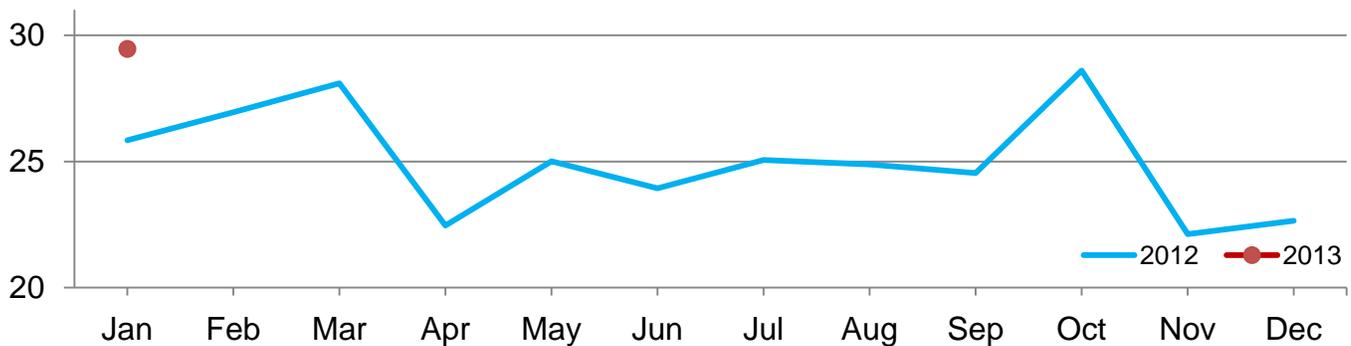
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Month	Round weight processed								
	Monthly			Cumulative			Price per pound ¹		
	2012	2013	2013 as percent of 2012	2012	2013	2013 as percent of 2012	2012	2013	Change from 2012
(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	
January	25,843	29,458	114	25,843	29,458	114	1.248	0.819	-0.429
February	26,950			52,793			1.229		
March	28,098			80,891			1.201		
April	22,463			103,354			1.167		
May	25,009			128,363			1.038		
June	23,938			152,301			0.934		
July	25,056			177,357			0.843		
August	24,886			202,243			0.798		
September	24,535			226,778			0.793		
October	28,596			255,374			0.803		
November	22,124			277,498			0.822		
December	22,653			300,151			0.830		

¹ Quantity processed by major processors and the prices paid for fish delivered to the processing plant's door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling. Price also includes any discounts or premiums for size or quality, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements.

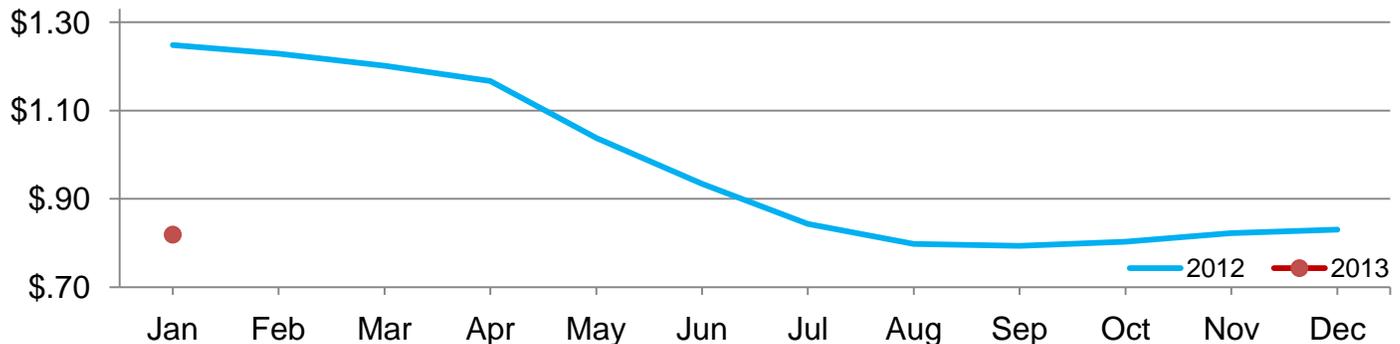
Catfish Processed – United States

Million pounds



Average Catfish Grower Price – United States

Price per pound



**Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Sales Volume and Average Price by Month – United States:
2012 and 2013**

