Catfish Production

National Agricultural Statistics Service

United States Department of Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released July 29, 1994, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Estimates refer to July 1, 1993, January 1, 1994, and July 1, 1994.

Foodsize Inventory Up 6 Percent

Commercial catfish operations had 185 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 1994, up 6 percent from the July 1, 1993 total of 174 million. Of the total number of foodsize fish, 3.05 million were large (over 3 pounds per fish), 31.4 million were medium (1 1/2 to 3 pounds per fish) and 151 million were small (3/4 to 1 1/2 pounds per fish). Catfish producers had 1.32 million broodfish on hand July 1, 1994, down 7 percent from the 1.42 million on hand July 1, 1993. The number of stockers on hand July 1, 1994 totaled 593 million fish, down fractionally from a year ago. Of the total number of stockers, 290.3 million were large stockers (over 180 pounds to 750 pounds per 1,000 fish) and 303.2 million were small stockers (over 60 pounds to 180 pounds per 1,000 fish). Operators had 1.38 billion fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 1994, up 9 percent from the 1.26 billion on hand July 1, 1993.

Water Acres Up 1 Percent

The water surface acres being used for catfish production totaled 153,640 acres, up 1 percent from the January 1, 1994 total of 151,650 acres. Of the total acres, 4,700 acres are to be renovated during the period from July 1, 1994 to December 31, 1994. Acres used to hold broodfish for breeding amounted to 5,560. An additional 4,580 acres are under construction or expected to be constructed and in use by January 1, 1995. During the January 1, 1994 through July 1, 1994 period, 5,060 acres were taken out of production.

Number of Operations Down 4 Percent

The total number of operations on July 1, 1994 in the 15 selected States was 1,351, down 4 percent from the January 1, 1994 total of 1,404.

For information call Robert Little at (202) 720-6147. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

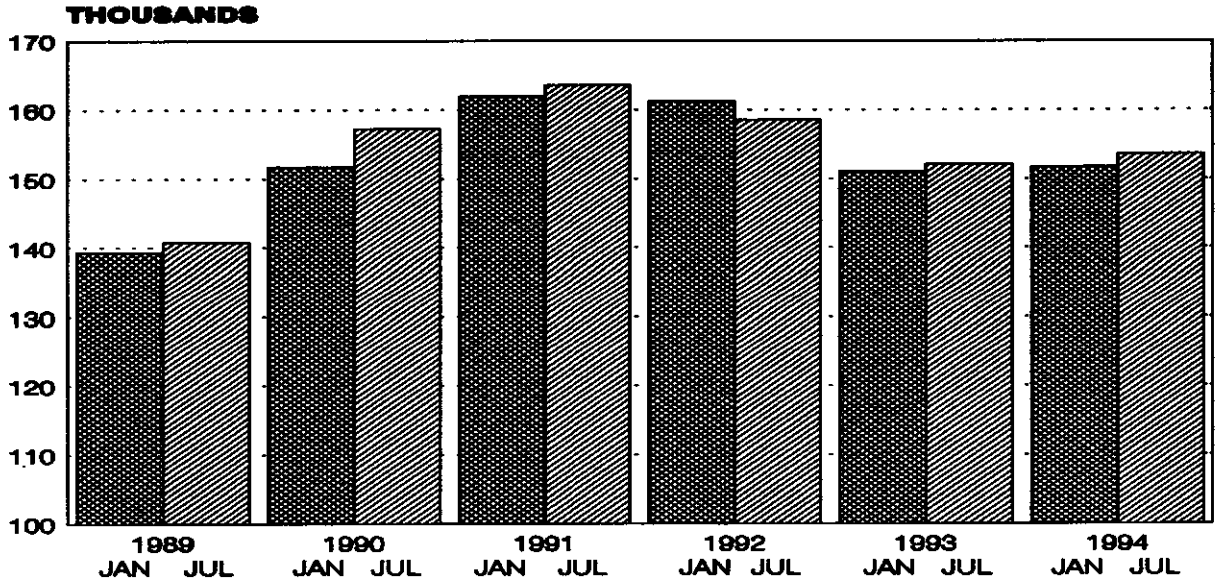
Aq 2 (7-94)

