

Catfish Production



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released July 31, 1991, by the Agricultural Statistics Board.

Food Size Inventory Up 15 Percent

Commercial catfish operations had 227 million food size fish on hand July 1, 1991, up 15 percent from the July 1, 1990 total of 199 million. Of the total number of food size fish, 4.07 million were large food size (over 3 pounds per fish), 48.2 million were medium food size (1 1/2 to 3 pounds per fish), and 175 million were small food size fish (3/4 to 1 1/2 pounds per fish). Catfish producers had 1.53 million broodfish on hand July 1, 1991, up 6 percent from the 1.44 million on hand July 1, 1990. The number of stockers on hand on July 1, 1991, totaled 642 million fish, up 40 percent from the 457 million on hand July 1, 1990. Of the total number of stockers, 273 million were large stockers (over 180 to pounds to 750 pounds per 1,000 fish) and 370 million were small stockers (over 60 pounds to 180 pounds per 1,000 fish). Operators had 1.79 billion fingerlings on hand July 1, 1991, up 3 percent from the 1.73 billion fingerlings on hand July 1, 1990.

Water Acres Up 3 Percent

The water surface acres being used for catfish production totaled 166,160 acres, up 3 percent from the January 1, 1991, total of 161,910 acres. Of the total acres, 5,620 acres are to be renovated during the period of July 1, 1991 to January 1, 1992. Of the total acres, 7,370 acres were being used to hold broodfish for breeding. An additional 4,070 acres are under construction or expected to be constructed and in use by January 1, 1992. During the January 1, 1991 through July 1, 1991 period, 3,510 acres were taken out of production.

Number of Operations Up 7 Percent

The total number of operations on July 1, 1991, in the 17 selected States was 1,944, up 7 percent from the January 1, 1991, total of 1,820.

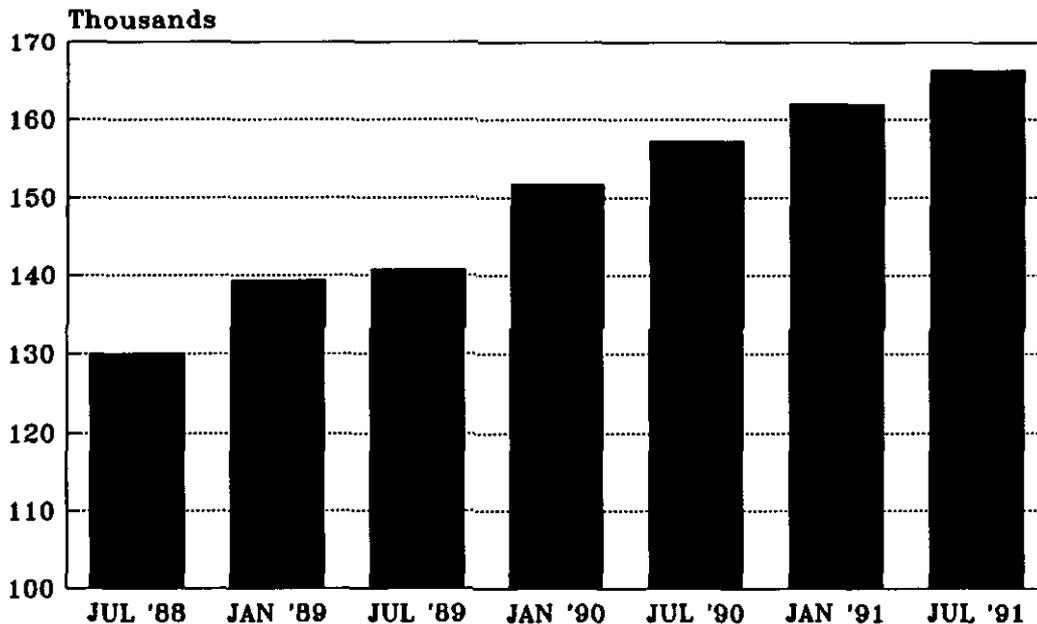
For information, call Robert Little (202) 447-6147. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Catfish: Number of Operations

State :	Jan 1 1991	Jul 1 1991
AL :	350	353
AR :	206	202
FL :	47	63
IL :	53	43
KY :	45	42
LA :	200	225
MS :	308	310
MO :	125	125
NC :	52	56
OK :	85	80
SC :	29	54
TN :	28	27
TX :	145	202
Oth <u>1/</u> :	147	162
Total :	1,820	1,944

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, and KS.