Item ¹	Sales volume			Average price ²		
	January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	January 2012	December 2012	January 2013
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)
Fresh fish						
Whole						
Round and gutted	1,189	1,309	1,709	1.87	1.37	1.47
Whole dressed	1,030	986	1,150	2.98	2.21	2.19
Total	2,219	2,295	2,859	2.44	1.78	1.81
Other						
Steaks	45	48	79	3.60	2.84	2.82
Nuggets	404	361	433	1.83	1.54	1.54
Other	24	16	18	4.85	4.47	4.29
Total	473	425	530	2.15	1.80	1.82
Fillets	2,231	1,934	2,372	4.73	3.73	3.70
Total fresh	4,923	4,654	5,761	3.45	2.59	2.59
Frozen fish						
Whole dressed	526	453	574	3.04	2.78	2.77
Other						
Steaks	44	40	45	3.24	2.61	2.64
Nuggets	2,160	1,243	2,035	1.33	1.41	1.43
Other	626	819	882	4.00	3.55	3.58
Total	2,830	2,102	2,962	1.95	2.27	2.09
Fillets	5,148	5,507	6,707	4.26	3.17	3.20
Total frozen	8,504	8,062	10,243	3.42	2.91	2.85
Fresh and frozen fish						
Whole						
Round and gutted	1,189	1,309	1,709	1.87	1.37	1.47
Whole dressed	1,556	1,439	1,724	3.00	2.39	2.38
Total	2,745	2,748	3,433	2.56	1.94	1.97
Other						
Steaks	89	88	124	3.42	2.74	2.75
Nuggets	2,564	1,604	2,468	1.41	1.44	1.45
Other	650	835	900	4.03	3.57	3.59
Total	3,303	2,527	3,492	1.98	2.19	2.05
Fillets	7,379	7,441	9,079	4.40	3.32	3.33
Total fresh and frozen fish	13,427	12,716	16,004	3.43	2.79	2.76

¹ For further detail, please refer to the terms and definitions section of this report.

² Gross value FOB plant.

Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Ending Inventory by Month – United States: 2012 and 2013

Item ¹	Ending inventory		
	January 2012 (1,000 pounds)	December 2012 (1,000 pounds)	January 2013 (1,000 pounds)
Fresh fish			
Whole			
Round and gutted	(D)	(D)	(D)
Whole dressed	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total	131	78	204
Other			
Steaks	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nuggets	86	55	72
Other	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total	92	56	79
Fillets	382	282	332
Total fresh	605	416	615
Frozen fish			
Whole dressed	407	666	690
Other			
Steaks	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nuggets	1,477	927	647
Other	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total	1,859	1,519	1,087
Fillets	9,807	6,380	5,458
Total frozen	12,073	8,565	7,235
Fresh and frozen fish			
Whole			
Round and gutted	(D)	(D)	(D)
Whole dressed	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total	538	744	894
Other			
Steaks	(D)	(D)	(D)
Nuggets	1,563	982	719
Other	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total	1,951	1,575	1,166
Fillets	10,189	6,662	5,790
Total fresh and frozen fish	12,678	8,981	7,850

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ For further detail, please refer to the terms and definitions section of this report.

Catfish Imports by Month – United States: 2011-2012

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau.]

Month	Imports					
	Ictalurus spp.			Total ¹		
	2011	2012	2012 as percent of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as percent of 2011
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
January	1,301	2,028	156	16,276	25,551	157
February	1,015	1,317	130	13,790	15,238	111
March	211	528	250	9,133	15,280	167
April	216	534	247	13,325	19,756	148
May	113	345	305	16,314	20,100	123
June	11	352	3,200	14,643	18,847	129
July	19	73	384	18,034	22,604	125
August	39	84	215	18,383	23,655	129
September	171	202	118	18,576	22,868	123
October	838	202	24	20,335	20,217	99
November	1,372	331	24	22,262	19,220	86
December	2,113	432	20	22,608	14,062	62

¹ Includes freshwater imports for consumption of *Ictalurus* spp., *Pangasius* spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes.

