



# Catfish Feed Deliveries

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## February 2011 Catfish Feed Deliveries Up 197 Percent from Last Year

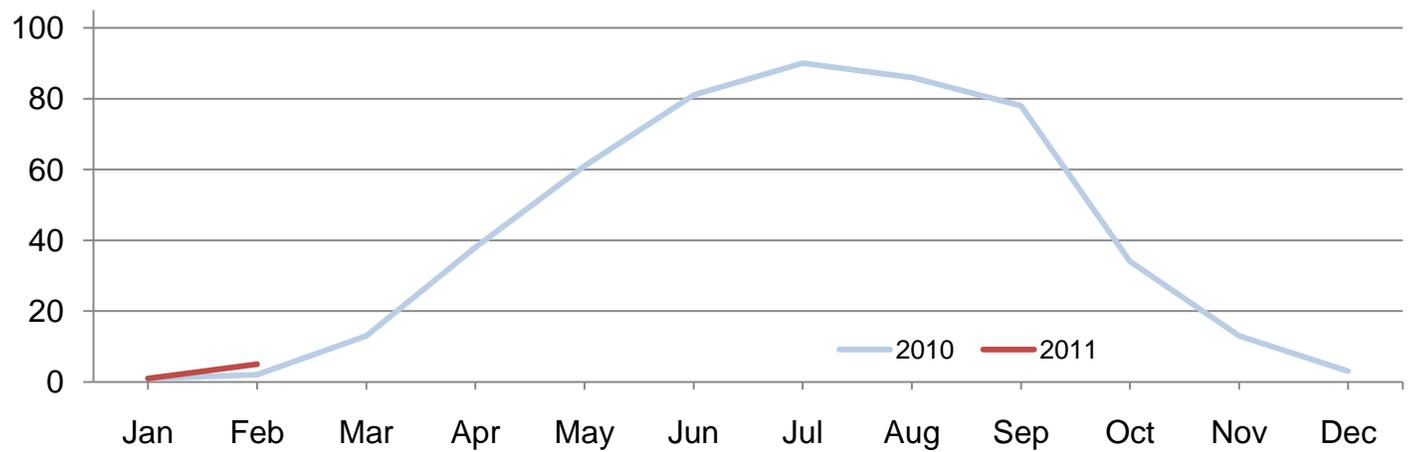
Total catfish feed delivered in the United States during February 2011 was 4,959 tons, up 197 percent from February 2010 and up 342 percent from the previous month. Foodsize catfish feed delivered totaled 4,631 tons, up 203 percent from the corresponding month a year ago. Feed delivered for fingerlings and broodfish totaled 328 tons, up 131 percent from the corresponding month a year ago.

February feed delivered to Alabama catfish growers for foodsize fish totaled 1,647 tons, up 175 percent from last year. Alabama accounted for 36 percent of the total foodsize catfish feed delivered to United States farmers.

The other major States with catfish feed deliveries for foodsize fish in February and their comparison to the previous year were Arkansas with 462 tons, up 516 percent; Louisiana with 83 tons, up 1,975 percent; and Mississippi with 1,456 tons, up 654 percent.

