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Catfish Production

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Catfish Value of Sales Decreased Slightly from 2005

Catfish growers in the 11 selected States had sales of 481 million dollars during 2006, down slightly from the previous year. The top four States (Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, and Louisiana) accounted for 94 percent of the U.S. total sales. The 11 State sales total of all foodsize fish increased slightly from 2005 to 452 million dollars. Fingerling and fry sales totaled 21.2 million dollars, a decrease of 12 percent from 2005. Sales of stockers totaled 6.91 million dollars in 2006, a 15 percent increase from the previous year.

By point of first sale, direct sales to processors accounted for 95.7 percent of the total sales of foodsize fish compared with 94.9 percent from the previous year. Direct sales to other producers accounted for 85.0 percent of the stocker sales compared with 87.1 percent from 2005.

Water Acres Down 5 Percent from January 1, 2006

The water surface acres being used for catfish production as of January 1, 2007 totaled 163 thousand acres, down 5 percent from the 170 thousand acres used a year earlier. Of the total acres, 5.17 thousand are to be renovated during the period of January 1 to June 30, 2007. An additional 870 acres are under construction or expected to be constructed and in use by July 1, 2007. During the period of July 1 through December 31, 2006, the area taken out of production totaled 4.21 thousand acres. As of January 1, 2007, foodfish were produced on 133 thousand acres, fingerling producing acres totaled 23.1 thousand, and 3.88 thousand acres were being used for broodfish production.

Inventory Numbers

Catfish producers had 897 thousand **broodfish** on hand January 1, 2007, down 19 percent from January 1, 2006. **Large foodsize** fish on hand totaled 8.35 million on January 1, 2007, a decrease of 23 percent from a year ago. The number of **medium foodsize** fish decreased 5 percent to 97.8 million, while **small foodsize** fish numbers decreased 4 percent to 205 million. **Large stockers** on hand January 1, 2007, at 279 million fish, were up 4 percent from the previous year. **Small stocker** numbers decreased 17 percent to 293 million. There were 959 million **fingerlings** on hand January 1, 2007, down 8 percent from January 1, 2006.

Special Note

Three tables, which were included in previous year's *Catfish Production* reports, were removed from this year's publication. The tables removed were round weight of catfish processed, prices paid to catfish producers by processors, and imports of farm raised catfish. In the future, these tables will be included in the *Catfish Processing* report released in February each year.

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**Catfish: Number of Operations and Water Surface Acres Used for
Production, 2006-2007, and Total Sales, 2005-2006, by State and United States**

State	Number of Operations on Jan 1		Water Surface Acres Used for Production During Jan 1 - Jun 30		Total Sales	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2005 ¹	2006
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
AL	194	199	23,500	23,700	97,602	98,969
AR	132	137	32,600	30,400	77,556	79,586
CA	36	37	1,500	1,500	7,308	7,318
FL	31	43	520	530	1,435	1,761
GA	60	60	1,300	1,100	2,066	2,019
KY	34	35	390	370	887	849
LA	28	20	6,600	6,300	14,936	12,625
MS	390	370	99,000	94,000	268,158	262,510
MO	24	21	1,360	1,100	1,723	2,060
NC	49	44	2,100	2,000	6,077	7,213
TX	57	57	1,500	1,700	4,547	5,910
US ²	1,035	1,023	170,370	162,700	482,295	480,820

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total.