Catfish Exports by Month – United States: 2011-2012

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau.]

Month	Exports					
	Fresh			Frozen		
	2011	2012	2012 as percent of 2011	2011	2012	2012 as percent of 2011
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(percent)
January	53.9	85.2	158	10.2	2.7	26
February	56.7	120.2	212	13.2	11.1	84
March	42.3	129.5	306	2.2	68.0	3,091
April	38.7	234.5	606	-	29.7	(X)
May	41.0	83.6	204	3.0	4.6	153
June	38.0	82.7	218	1.8	10.9	606
July	150.0	114.1	76	7.8	5.3	68
August	72.7	95.2	131	-	5.5	(X)
September	29.4	113.5	386	1.1	57.7	5,245
October	55.9	141.2	253	3.6	8.5	236
November	42.7	64.9	152	2.7	49.2	1,822
December	51.4	79.0	154	3.6	22.6	628

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

Farm-Raised Catfish Round Weight Processed by Month – United States: 1998-2012

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	
	(1,000 pounds)						
1998	46,723	47,606	53,761	49,393	45,218	46,244	
1999	48,723	48,891	56,310	46,830	47,703	48,445	
2000	50,552	50,942	56,856	48,781	48,424	48,011	
2001	46,999	50,257	57,766	52,478	51,736	47,883	
2002	52,551	52,856	58,340	50,694	52,902	49,450	
2003	55,523	55,461	65,007	57,105	58,424	52,441	
2004	53,849	54,173	60,272	53,896	52,324	50,155	
2005	53,856	51,720	57,117	50,306	51,552	49,626	
2006	50,703	49,145	56,315	43,126	42,865	41,214	
2007	46,079	44,083	45,477	37,954	38,867	37,275	
2008	45,992	47,634	47,908	45,018	44,326	43,265	
2009	36,406	37,702	44,912	40,768	39,925	39,370	
2010	40,042	40,977	46,650	37,111	38,244	38,656	
2011	35,076	27,782	30,372	30,605	24,749	24,337	
2012	25,843	26,950	28,098	22,463	25,009	23,938	
	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	(1,000 pounds)						
1998	46,383	47,739	46,579	47,904	43,224	43,581	564,355
1999	50,074	50,372	50,414	52,407	48,118	48,341	596,628
2000	49,023	53,204	49,422	51,412	45,535	41,441	593,603
2001	47,829	51,690	49,699	52,264	44,670	43,837	597,108
2002	52,363	54,383	53,366	56,576	50,072	47,048	630,601
2003	54,089	54,153	51,885	57,652	51,246	48,518	661,504
2004	51,055	53,295	51,329	52,396	49,536	48,170	630,450
2005	47,241	50,686	47,151	49,034	46,674	45,707	600,670
2006	45,528	51,736	47,296	50,788	45,680	41,735	566,131
2007	39,168	42,626	39,519	45,890	40,307	39,001	496,246
2008	42,583	40,985	39,057	43,344	36,869	32,616	509,597
2009	40,966	39,490	36,408	40,191	36,211	33,751	466,100
2010	39,302	39,231	39,494	40,455	36,683	34,838	471,683
2011	26,595	30,680	30,271	32,264	25,814	22,598	334,143
2012	25,056	24,886	24,535	28,596	22,124	22,653	300,151

Farm-Raised Catfish Prices Received by Producers by Month – United States: 1998-2012

[Quantity processed by major processors and the prices received for fish delivered to the processing plant's door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements]