Catfish: Number of Operations, by State,
January 1 and July 1, 1994

State	Number of Operations	
	Jan 1 1994	Jul 1 1994
AL	260	240
AR	170	160
CA	37	50
FL	40	40
KY	35	30
LA	120	106
MS	262	270
MO	95	85
NC	44	43
OK	55	50
SC	43	40
TN	36	31
TX	136	128
Oth 1/	71	78
Total	1,404	1,351

1/ Includes GA and KS.

WATER SURFACE ACRES
1989 - 94



Catfish: Water Surface Acres; Acres Being Renovated; New Ponds Under Construction; Acres Out of Production; And Acres used For Broodfish; Jan. 1 and July 1

State	Water Surface Acres Jan 1 1994	Water Surface Acres Jul 1 1994	Acres Being Renovated	New Acres Under Constrctn	Acres Out of Production	Acres Used For Broodfish
AL	17,100	17,300	370	870	160	540
AR	19,000	20,500	800	1,400	520	800
CA	2,300	2,500	150	60	60	140
FL	400	400	40	10	10	40
KY	250	260	10	20	10	30
LA	11,800	10,400	710	670	1,000	220
MS	91,000	92,500	2,200	1,200	2,400	3,000
MO	2,500	2,300	100	60	70	90
NC	1,200	1,100	20	40	30	60
OK	800	850	20	50	30	80
SC	1,500	1,100	10	10	400	120
TN	500	470	70	0	0	20
TX	1,700	2,300	150	80	330	310
Oth 1/	1,600	1,660	50	110	40	110
Total	151,650	153,640	4,700	4,580	5,060	5,560

1/ Includes GA and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Broodfish, by State, July 1, 1993-94

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	139	156	680	745
AR	181	205	870	873
CA	13	12	92	75
FL	8	5	40	25
KY	*	6	*	26
LA	50	55	225	230
MS	780	680	3,666	3,229
MO	36	18	177	76
NC	38	16	196	100
OK	35	44	160	295
SC	64	56	372	334
TN	11	5	41	30
TX	36	36	209	163
Oth 1/	24	25	102	96
Total	1,415	1,319	6,830	6,297

* Included in other States to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
1/ Includes GA and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Large Foodsize, by State, July 1, 1993-94 1/

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	274	378	1,029	1,344
AR	720	461	2,454	1,533
CA	84	70	279	282
FL	28	3	100	10
KY	40	8	165	33
LA	210	105	755	330
MS	1,669	1,672	5,873	5,706
MO	91	66	340	220
NC	191	92	690	339
OK	40	6	185	23
SC	54	25	186	92
TN	67	55	215	192
TX	120	95	413	412
Oth 2/	27	16	118	64
Total	3,615	3,052	12,802	10,580

1/ Large Foodsize: Over 3 lbs/fish
2/ Includes GA and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Medium Foodsize, by State, July 1, 1993-94 1/

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	3,040	4,395	5,404	7,816
AR	4,403	3,581	7,723	6,633
CA	466	293	860	558
FL	60	9	120	18
KY	160	94	300	195
LA	2,260	1,350	4,060	2,400
MS	19,942	19,521	35,026	34,692
MO	436	354	850	656
NC	588	411	984	743
OK	130	33	225	66
SC	135	727	242	1,428
TN	110	204	192	367
TX	157	345	310	675
Oth 2/	92	75	170	125
Total	31,979	31,392	56,466	56,372

1/ Medium Foodsize: Over 1 1/2 lbs to 3 lbs/fish
2/ Includes GA and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Small Foodsize, by State, July 1, 1993-94 1/

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	17,406	23,000	16,291	22,200
AR	13,552	17,500	13,381	16,710
CA	966	930	945	920
FL	110	40	115	45
KY	95	57	95	58
LA	8,050	8,500	8,000	8,600
MS	93,448	97,289	87,292	94,099
MO	1,547	1,207	1,421	1,145
NC	1,394	725	1,426	717
OK	125	57	130	51
SC	1,127	771	968	779
TN	155	117	159	117
TX	202	433	205	363
Oth 2/	490	268	456	262
Total	138,667	150,894	130,884	146,066