U. S. WATER SURFACE ACRES JULY 1988 - JULY 1991



Catfish: Water Surface Acres; Acres Being Renovated;
New Ponds Under Construction; Acres Out of Production;
and Acres Used for Broodfish; July 1

State	Water Surface Acres		Acres Being Renovated	New Acres Under Constrctn	Acres Out of Production	Acres Used For Broodfish
	Jan 1 1991*	Jul 1 1991				
AL	18,600	18,700	290	450	240	980
AR	20,500	20,700	1,900	900	410	1,100
FL	1,200	1,200	40	1/	1/	110
IL	450	450	10	1/	1/	40
KY	400	390	30	100	1/	80
LA	11,500	14,500	360	490	730	450
MS	94,000	95,000	2,100	1,000	900	3,400
MO	2,700	2,800	60	130	150	160
NC	1,100	1,300	40	90	30	60
OK	1,300	1,100	100	60	160	90
SC	1,500	1,800	20	280	10	120
TN	380	310	20	30	10	40
TX	3,600	3,300	220	140	90	290
Oth 2/	4,680	4,610	430	400	780	450
Total	161,910	166,160	5,620	4,070	3,510	7,370

* Water surface acres for Jan 1, 1991 are revised.

1/ Included in Other States to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

2/ Includes CA, GA, ID, and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Broodfish, July 1

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
Thousands				
AL	164	195	858	905
AR	193	285	790	1,216
FL	17	11	65	51
IL	5	4	18	20
KY	4	1	22	6
LA	55	40	255	223
MS	810	819	3,732	3,701
MO	42	34	127	101
NC	36	18	187	83
OK	8	9	30	40
SC	5	19	18	114
TX	60	24	279	119
Oth 1/	45	74	231	361
Total	1,444	1,533	6,612	6,940

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, KS, and TN.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Large Food Size,* July 1

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
	Thousands			
AL	421	422	1,566	1,504
AR	231	575	852	2,019
FL	51	24	206	112
IL	35	16	167	62
LA	290	214	1,080	811
MS	1,325	2,247	4,555	7,624
MO	60	66	205	230
NC	59	134	225	460
OK	25	60	130	225
SC	8	24	37	95
TN	8	40	33	160
TX	33	120	155	473
Oth 1/	95	123	339	440
Total	2,641	4,065	9,550	14,215

* Large Food Size: Over 3 lbs/fish.

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, KS, and KY.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Medium Food Size,* July 1

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
	Thousands			
AL	5,327	4,231	9,325	8,197
AR	4,878	6,135	8,437	11,084
FL	98	105	215	207
IL	60	64	101	103
KY	113	138	223	252
LA	4,055	4,257	7,105	9,067
MS	16,504	30,743	27,191	56,145
MO	421	538	660	1,024
NC	130	343	231	638
OK	150	95	300	180
SC	27	220	43	430
TN	34	79	63	135
TX	579	420	1,077	740
Oth 1/	589	880	992	1,714
Total	32,965	48,248	55,963	89,916

* Medium Food Size: Over 1 1/2 lbs to 3 lbs/fish.

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Small Food Size,* July 1

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
Thousands				
AL	14,686	15,163	13,848	14,837
AR	19,206	22,993	18,501	21,894
FL	529	710	570	827
IL	86	111	79	102
KY	150	143	158	134
LA	14,250	12,215	14,870	12,948
MS	110,161	111,834	101,902	107,895
MO	602	1,122	569	1,104
NC	567	912	586	926
OK	225	165	230	155
SC	1,500	1,600	1,570	1,650
TN	68	104	69	97
TX	141	6,184	127	6,194
Oth 1/	726	1,775	704	1,749
Total	162,897	175,031	153,783	170,512

* Small Food Size: Over 3/4 lbs to 1 1/2 lbs/fish.