Year	January (dollars per pound)	February (dollars per pound)	March (dollars per pound)	April (dollars per pound)	May (dollars per pound)	June (dollars per pound)	
1998	0.690	0.730	0.780	0.790	0.790	0.780	
1999	0.703	0.714	0.732	0.756	0.777	0.775	
2000	0.744	0.788	0.789	0.789	0.785	0.786	
2001	0.693	0.696	0.697	0.694	0.687	0.669	
2002	0.549	0.555	0.565	0.561	0.574	0.588	
2003	0.529	0.544	0.585	0.630	0.618	0.586	
2004	0.668	0.703	0.723	0.728	0.720	0.689	
2005	0.725	0.731	0.733	0.725	0.722	0.721	
2006	0.727	0.729	0.745	0.785	0.796	0.807	
2007	0.837	0.838	0.838	0.841	0.840	0.817	
2008	0.658	0.688	0.743	0.757	0.776	0.794	
2009	0.810	0.770	0.773	0.763	0.762	0.763	
2010	0.764	0.765	0.785	0.804	0.796	0.786	
2011	0.931	1.003	1.075	1.141	1.169	1.231	
2012	1.248	1.229	1.201	1.167	1.038	0.934	
	July (dollars per pound)	August (dollars per pound)	September (dollars per pound)	October (dollars per pound)	November (dollars per pound)	December (dollars per pound)	Average (dollars per pound)
1998	0.760	0.740	0.730	0.710	0.700	0.700	0.743
1999	0.768	0.743	0.728	0.716	0.713	0.716	0.737
2000	0.760	0.741	0.727	0.710	0.696	0.682	0.751
2001	0.656	0.624	0.610	0.596	0.566	0.554	0.647
2002	0.590	0.582	0.576	0.568	0.560	0.544	0.568
2003	0.564	0.552	0.560	0.567	0.610	0.629	0.581
2004	0.682	0.683	0.683	0.695	0.689	0.690	0.697
2005	0.723	0.724	0.724	0.724	0.724	0.726	0.725
2006	0.812	0.811	0.832	0.836	0.837	0.838	0.795
2007	0.762	0.731	0.697	0.682	0.666	0.650	0.767
2008	0.818	0.827	0.827	0.825	0.823	0.821	0.776
2009	0.771	0.769	0.772	0.768	0.765	0.763	0.771
2010	0.788	0.790	0.816	0.832	0.841	0.861	0.801
2011	1.252	1.277	1.275	1.262	1.257	1.251	1.172
2012	0.843	0.798	0.793	0.803	0.822	0.830	0.980

Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Sales Volume by Month – United States: 2012

Month	Whole fish			Other				Fillets	Total sales
	Round and gutted only	Whole dressed	Total	Steaks	Nuggets	Other	Total		
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Fresh									
January	1,189	1,030	2,219	45	404	24	473	2,231	4,923
February	1,136	1,187	2,323	45	446	24	515	2,349	5,187
March	1,163	1,190	2,353	46	459	24	529	2,399	5,281
April	1,020	984	2,004	44	401	30	475	2,150	4,629
May	1,061	1,046	2,107	46	426	25	497	2,234	4,838
June	1,154	943	2,097	40	380	25	445	2,148	4,690
July	1,232	974	2,206	45	394	20	459	2,218	4,883
August	1,022	1,054	2,076	45	407	24	476	2,474	5,026
September	1,119	967	2,086	47	377	25	449	2,433	4,968
October	1,460	1,086	2,546	53	403	23	479	2,400	5,425
November	1,212	992	2,204	50	354	18	422	1,913	4,539
December	1,309	986	2,295	48	361	16	425	1,934	4,654
Total	14,077	12,439	26,516	554	4,812	278	5,644	26,883	59,043
Frozen									
January	(X)	526	526	44	2,160	626	2,830	5,148	8,504
February	(X)	634	634	56	1,943	645	2,644	5,982	9,260
March	(X)	621	621	39	2,164	546	2,749	6,066	9,436
April	(X)	506	506	40	1,549	361	1,950	4,913	7,369
May	(X)	516	516	42	1,735	457	2,234	5,791	8,541
June	(X)	530	530	44	1,502	384	1,930	5,313	7,773
July	(X)	573	573	42	1,807	446	2,295	5,525	8,393
August	(X)	633	633	85	1,677	507	2,269	6,514	9,416
September	(X)	510	510	76	1,462	847	2,385	5,559	8,454
October	(X)	525	525	39	1,681	461	2,181	5,664	8,370
November	(X)	519	519	38	1,516	1,143	2,697	5,597	8,813
December	(X)	453	453	40	1,243	819	2,102	5,507	8,062
Total	(X)	6,546	6,546	585	20,439	7,242	28,266	67,579	102,391
Fresh and frozen									
January	1,189	1,556	2,745	89	2,564	650	3,303	7,379	13,427
February	1,136	1,821	2,957	101	2,389	669	3,159	8,331	14,447
March	1,163	1,811	2,974	85	2,623	570	3,278	8,465	14,717
April	1,020	1,490	2,510	84	1,950	391	2,425	7,063	11,998
May	1,061	1,562	2,623	88	2,161	482	2,731	8,025	13,379
June	1,154	1,473	2,627	84	1,882	409	2,375	7,461	12,463
July	1,232	1,547	2,779	87	2,201	466	2,754	7,743	13,276
August	1,022	1,687	2,709	130	2,084	531	2,745	8,988	14,442
September	1,119	1,477	2,596	123	1,839	872	2,834	7,992	13,422
October	1,460	1,611	3,071	92	2,084	484	2,660	8,064	13,795
November	1,212	1,511	2,723	88	1,870	1,161	3,119	7,510	13,352
December	1,309	1,439	2,748	88	1,604	835	2,527	7,441	12,716
Total	14,077	18,985	33,062	1,139	25,251	7,520	33,910	94,462	161,434