1/ Small Foodsize: Over 3/4 lbs to 1 1/2 lbs/fish
2/ Includes GA and KS.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Large Stockers, by State July 1, 1993-94 1/

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	19,893	22,163	7,716	8,765
AR	27,459	23,789	10,813	9,790
CA	2,736	1,532	1,241	590
FL	25	150	10	35
KY	230	64	60	18
LA	10,450	12,850	3,750	5,100
MS	213,224	222,831	89,981	100,687
MO	6,277	1,706	3,148	493
NC	514	785	183	322
OK	60	265	25	123
SC	725	668	320	263
TX	454	1,231	210	374
Oth 2/	383	2,224	128	561
Total	282,430	290,258	117,585	127,121

1/ Large Stockers: Over 180 lbs to 750 lbs/1,000 fish.
2/ Includes GA, KS, and TN.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Small Stockers, by State
July 1, 1993-94 1/

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	20,931	17,263	1,890	1,787
AR	54,223	31,314	4,323	2,937
CA	2,450	1,359	299	152
FL	2,200	225	220	27
KY	270	180	28	13
LA	12,050	16,500	1,300	2,350
MS	206,930	221,828	21,475	24,660
MO	6,484	3,951	670	299
NC	1,456	1,701	107	225
OK	105	947	12	134
SC	1,065	1,523	146	154
TX	2,791	5,910	273	617
Oth 2/	1,857	505	225	51
Total	312,812	303,206	30,968	33,406

1/ Small Stockers: Over 60 lbs to 180 lbs/1,000 fish
2/ Includes GA, KS, and TN.

Catfish: Number and Live Weight of Fingerling and Fry, by State
July 1, 1993-94 1/

State	Total Number of Fish 1993	Total Number of Fish 1994	Total Live Weight of Fish 1993	Total Live Weight of Fish 1994
	1,000		1,000 Pounds	
AL	126,664	103,379	1,341	989
AR	178,952	201,892	1,612	2,788
CA	10,200	13,100	97	51
FL	17,900	9,000	400	200
KY	1,050	468	15	13
LA	65,000	89,000	920	845
MS	777,665	834,006	12,598	15,112
NC	8,249	9,688	132	49
OK	3,365	16,413	21	79
SC	7,972	6,249	59	50
TN	8,443	5,747	21	30
TX	24,402	30,829	313	307
Oth 2/	32,616	57,351	542	1,647
Total	1,262,478	1,377,122	18,071	22,160

1/ Fingerling and fry include fish 60 lbs/1,000 fish and less.
2/ Includes GA, KS, and MO.

Catfish: Number Stocked in Growout Ponds During Previous Quarter, by Size Group and State, April-June 1993-94

State	April 1993	April 1994	May 1993	May 1994	June 1993	June 1994
	Large Stockers - 1,000					
AL	3,532	1,593	*	242	*	970
AR	122	1,294	*	951	463	*
LA	680	1,300	750	295	*	355
MS	5,100	3,074	4,968	1,399	2,088	*
Total	9,434	7,261	7,245	2,887	3,590	5,236
	Small Stockers - 1,000					
AL	*	4,764	*	318	880	*
AR	*	*	*	2,667	*	475
LA	1,200	*	3,850	1,150	*	*
MS	17,109	15,645	10,849	8,594	14,932	8,375
Total	21,827	22,840	16,425	12,729	16,231	9,356
	Fingerlings - 1,000					
AL	2,462	*	2,115	1,076	*	*
AR	1,188	*	4,571	3,562	*	*
LA	1,150	3,350	17,050	2,400	4,600	1,400
MS	30,207	24,978	21,287	26,697	24,619	28,252
Total	35,007	38,253	45,023	33,735	40,986	54,637

* Not published separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Catfish: Round Weight Processed, by Month, United States, 1977-94