**Catfish: Water Surface Acre Usage
by State and United States, 2006-2007**

State	Acres Intended for Utilization During Jan 1-Jun 30 for:					Acres Taken Out of Production During Jul 1-Dec 31 Prev. Year
	Foodsize	Fingerlings	Broodfish	Currently Under or Scheduled for:		
				Renovation	New Construction	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
2006						
AL	21,600	920	320	860	160	1,140
AR	27,500	4,300	570	760	100	970
CA	1,240	150	50	60	60	*
FL	480	*	10	*		*
GA	840	325	120	70	*	*
KY	340	30	15	*		200
LA	5,500	970	*	550		360
MS	77,300	15,500	3,500	4,000	400	3,700
MO	970	*	25	65	*	*
NC	1,700	100	*	200	300	40
TX	1,350	90	40	20	250	30
US ¹	138,820	22,750	4,780	6,615	1,330	6,680
2007						
AL	21,800	1,300	400	860	110	690
AR	25,500	4,200	560	530	*	950
CA	1,180	180	90	90		*
FL	415	65	35	*	10	20
GA	680	260	90	50	*	*
KY	340	*	*	*	*	20
LA	5,300	820	120	570	*	160
MS	73,500	15,800	2,400	2,900	500	2,100
MO	660	350	*	40		50
NC	1,800	90	40	*	30	30
TX	1,500	*	110	100	100	65
US ¹	132,675	23,110	3,880	5,172	870	4,210

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ 11 State total. Due to disclosure, the sum of the individual States may not equal the total.

**Catfish: Inventory by Size Category, by State
and United States, January 1, 2006-2007**

Size Category and State	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Large Foodsize						
AL	3,900	2,300	13,200	7,600	3.4	3.3
AR	1,730	1,600	6,000	5,410	3.5	3.4
CA	210	420	690	1,400	3.3	3.3
FL	80	40	290	140	3.6	3.5
GA	165	40	580	150	3.5	3.8
KY	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA	890	310	3,100	1,020	3.5	3.3
MS	3,400	3,000	11,500	9,900	3.4	3.3
MO	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	150	220	530	720	3.5	3.3
TX	110	350	440	1,120	4.0	3.2
US ²	10,790	8,350	36,920	27,700	3.4	3.3
Medium Foodsize						
AL	23,400	17,300	41,500	32,700	1.8	1.9
AR	18,400	14,400	35,300	28,800	1.9	2.0
CA	760	570	1,470	1,160	1.9	2.0
FL	350	190	740	450	2.1	2.4
GA	510	590	1,010	1,170	2.0	2.0
KY	*	380	*	690	*	1.8
LA	5,180	5,960	10,200	10,100	2.0	1.7
MS	50,000	52,200	93,000	93,500	1.9	1.8
MO	*	500	*	900	*	1.8
NC	2,100	2,600	4,300	5,000	2.0	1.9
TX	1,250	3,130	2,550	6,150	2.0	2.0
US ²	102,730	97,820	191,630	180,620	1.9	1.8

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Catfish: Inventory by Size Category, by State
and United States, January 1, 2006-2007 (continued)**

Size Category and State	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Small Foodsize						
AL	39,400	41,200	36,200	39,800	0.9	1.0
AR	39,000	37,300	38,000	35,400	1.0	0.9
CA	2,030	720	1,830	760	0.9	1.1
FL	310	500	260	520	0.8	1.0
GA	340	340	345	390	1.0	1.1
KY	*	*	*	*	*	*
LA	5,040	4,210	5,000	4,850	1.0	1.2
MS	122,000	116,000	124,000	115,000	1.0	1.0
MO	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	3,100	2,200	3,000	2,400	1.0	1.1
TX	1,890	1,920	1,690	1,720	0.9	0.9
US ²	214,160	205,035	211,375	201,470	1.0	1.0
Total Foodsize						
AL	66,700	60,800	90,900	80,100		
AR	59,130	53,300	79,300	69,610		
CA	3,000	1,710	3,990	3,320		
FL	740	730	1,290	1,110		
GA	1,015	970	1,935	1,710		
KY	625	665	1,290	1,060		
LA	11,110	10,480	18,300	15,970		
MS	175,400	171,200	228,500	218,400		
MO	1,360	930	1,910	1,400		
NC	5,350	5,020	7,830	8,120		
TX	3,250	5,400	4,680	8,990		
US ²	327,680	311,205	439,925	409,790		

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Catfish: Inventory by Size Category, by State
and United States, January 1, 2006-2007 (continued)**