(X) Not applicable.

Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Average Sales Price by Month – United States: 2012

[Prices are gross value FOB plant]

Month	Whole fish			Other				Fillets	Total sales
	Round and gutted only	Whole dressed	Total	Steaks	Nuggets	Other	Total		
	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)	(dollars per pound)
Fresh									
January	1.87	2.98	2.44	3.60	1.83	4.85	2.15	4.73	3.45
February	1.80	2.94	2.44	3.54	1.82	4.77	2.11	4.68	3.42
March	1.78	2.93	2.42	3.52	1.82	4.78	2.10	4.68	3.41
April	1.71	2.90	2.35	3.50	1.79	4.75	2.14	4.57	3.36
May	1.61	2.79	2.25	3.31	1.73	2.42	1.91	4.35	3.19
June	1.56	2.69	2.12	3.29	1.66	4.64	1.97	4.09	3.01
July	1.54	2.56	2.04	3.19	1.58	4.50	1.87	3.87	2.86
August	1.34	2.46	1.95	3.13	1.55	4.43	1.84	3.76	2.83
September	1.41	2.34	1.89	3.07	1.54	4.27	1.85	3.72	2.78
October	1.42	2.27	1.84	2.99	1.56	4.39	1.85	3.74	2.68
November	1.40	2.19	1.81	2.83	1.53	4.30	1.80	3.73	2.62
December	1.37	2.21	1.78	2.84	1.54	4.47	1.80	3.73	2.59
Average	1.56	2.61	2.11	3.22	1.67	4.38	1.95	4.14	3.02
Frozen									
January	(X)	3.04	3.04	3.24	1.33	4.00	1.95	4.26	3.42
February	(X)	2.94	2.94	3.15	1.39	4.09	2.09	4.25	3.54
March	(X)	3.06	3.06	3.23	1.48	3.83	1.97	4.22	3.49
April	(X)	2.98	2.98	3.18	1.39	3.63	1.84	4.12	3.44
May	(X)	2.91	2.91	3.11	1.36	3.72	1.88	3.79	3.24
June	(X)	2.91	2.91	2.96	1.36	3.37	1.80	3.68	3.16
July	(X)	2.89	2.89	2.70	1.34	3.15	1.72	3.37	2.89
August	(X)	2.85	2.85	1.98	1.33	3.18	1.77	3.11	2.77
September	(X)	2.86	2.86	2.07	1.39	3.12	2.03	3.11	2.79
October	(X)	2.77	2.77	2.58	1.40	3.21	1.80	3.29	2.87
November	(X)	2.73	2.73	2.65	1.40	3.74	2.41	3.21	2.94
December	(X)	2.78	2.78	2.61	1.41	3.55	2.27	3.17	2.91
Average	(X)	2.90	2.90	2.70	1.38	3.57	1.97	3.62	3.12
Fresh and frozen									
January	1.87	3.00	2.56	3.42	1.41	4.03	1.98	4.40	3.43
February	1.80	2.94	2.54	3.32	1.47	4.11	2.09	4.37	3.50
March	1.78	2.97	2.55	3.39	1.54	3.87	1.99	4.35	3.46
April	1.71	2.93	2.47	3.35	1.47	3.72	1.90	4.26	3.41
May	1.61	2.83	2.38	3.21	1.43	3.65	1.88	3.95	3.22
June	1.56	2.77	2.28	3.12	1.42	3.45	1.83	3.80	3.10
July	1.54	2.68	2.22	2.95	1.38	3.21	1.74	3.51	2.87
August	1.34	2.61	2.16	2.38	1.37	3.24	1.78	3.29	2.79
September	1.41	2.52	2.08	2.45	1.42	3.15	2.00	3.30	2.79
October	1.42	2.43	2.00	2.82	1.43	3.27	1.81	3.42	2.80
November	1.40	2.38	1.98	2.75	1.42	3.75	2.33	3.34	2.83
December	1.37	2.39	1.94	2.74	1.44	3.57	2.19	3.32	2.79
Average	1.56	2.71	2.26	2.95	1.44	3.60	1.97	3.77	3.08