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of All Stockers,* July 1

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
Thousands				
AL	50,405	50,341	17,326	13,110
AR	46,805	67,644	13,340	14,936
FL	1,324	990	593	304
IL	215	315	110	79
LA	31,320	29,619	14,500	4,179
MS	314,810	466,478	113,301	103,896
MO	4,956	4,130	1,979	1,095
NC	1,392	2,003	440	426
OK	845	1,180	380	189
SC	1,441	3,325	610	735
TN	188	121	56	38
TX	926	10,652	356	1,392
Oth 1/	2,621	5,569	865	1,434
Total	457,248	642,367	163,856	141,813

* All Stockers: Over 60 lbs to 750 lbs/1,000 fish.

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, KS, & KY.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Large* & Small** Stockers, July 1, 1991

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	Large	Small	Large	Small
Thousands				
AL	22,144	28,197	9,637	3,473
AR	26,357	41,287	10,969	3,967
FL	630	360	265	39
IL	178	137	67	12
LA	6,886	22,733	2,065	2,114
MS	208,157	258,321	78,581	25,315
MO	1,916	2,214	839	256
NC	663	1,340	287	139
OK	400	780	135	54
SC	945	2,380	463	272
TX	2,016	8,636	522	870
Oth <u>1/</u>	2,409	3,281	1,053	419
Total	272,701	369,666	104,883	36,930

* Large Stockers: Over 180 lbs to 750 lbs/1,000 fish.

** Small Stockers: Over 60 lbs to 180 lbs/1,000 fish.

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, KS, KY, & TN.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Fingerling* and Fry**, July 1

State	Total Number of Fish		Total Live Weight of Fish	
	1990	1991	1990	1991
Thousands				
AL	137,067	348,235	1,913	4,797
AR	192,848	182,570	3,002	2,402
FL	8,074	8,074	120	120
KY	8,274	3,261	55	47
LA	156,340	129,426	1,175	2,313
MS	1,050,561	957,505	8,154	10,294
MO	50,012	22,524	478	289
NC	13,474	11,074	99	68
OK	6,860	6,700	68	53
SC	9,625	76,100	139	213
TX	65,922	12,175	1,065	123
Oth <u>1/</u>	33,043	29,396	271	277
Total	1,732,100	1,787,040	16,539	20,996

* Fingerling: Over 2 lbs to 60 lbs/1,000 fish.

** Fry: 2 lbs/1,000 fish or less.

1/ Includes CA, GA, ID, IL, KS, and TN.

Catfish: Number Stocked in Growout Ponds During Previous Quarter,
By Size Group

State	Apr 1991	May 1991	Jun 1991
Large Stockers Thousands			
AL	1,982	777	400
AR	1,281	1,391	1/
LA	516	128	1/
MS	4,870	5,000	5,754
Total	8,649	7,296	6,295
Small Stockers Thousands			
AL	1,718	2,891	486
AR	6,302	1,819	888
LA	11,231	8,400	8,184
MS	10,502	13,654	11,456
Total	29,753	26,764	21,014
Fingerlings Thousands			
AL	3,121	3,077	14,746
AR	6,392	10,793	9,823
LA	4,493	7,318	13,171
MS	33,613	38,383	41,682
Total	47,619	59,571	79,422

1/ Not published separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Catfish: Round Weight Processed, 1976-Current