Size Category and State	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per 1,000 Fish	
	2006 ¹	2007	2006 ¹	2007	2006 ¹	2007
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Large Stockers						
AL	42,400	42,400	17,200	19,000	406	448
AR	47,400	31,200	15,100	10,800	319	346
CA	900	1,150	380	630	422	548
FL	*	*	*	*	*	*
GA	150	550	35	150	233	273
KY	130	*	40	*	308	*
LA	5,950	3,180	1,550	1,020	261	321
MS	167,000	198,000	67,800	78,500	406	396
MO	*	600	*	200	*	333
NC	2,800	1,100	1,400	670	500	609
TX	780	360	350	140	449	389
US ²	268,595	279,185	104,133	111,395	388	399
Small Stockers						
AL	106,000	51,800	8,400	5,900	79.2	113.9
AR	53,200	44,600	5,000	4,200	94.0	94.2
CA	1,430	1,640	180	185	125.9	112.8
FL	*	*	*	*	*	*
GA	1,280	820	90	65	70.3	79.3
KY	365	*	40	*	109.6	*
LA	6,210	5,300	635	422	102.3	79.6
MS	179,000	183,000	16,900	18,500	94.4	101.1
MO	*	1,900	*	190	*	100.0
NC	3,600	2,400	500	340	138.9	141.7
TX	1,370	1,260	140	131	102.2	104.0
US ²	354,210	293,015	32,059	29,978	90.5	102.3

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Catfish: Inventory by Size Category, by State
and United States, January 1, 2006-2007 (continued)**

Size Category and State	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per 1,000 Fish	
	2006 ¹	2007	2006 ¹	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Total Stockers						
AL	148,400	94,200	25,600	24,900		
AR	100,600	75,800	20,100	15,000		
CA	2,330	2,790	560	815		
FL	240	700	57	230		
GA	1,430	1,370	125	215		
KY	495	240	80	100		
LA	12,160	8,480	2,185	1,442		
MS	346,000	381,000	84,700	97,000		
MO	2,600	2,500	395	390		
NC	6,400	3,500	1,900	1,010		
TX	2,150	1,620	490	271		
US ²	622,805	572,200	136,192	141,373		
Fingerlings						
AL	166,000	59,500	6,000	2,300	36.1	38.7
AR	184,000	156,000	5,200	5,200	28.3	33.3
CA	3,400	8,130	130	255	38.2	31.4
FL	85	1,400	2	52	23.5	37.1
GA	6,280	3,720	230	130	36.6	34.9
KY	800	*	30	*	37.5	*
LA	18,400	7,550	635	197	34.5	26.1
MS	641,000	714,000	21,800	21,400	34.0	30.0
MO	3,750	3,800	109	55	29.1	14.5
NC	5,600	3,300	200	110	35.7	33.3
TX	10,100	*	310	*	30.7	*
US ²	1,039,415	959,060	34,646	29,733	33.3	31.0

See footnote(s) at end of table.

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**Catfish: Inventory by Size Category, by State
and United States, January 1, 2006-2007 (continued)**

Size Category and State	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>
Broodfish						
AL	100	70	400	320	4.0	4.6
AR	110	120	530	612	4.8	5.1
CA	10	9	50	50	5.0	5.6
FL	8	6	45	40	5.6	6.7
GA	25	20	115	90	4.6	4.5
KY	1	*	5	*	5.0	*
LA	*	24	*	107	*	4.5
MS	820	600	4,000	3,100	4.9	5.2
MO	*	*	*	*	*	*
NC	5	10	40	70	8.0	7.0
TX	2	30	10	158	5.0	5.3
US ²	1,106	897	5,315	4,587	4.8	5.1

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total. Due to disclosure, the sum of the individual States may not equal the total.