(X) Not applicable.

Processed Farm-Raised Catfish Ending Inventory, by Month – United States: 2012

[For further detail, please refer to the terms and definitions section of this report]

Month	Whole fish			Other				Filletts	Total inventory
	Round and gutted only	Whole dressed	Total	Steaks	Nuggets	Other	Total		
	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Fresh									
January	(D)	(D)	131	(D)	86	(D)	92	382	605
February	(D)	(D)	155	(D)	48	(D)	56	316	527
March	(D)	(D)	113	(D)	39	(D)	42	270	425
April	(D)	(D)	100	(D)	49	(D)	54	273	427
May	(D)	(D)	136	(D)	71	(D)	79	276	491
June	(D)	(D)	82	(D)	57	(D)	62	330	474
July	(D)	(D)	89	(D)	47	(D)	50	289	428
August	(D)	(D)	96	(D)	55	(D)	56	297	449
September	(D)	(D)	113	(D)	61	(D)	62	316	491
October	(D)	(D)	105	(D)	64	(D)	68	353	526
November	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	51	(D)	57	254	406
December	(D)	(D)	78	(D)	55	(D)	56	282	416
Frozen									
January	(X)	407	407	(D)	1,477	(D)	1,859	9,807	12,073
February	(X)	372	372	(D)	1,274	(D)	1,684	9,298	11,354
March	(X)	388	388	(D)	865	(D)	1,324	9,333	11,045
April	(X)	296	296	(D)	906	(D)	1,315	9,795	11,406
May	(X)	237	237	(D)	799	(D)	1,236	9,235	10,708
June	(X)	229	229	(D)	775	(D)	1,248	8,721	10,198
July	(X)	284	284	(D)	615	(D)	1,159	8,802	10,245
August	(X)	375	375	(D)	634	(D)	1,237	7,744	9,356
September	(X)	546	546	(D)	718	(D)	1,137	7,822	9,505
October	(X)	602	602	(D)	833	(D)	1,756	7,970	10,328
November	(X)	761	761	(D)	820	(D)	1,413	7,516	9,690
December	(X)	666	666	(D)	927	(D)	1,519	6,380	8,565
Fresh and frozen									
January	(D)	(D)	538	(D)	1,563	(D)	1,951	10,189	12,678
February	(D)	(D)	527	(D)	1,322	(D)	1,740	9,614	11,881
March	(D)	(D)	501	(D)	904	(D)	1,366	9,603	11,470
April	(D)	(D)	396	(D)	955	(D)	1,369	10,068	11,833
May	(D)	(D)	373	(D)	870	(D)	1,315	9,511	11,199
June	(D)	(D)	311	(D)	832	(D)	1,310	9,051	10,672
July	(D)	(D)	373	(D)	662	(D)	1,209	9,091	10,673
August	(D)	(D)	471	(D)	689	(D)	1,293	8,041	9,805
September	(D)	(D)	659	(D)	779	(D)	1,199	8,138	9,996
October	(D)	(D)	707	(D)	897	(D)	1,824	8,323	10,854
November	(D)	(D)	856	(D)	871	(D)	1,470	7,770	10,096
December	(D)	(D)	744	(D)	982	(D)	1,575	6,662	8,981