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
	1,000 Pounds					
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
1992	36,200	39,228	45,048	41,177	39,111	36,813
1993	40,327	40,277	43,521	39,920	37,030	35,496
1994	36,714	35,035	40,446	34,494	34,163	34,595

Year	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	1,000 Pounds						
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
1991	32,720	32,912	33,244	35,400	31,114	30,172	390,870
1992	36,128	37,958	37,857	39,212	35,073	33,562	457,367
1993	37,086	37,706	37,072	39,472	36,557	34,549	459,013

Farm-Raised Catfish: Prices Paid to Producers, 1977-94 1/

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
	Cents per Pound					
1977	52.9	55.5	59.6	60.9	60.7	61.0
1978	56.1	56.0	56.1	55.8	55.6	55.8
1979	52.3	55.0	58.5	60.0	60.4	62.8
1980	65.0	69.0	69.0	69.0	69.0	68.0
1981	64.0	64.0	67.0	69.0	70.0	69.0
1982	57.0	59.0	57.0	54.0	53.0	53.0
1983	56.0	55.0	56.0	59.0	62.0	65.0
1984	61.0	66.0	72.0	74.0	73.0	74.0
1985	67.0	69.0	73.0	78.0	77.0	77.0
1986	70.0	70.0	72.0	74.0	72.0	68.0
1987	60.0	57.0	59.0	65.0	69.0	64.0
1988	68.0	72.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	78.0
1989	78.0	78.0	77.0	76.0	76.0	75.0
1990	72.0	74.0	78.0	78.0	78.0	78.0
1991	69.0	69.0	69.0	69.0	66.0	65.0
1992	53.0	56.0	60.0	63.0	63.0	61.0
1993	63.0	67.0	70.0	71.0	72.0	72.0
1994	74.0	77.0	79.0	80.0	80.0	80.0

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. Avg.
	Cents per Pound						
1977	61.1	58.0	56.4	56.6	56.2	56.1	58.0
1978	55.9	55.7	53.3	51.6	51.3	51.6	54.5
1979	64.9	64.8	64.6	64.7	64.9	64.8	61.4
1980	69.0	68.0	67.0	66.0	67.0	65.0	67.6
1981	65.0	63.0	60.0	60.0	58.0	56.0	63.7
1982	53.0	53.0	54.0	55.0	56.0	56.0	54.9
1983	65.0	65.0	64.0	63.0	62.0	61.0	61.1
1984	74.0	72.0	69.0	67.0	65.0	65.0	69.2
1985	76.0	72.0	71.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	72.6
1986	66.0	63.0	63.0	62.0	61.0	61.0	66.8
1987	61.0	60.0	60.0	61.0	62.0	64.0	61.7
1988	80.0	80.0	79.0	79.0	78.0	78.0	76.4
1989	71.0	68.0	65.0	64.0	64.0	68.0	71.5
1990	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	75.0	72.0	75.8
1991	63.0	60.0	59.0	58.0	57.0	53.0	63.1
1992	59.0	58.0	59.0	61.0	62.0	63.0	59.8
1993	72.0	73.0	73.0	73.0	73.0	73.0	70.9

1/ Price paid to producers refers to the price of fish delivered to the processing plant door.

Farm-Raised Catfish: Imports of Catfish, 1977-94 1/

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
	1,000 Pounds					
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	484
1992	237	201	243	233	392	100
1993	118	183	127	328	204	253
1994	535	102	163	57	459	2/

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
	1,000 Pounds						
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
1991	723	621	80	974	93	594	5,186
1992	344	169	307	187	23	491	2,927
1993	277	444	426	596	781	373	4,110

1/ Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.
2/ Data not available until August 23, 1994.

Survey Procedures: Data for catfish production are collected from approximately 1,400 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 list of approximately 1,700 producers begins on July 1, 1994. All known catfish producers are contacted with either a mailed questionnaire or are telephoned or possibly enumerated in person. 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 missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or 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.

The next **"Catfish Production"** report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on October 28, 1994.

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