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Thousand Pounds							
1976	1,785	1,711	2,094	1,397	1,037	1,471	
1977	1,344	2,278	1,901	1,749	1,810	1,901	
1978	1,598	2,361	2,951	2,510	2,729	2,189	
1979	3,032	3,929	4,010	3,025	3,716	3,081	
1980	3,530	4,892	4,060	3,829	4,045	3,596	
1981	3,836	4,844	4,490	6,057	5,385	4,356	
1982	5,448	7,848	8,845	7,937	7,974	8,156	
1983	8,713	11,972	13,104	12,518	11,615	12,068	
1984	13,265	14,585	14,658	13,349	12,856	11,130	
1985	13,429	17,166	18,290	16,474	17,432	15,897	
1986	19,761	19,083	18,664	16,354	16,013	15,951	
1987	20,988	22,163	27,583	26,781	21,623	19,581	
1988	26,018	27,786	28,179	20,805	20,351	22,839	
1989	26,948	28,559	29,458	27,310	28,892	27,598	
1990	33,066	31,884	33,120	30,980	31,542	28,967	
1991	32,206	33,036	35,951	31,205	31,322	31,588	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Thousand Pounds							
1976	1,458	1,763	1,904	1,545	1,500	1,312	18,977
1977	1,965	2,192	1,986	1,766	1,661	1,573	22,126
1978	2,310	3,186	2,607	2,647	2,935	2,154	30,177
1979	3,138	3,978	3,417	3,531	3,000	2,779	40,636
1980	3,092	4,116	3,817	4,310	3,631	3,546	46,464
1981	5,379	5,176	5,711	5,154	4,757	5,495	60,640
1982	7,269	8,398	9,883	9,209	8,609	9,829	99,405
1983	10,347	11,998	11,250	11,138	11,754	10,773	137,250
1984	12,181	13,379	12,520	12,588	12,527	11,217	154,255
1985	14,311	17,130	16,638	16,861	14,625	13,363	191,616
1986	17,036	18,663	18,859	20,453	17,107	15,812	213,756
1987	21,638	24,403	26,577	27,920	20,684	20,555	280,496
1988	23,687	26,941	24,611	26,221	25,037	22,634	295,109
1989	27,827	28,371	30,366	31,670	29,096	25,805	341,900
1990	29,540	31,108	27,566	29,211	27,913	25,538	360,435

Catfish: Imports of Catfish, 1976-Current

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
	Thousand Pounds						
1976	661	398	1,313	778	1,169	595	
1977	797	2,626	1,319	1,751	1,716	1,380	
1978	1,845	752	1,936	2,188	2,534	1,046	
1979	995	1,683	639	2,522	2,014	946	
1980	1,309	1,511	1,170	1,045	1,108	2,225	
1981	1,003	1,119	1,044	1,434	982	521	
1982	564	377	474	231	744	492	
1983	434	210	283	375	283	101	
1984	401	479	661	861	436	656	
1985	589	425	976	602	214	928	
1986	383	947	610	954	646	787	
1987	583	1,241	256	1,012	688	301	
1988	451	508	577	217	1,015	26	
1989	588	117	795	417	952	584	
1990	115	553	322	48	618	342	
1991	355	344	93	641	184	1/	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	Thousand Pounds						
1976	271	1,137	936	812	1,092	1,049	10,212
1977	1,206	1,472	1,254	1,594	1,194	1,676	17,983
1978	863	968	1,524	815	2,728	1,173	18,372
1979	2,273	759	889	1,298	1,361	1,610	16,989
1980	1,110	2,430	1,425	284	863	443	14,922
1981	630	1,011	570	597	471	239	9,621
1982	499	542	906	569	348	148	5,894
1983	445	434	468	631	523	87	4,274
1984	384	515	54	599	696	422	6,164
1985	871	423	832	96	603	501	7,060
1986	543	669	486	800	1,142	199	8,166
1987	624	570	622	642	76	464	7,079
1988	724	414	669	674	388	182	5,845
1989	689	422	756	414	66	1,024	6,824
1990	406	362	619	33	381	226	4,025

1/ Data not available at time of publication.

Reliability and Estimating Procedures

Survey Procedures: Data for catfish production are collected from approximately 2,000 current and previous producers. States use all known sources of producers to ensure that their lists are as complete as possible. Firms that are not on the list are not represented in the data. Data collection from the approximately 2,000 producers begins on July 1, 1991. An attempt is made to contact all known catfish producers. Contact is attempted through mailed questionnaires, telephone enumeration, and/or personal enumeration. Great care is exercised to ensure that all operations are accounted for in the estimates.

Reliability: Sound statistical methodology is employed to derive the estimates from reported data. All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for inaccessible operations are represented through the expansion of the reported data or by imputation based on individual historical data. Survey data are subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions and mistakes in reporting and in processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized by carefully reviewing all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Revision policy: Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made. Revisions are the result of late or corrected data and are generally within one-half percent.

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The next "Catfish Production" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on October 30, 1991.