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

(X) Not applicable.

Catfish Imports by Month – United States: 1998-2012

[Import data by species was not available prior to July 2004. Starting with July 2004, data includes freshwater imports for consumption of *Ictalurus* spp., *Pangasius* spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes. Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau]

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	
	(1,000 pounds)						
1998	91	9	99	82	208	193	
1999	57	53	113	250	541	372	
2000	487	235	309	554	698	791	
2001	862	510	1,201	1,787	1,989	2,114	
2002	1,037	1,048	414	618	1,491	982	
2003	1,322	260	332	272	703	893	
2004	215	204	295	328	248	270	
2005	1,383	1,230	1,161	2,198	2,695	2,538	
2006	2,644	2,491	3,267	3,119	3,306	4,424	
2007	12,056	7,582	6,430	5,097	5,434	5,469	
2008	9,666	9,603	7,884	10,492	10,151	11,299	
2009	9,819	6,527	8,942	8,548	11,592	10,577	
2010	14,612	10,421	7,608	8,804	9,971	10,293	
2011	16,276	13,790	9,133	13,325	16,314	14,643	
2012	25,551	15,238	15,280	19,756	20,100	18,847	
	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	(1,000 pounds)						
1998	195	132	21	92	174	90	1,386
1999	475	479	304	217	285	305	3,451
2000	945	981	674	650	871	1,041	8,236
2001	1,968	1,385	1,536	1,608	1,724	1,395	18,079
2002	957	632	670	572	874	906	10,201
2003	435	135	150	384	331	213	5,430
2004	123	1,637	1,801	1,104	1,579	1,420	9,224
2005	2,048	2,684	2,219	4,062	4,648	3,239	30,105
2006	5,232	8,991	9,091	10,672	12,830	8,897	74,964
2007	5,718	8,839	6,741	7,111	7,248	6,880	84,605
2008	8,674	6,994	6,462	7,188	6,198	7,817	102,428
2009	10,765	11,711	12,541	13,857	12,783	11,718	129,380
2010	10,268	9,957	11,626	15,046	12,032	16,897	137,535
2011	18,034	18,383	18,576	20,335	22,262	22,608	203,679
2012	22,604	23,655	22,868	20,217	19,220	14,062	237,398

Catfish *Ictalurus* spp. Imports by Month – United States: 2008-2012

[Data compiled by the United States Census Bureau]

Year	January	February	March	April	May	June	
	(1,000 pounds)						
2008	2,944	2,575	2,040	3,040	2,864	1,758	
2009	2,344	1,225	972	1,364	1,659	1,088	
2010	3,091	2,150	1,179	1,220	656	651	
2011	1,301	1,015	211	216	113	11	
2012	2,028	1,317	528	534	345	352	
	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	(1,000 pounds)						
2008	1,202	1,315	987	579	1,374	2,425	23,103
2009	1,849	1,210	1,385	1,584	2,144	2,527	19,351
2010	516	70	195	196	586	1,269	11,779
2011	19	39	171	838	1,372	2,113	7,419
2012	73	84	202	202	331	432	6,428

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Survey data for catfish processing are collected from approximately 18 processors. All participating processors must meet the minimum criteria of having a capacity to process at least 2,000 pounds live weight of catfish per 8-hour shift. The survey is conducted entirely by National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Headquarters staff in Washington, D.C. However, NASS field offices are responsible for informing Headquarters staff of any new processing operations in their state to ensure complete survey coverage. Processors are contacted either by mail, telephone, fax or internet. Diligent effort is made to ensure that all operations are accounted for in the estimate.