Catfish: Foodsize Sales by State and United States, 2005-2006

Year and State	Number of Fish	Live Weight		Average Price per Pound	Total Sales
		Average per Fish	Total		
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2005 ¹					
AL	78,000	1.8	142,000	0.65	92,300
AR	64,000	1.6	104,000	0.71	73,840
CA	1,720	1.8	3,180	2.26	7,187
FL	1,400	1.5	2,100	0.65	1,365
GA	990	1.6	1,580	0.79	1,248
KY	820	1.5	1,225	0.68	833
LA	14,800	1.4	21,100	0.70	14,770
MS	235,000	1.5	348,000	0.71	247,080
MO	510	2.9	1,500	0.82	1,230
NC	4,600	1.8	8,100	0.74	5,994
TX	3,570	1.7	6,100	0.71	4,331
US ²	405,410	1.6	638,885	0.70	450,178
2006					
AL	71,000	1.8	131,000	0.75	98,250
AR	56,500	1.8	99,200	0.76	75,392
CA	1,680	1.8	3,050	2.34	7,137
FL	1,350	1.3	1,810	0.92	1,665
GA	1,560	1.0	1,540	0.86	1,324
KY	760	1.4	1,070	0.77	824
LA	10,800	1.5	15,700	0.80	12,560
MS	215,000	1.5	313,000	0.77	241,010
MO	960	1.4	1,360	0.85	1,156
NC	4,600	1.9	8,600	0.81	6,966
TX	4,450	1.6	7,250	0.80	5,800
US ²	368,660	1.6	583,580	0.77	452,084

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total.

Catfish: Broodfish Sales by State and United States, 2005-2006

Year and State	Number of Fish	Live Weight		Average Price per Pound	Total Sales
		Average per Fish	Total		
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2005 ¹					
AL	300	8.0	2,400	0.60	1,440
AR	70	4.7	331	0.80	265
CA	*	*	*	*	*
FL					
GA	*	*	*	*	*
KY	*	*	*	*	*
LA	*	*	*	*	*
MS	69	4.6	318	0.63	200
MO	*	*	*	*	*
NC	*	*	*	*	*
TX	*	*	*	*	*
US ²	486	6.6	3,203	0.62	2,000
2006					
AL	5	4.0	20	1.15	23
AR	*	*	*	*	*
CA	*	*	*	*	*
FL					
GA	*	*	*	*	*
KY	*	*	*	*	*
LA	*	*	*	*	*
MS	120	5.0	600	0.76	456
MO	*	*	*	*	*
NC	*	*	*	*	*
TX	*	*	*	*	*
US ²	175	4.5	790	0.84	666

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total. Due to disclosure, the sum of the individual States may not equal the total.

Catfish: Stocker Sales by State and United States, 2005-2006

Year and State	Number of Fish	Live Weight		Average Price per Pound	Total Sales
		Average per 1,000 Fish	Total		
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2005 ¹					
AL	13,600	265	3,600	0.75	2,700
AR	8,400	146	1,230	0.89	1,095
CA	*	*	*	*	*
FL	*	*	*	*	*
GA	*	*	*	*	*
KY					
LA	*	*	*	*	*
MS	10,000	130	1,300	1.10	1,430
MO	*	*	*	*	*
NC	*	*	*	*	*
TX	*	*	*	*	*
US ²	34,949	198	6,937	0.86	5,995
2006					
AL	840	95	80	1.20	96
AR	*	*	*	*	*
CA	*	*	*	*	*
FL					
GA	*	*	*	*	*
KY	*	*	*	*	*
LA					
MS	41,000	85	3,500	1.28	4,480
MO	*	*	*	*	*
NC	*	*	*	*	*
TX	*	*	*	*	*
US ²	52,368	106	5,569	1.24	6,913

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total. Due to disclosure, the sum of the individual States may not equal the total.

Catfish: Fingerling and Fry Sales by State and United States, 2005-2006

Year and State	Number of Fish	Live Weight		Average Price per Pound	Total Sales
		Average per 1,000 Fish	Total		
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
2005 ¹					
AL	34,600	24.0	830	1.40	1,162
AR	121,000	10.4	1,260	1.87	2,356
CA	620	43.5	27	2.96	80
FL	*	*	*	*	*
GA	7,800	43.6	340	2.04	694
KY	*	*	*	*	*
LA	*	*	*	*	*
MS	511,000	26.6	13,600	1.43	19,448
MO	*	*	*	*	*
NC	1,200	50.0	60	1.07	64
TX	770	45.5	35	3.57	125
US ²	679,940	23.9	16,224	1.49	24,122
2006					
AL	16,000	31.3	500	1.20	600
AR	127,000	10.6	1,350	2.10	2,835
CA	*	*	*	*	*
FL	1,610	28.0	45	2.14	96
GA	6,900	45.7	315	2.08	655
KY	*	*	*	*	*
LA	*	*	*	*	*
MS	412,000	24.5	10,100	1.64	16,564
MO	*	*	*	*	*
NC	2,800	41.1	115	2.14	246
TX	240	33.3	8	3.41	27
US ²	569,020	22.0	12,495	1.69	21,157

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total. Due to disclosure, the sum of the individual States may not equal the total.

