

# Catfish Processing



National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

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Released February 22, 1993, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Estimates refer to January 1993 and January 1992.

## Catfish Processing Up 11 Percent

Farm-raised catfish processed during January totaled 40.3 million pounds round weight, up 11 percent from January 1992.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during January totaled 20.3 million pounds, an increase of 8 percent from the comparable month in 1992. Sales of whole fish represented 30 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 50 percent. The remaining 20 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 45 percent of the total amount sold.

The January average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.35 per pound for ice pack and \$1.62 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during December totaled 491 thousand pounds, down 17 percent from the 594 thousand pounds the previous year. Seventy-six percent of the imports were from Brazil. Exports totaled 2.04 thousand pounds for December, all of which were to Mexico. Import and export data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

America's Catch	Harvest Select
Amite River Industries	Kueter's Lake
Aqua Farm Catfish Inc.	La Louision
Cargill Fisheries Products	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Limestone Fish Processors
Confish Inc.	Pisces
Corbin Fish Farm	Pride of the Pond
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Dorey Fish Co.	Saul's Fish Processors
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Seabrook Seafood Inc.
Fish Breeders of Idaho	Simmons Farm-Raised
Florida Aquaculture Processors	Southern Farm Fish Processors
Franklin Catfish	Southern Pride
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Southfresh Farms
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.	

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For information call Joel Moore at (202) 720-3244. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Farm - Raised Catfish  
Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers,  
Reported by Major Processors; and U.S. Imports, 1992-93

Month	Round Weight Processed				Average Price Paid to Producers <u>1/</u>		Imports of Catfish <u>2/</u>	
	Monthly		Cumulative		1992	1993	1991	1992
	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993	1991	1992
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars Per Pound		(000) Pounds	
Jan	36,200	40,327	36,200	40,327	.53	.63	355	237
Feb	39,228		75,428		.56		344	201
Mar	45,048		120,476		.60		93	243
Apr	41,177		161,653		.63		641	233
May	39,111		200,764		.63		184	392
Jun	36,813		237,577		.61		484	100
Jul	36,128		273,705		.59		723	344
Aug	37,958		311,663		.58		621	169
Sep	37,857		349,520		.59		80	307
Oct	39,212		388,732		.61		974	187
Nov	35,073		423,805		.62		93	23
Dec	33,562		457,367		.63		594	491

1/ Price for fish delivered to Processing Plant door. 2/ Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

Catfish Processors' Sales Volume, Average Price, and Ending Inventory,  
January 1992-93

Item	Whole Fish <u>1/</u>		Fillets <u>2/</u>		Other <u>3/</u>		Total	
	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993	1992	1993
<b>Fresh</b>								
Quantity (000) lb	4,462	4,363	3,410	3,743	839	965	8,711	9,071
Price (\$ / lb)	1.23	1.35	2.38	2.48	1.66	1.70	1.72	1.85
Inventory(000) lb	353	381	464	411	91	93	908	885
<b>Frozen</b>								
Quantity(000) lb	1,964	1,751	5,147	6,368	2,876	3,083	9,987	11,202
Price (\$ / lb)	1.43	1.62	2.35	2.49	1.72	1.84	1.99	2.17
Inventory(000) lb	2,314	1,589	4,060	5,270	2,300	3,903	8,674	10,762

1/ Dressed weight, (head, viscera, and skin removed). 2/ Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded product. 3/ Includes all products not already reported, including weight of breading and added ingredients.

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The next "Catfish Processing" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on March 22, 1993.