Estimation Procedures: The *Catfish Processing* report refers strictly to farm-raised fish and excludes wild capture fish. Prior to summarization, questionnaires are compared with the previous month's reports for comparable placement of data, reasonable price levels, and a reasonable inventory carryover given the sales and processing totals reported. Estimates are made for those processors whose reports are not available in time to be included in the release. These plants are identified by an asterisk on page 14 of this release. Estimates are normally based on the processor's previous report and current conditions. Published totals are a straight summation of the individual reports and estimated data. Price items are weighted by the associated volumes to compute weighted average prices. The published price for total whole fish, however, reflects an adjustment to the round and gutted only price to bring it to an equivalent dressed weight price.

If a plant uses a fiscal accounting system, prorating is used to convert reported data to a calendar month basis. Only national level estimates are published due to the limited number of plants involved.

One unique feature of the *Catfish Processing* report is the listing of cooperating processors by name on each month's release. This feature originally was used to solicit industry cooperation in maintaining coverage, but it has continued because of the processors' overall acceptance of this policy.

Import and export data for catfish, which are compiled by the United States Census Bureau, are also included in this report.

Revision Policy: Revisions may be necessary in the previous month's publication based on late reports received from plants. These revisions are made to improve month to month relationships. In February, all monthly estimates for the previous year are reviewed and subject to revision. This review is primarily based on data that may have been received after the original estimates were published.

Reliability: Estimates are based on a census of all known active processors and, therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing of the data. These errors are minimized through strict quality controls in the edit and summarization process, and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

America's Catch, Inc.	Harvest Select Catfish, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, LLC	Heartland Catfish
Consolidated Catfish Producers, LLC	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Delta Supreme Fish Processors	Pride of the Pond
Farm Catch Catfish Processors, Inc.	Prime Line, Inc.
Fish Breeders of Idaho, Inc.	Seabrook Seafood, Inc.
Freshwater Farms Products, LLC	Simmons Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Guidry Catfish, Inc.	SouthFresh Farms
Haring's Pride Catfish	Superior Fish Products

Beginning June 2012, Farm Catch Catfish Processors, Inc. no longer participates in the survey.

Terms and Definitions Used for Catfish Processing Estimates

Average Price Paid to Producers: Refers to the price of fish delivered to the processing plant door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include any adjustments based on year-end settlements.

Fillets: Boned sides of the fish, cut lengthwise away from the backbone. Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.

Fresh Fish: Fish intended for immediate consumption. Also referred to as ice-packed.

Frozen Fish: Fish which are individually quick frozen and glazed (IQF) or individually bagged and bulk frozen.

Ictalurus spp.: All species under this genus, which includes channel catfish, blue catfish, and other catfish species.

Nuggets: Small fillets cuts from below the rib section of the fish and usually includes weight of breading and added ingredients.

Other Products: Includes steaks, nuggets, and all other products not separately reported including the weight of breading and added ingredients.

Pangasius spp.: All species under this genus, which includes basa, tra, stuchi catfish, and other catfish species.

Round & Gutted Only: Fish with no processing done or viscera only removed.

Round Weight: The term for a fish's live weight.

Siluriformes: The scientific order which contains all families of catfish.

Steaks: Cross-section cuts from larger dressed fish.

Strips: Finger size pieces of fish cut from fillets and usually includes breading or added ingredients.

Whole Dressed: Weight of whole fish with only head, viscera, and skin removed. Generally, 60 percent of the live weight remains as dressed fish.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch	(202) 720-3570
Bruce Boess, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section	(202) 720-4447
Cody Brokmeyer – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised	(202) 690-3237
David Colwell – Cold Storage	(202) 720-8784
LaKeya Jones – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Honey, Mink	(202) 720-0585
Dawn Keen – Egg Products	(202) 720-4448
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs	(202) 690-8632
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery	(202) 720-3244

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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