**Catfish: Foodsize and Stockers Percent Sold by Point of First Sale,
by State and United States, 2005-2006**

Size Category and State	Processor		Fee-Fishing and Recreational Use		Live Haulers		Retail		Other	
	2005	2006	2005 ¹	2006	2005 ¹	2006	2005 ¹	2006	2005	2006
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Foodsize										
AL	96	97	1	1	2	1	*	*	1	1
AR	93	97	*	*	6	3	*	*	1	*
CA	*	*	*	*	18	18	63	62	9	13
FL	64	52	*	1	*	46			2	1
GA	37	58	6	19	15	*	33	*	9	3
KY	33	55	16	10	42	30		*	9	*
LA	96	87		3	*				*	10
MS	99	99	*	*	*	*	*	*	1	1
MO	*	*	14	25	62	45	*	*	3	10
NC	96	95	*	*	*	*		*	*	3
TX	82	78	4	1	13	20			1	1
US ²	94.9	95.7	0.5	0.3	2.3	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.3
	Other Producers		Fee-Fishing and Recreational Use		Live Haulers		Government		Other	
	2005 ¹	2006	2005 ¹	2006	2005 ¹	2006	2005 ¹	2006	2005 ¹	2006
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Stocker										
AL	93	98	*	*	*	*	*	*		
AR	81	81			*	*	*	*		
CA	28	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
FL	*		*							
GA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
KY		*								*
LA	*		*							
MS	99	100	1	*	*	*				
MO	69	30	*	*	*	*			*	*
NC		*		*						
TX	7		*		16	*	*	*	41	*
US ²	87.1	85.0	0.9	1.5	8.6	11.7	2.5	0.3	0.9	1.5

* Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations or data are less than 0.5 percent.

¹ Revised.

² 11 State total.

Reliability of Catfish Production Estimates

Survey Procedures: Data for catfish production are collected from all known producers. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known catfish producers and use known sources of producers to update their lists. All known catfish producers are mailed a questionnaire as close as possible to January 1 and given adequate time to respond by mail. Those that do not respond by mail are telephoned or possibly enumerated in person during the middle of January. Care is exercised to ensure all operations are accounted for.

Estimation Procedures: 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 were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for 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.

Reliability: Catfish production estimates are based on a census of all known active producers and therefore, have no sampling variability. However, estimates are subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Terms and Definitions Used for Catfish Production Estimates

Broodfish - Fish kept for egg production, including males. Broodfish produce the fertilized eggs which go to hatcheries. The most desirable size is 3 to 10 pounds or 4 to 6 years of age.

Large foodsize - Fish weighing over 3 pounds.

Medium foodsize - Fish weighing over one and one-half pounds to 3 pounds.

Small foodsize - Fish weighing over three-fourths of a pound to one and one-half pounds.

Large stockers - Fish weighing over 180 pounds to 750 pounds per 1,000 fish.

Small stockers - Fish weighing over 60 pounds to 180 pounds per 1,000 fish or over 6 inches in length.

Fingerlings - Fish weighing 2 to 60 pounds per 1,000 fish or 2 to 6 inches in length.

Fry - Fish weighing less than 2 pounds per 1,000 fish or less than 2 inches in length.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information.

Dan Kerestes, Chief, Livestock Branch (202) 720-3570

Darin Jantzi, Head, Poultry and Specialty Commodities Section (202) 720-3570

 Mark Aitken - Layers, Eggs (202) 690-8632

 David Colwell - Cold Storage (202) 720-8784

 Fleming Gibson - Egg Products, Poultry Slaughter, Catfish Processing, Mink,
 Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised (202) 690-3237

 Darin Jantzi - Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture ... (202) 720-3570

 Sharyn Lavender - Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey (202) 720-3244

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