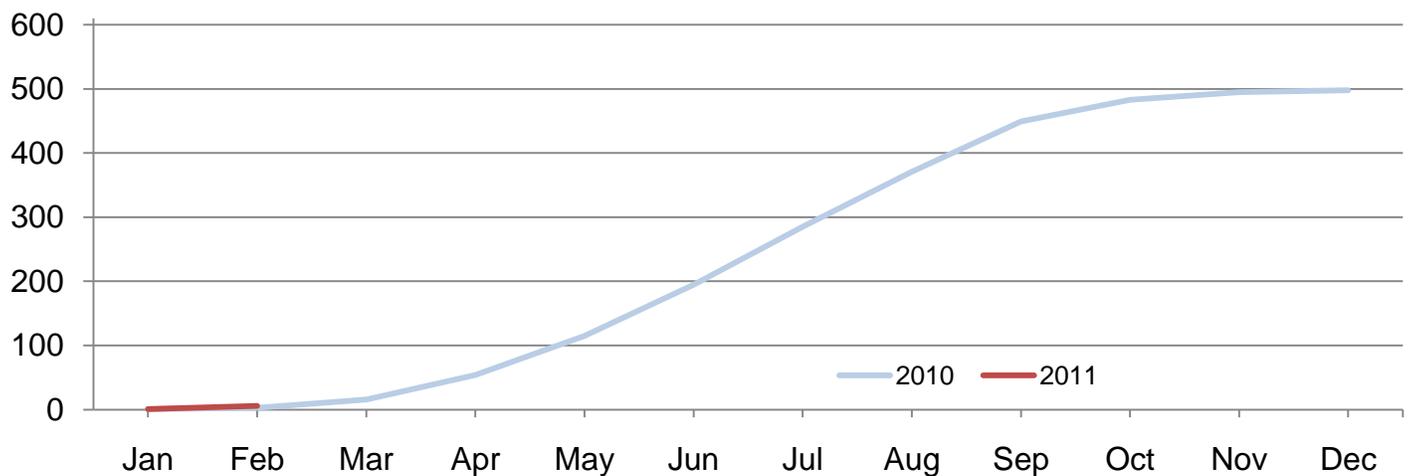
## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – United States

Thousand tons



## Cumulative Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – United States

Thousand tons



## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	1,433	1,045	73	1,433	1,045	73
February .....	1,528	4,631	303	2,961	5,676	192
March .....	12,680			15,641		
April .....	38,080			53,721		
May .....	60,913			114,634		
June .....	80,769			195,403		
July .....	89,734			285,137		
August .....	86,024			371,161		
September .....	77,963			449,124		
October .....	33,567			482,691		
November .....	12,525			495,216		
December .....	3,270			498,486		

## Fingerlings and Broodfish Catfish Feed Delivered – United States: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun. To avoid disclosure of individual operations, State sums may not equal the total]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	59	76	129	59	76	129
February .....	142	328	231	201	404	201
March .....	900			1,101		
April .....	2,065			3,166		
May .....	3,198			6,364		
June .....	4,917			11,281		
July .....	6,579			17,860		
August .....	7,004			24,864		
September .....	4,949			29,813		
October .....	2,198			32,011		
November .....	346			32,357		
December .....	54			32,411		

## Foodsize Catfish Delivered – Alabama: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	392	212	54	392	212	54
February .....	599	1,647	275	991	1,859	188
March .....	3,472			4,463		
April .....	12,416			16,879		
May .....	19,589			36,468		
June .....	27,165			63,633		
July .....	30,783			94,416		
August .....	30,537			124,953		
September .....	25,700			150,653		
October .....	10,298			160,951		
November .....	5,619			166,570		
December .....	1,524			168,094		

## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – Arkansas: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	76	52	68	76	52	68
February .....	75	462	616	151	514	340
March .....	1,406			1,557		
April .....	4,087			5,644		
May .....	6,336			11,980		
June .....	7,102			19,082		
July .....	8,802			27,884		
August .....	8,559			36,443		
September .....	7,740			44,183		
October .....	3,132			47,315		
November .....	643			47,958		
December .....	107			48,065		

## Fingerlings and Broodfish Catfish Feed Delivered – Arkansas: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	27	10	37	27	10	37
February .....	122	96	79	149	106	71
March .....	552			701		
April .....	718			1,419		
May .....	789			2,208		
June .....	474			2,682		
July .....	902			3,584		
August .....	976			4,560		
September .....	1,086			5,646		
October .....	516			6,162		
November .....	82			6,244		
December .....	30			6,274		

## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – Louisiana: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	7	18	257	7	18	257
February .....	4	83	2,075	11	101	918
March .....	286			297		
April .....	565			862		
May .....	678			1,540		
June .....	735			2,275		
July .....	679			2,954		
August .....	601			3,555		
September .....	500			4,055		
October .....	136			4,191		
November .....	67			4,258		
December .....	27			4,285		

## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – Mississippi: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	224	209	93	224	209	93
February .....	193	1,456	754	417	1,665	399
March .....	4,536			4,953		
April .....	17,203			22,156		
May .....	29,285			51,441		
June .....	39,337			90,778		
July .....	43,676			134,454		
August .....	40,022			174,476		
September .....	37,849			212,325		
October .....	15,488			227,813		
November .....	3,900			231,713		
December .....	385			232,098		

## Fingerlings and Broodfish Catfish Feed Delivered – Mississippi: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	8	47	588	8	47	588
February .....	2	204	10,200	10	251	2,510
March .....	280			290		
April .....	1,134			1,424		
May .....	2,294			3,718		
June .....	4,287			8,005		
July .....	5,579			13,584		
August .....	5,900			19,484		
September .....	3,723			23,207		
October .....	1,593			24,800		
November .....	230			25,030		
December .....	1			25,031		

## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – Other States East of the Mississippi River: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	90	88	98	90	88	98
February .....	123	304	247	213	392	184
March .....	715			928		
April .....	1,563			2,491		
May .....	1,540			4,031		
June .....	2,009			6,040		
July .....	1,647			7,687		
August .....	1,923			9,610		
September .....	2,266			11,876		
October .....	1,149			13,025		
November .....	604			13,629		
December .....	103			13,732		

## Foodsize Catfish Feed Delivered – Other States West of the Mississippi River: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	644	466	72	644	466	72
February .....	534	679	127	1,178	1,145	97
March .....	2,265			3,443		
April .....	2,246			5,689		
May .....	3,485			9,174		
June .....	4,421			13,595		
July .....	4,147			17,742		
August .....	4,382			22,124		
September .....	3,908			26,032		
October .....	3,364			29,396		
November .....	1,692			31,088		
December .....	1,124			32,212		

## Fingerlings and Broodfish Catfish Feed Delivered – Other States West of the Mississippi River: 2010-2011

[Blank data cells indicate estimation period has not yet begun]

Month	By month		2011 as percent of 2010	Cumulative		2011 as percent of 2010
	2010	2011		2010	2011	
	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)	(tons)	(tons)	(percent)
January .....	2	-	(X)	2	-	(X)
February .....	2	-	(X)	4	-	(X)
March .....	42			46		
April .....	102			148		
May .....	31			179		
June .....	69			248		
July .....	62			310		
August .....	48			358		
September .....	78			436		
October .....	46			482		
November .....	6			488		
December .....	1			489		

- Represents zero.

(X) Not applicable.

## Statistical Methodology

**Survey Procedures:** All participating catfish feed mills are feed mills that produce and deliver catfish feed to bonafide catfish producers. Survey data for catfish feed are collected from feed mills by the USDA-NASS Mississippi Field Office, which is responsible for ensuring survey coverage is as complete as possible. Mills are contacted 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 Feed Deliveries**" report refers strictly to catfish feed *delivered* to bonafide catfish producers and excludes catfish feed delivered to producers of other species. The totals include both bagged and bulk feed. Prior to summarization, questionnaires are compared to previous reports for comparability. Estimates are made for feed mills whose reports are not available in time to be included in the release. Those mills are identified by an asterisk on page 11 of this release. Estimates are based on the mill's previous reports and current conditions. Published totals are a straight summation of the individual reports and estimated data.

If a mill uses a fiscal accounting system, proration is used to convert reported data to a calendar month basis.

Two unusual features of this report are worthy of note: (1) cooperating feed mills are listed by name, and (2) it is impossible for the public to infer the amount of catfish feed *produced* in each State. Since many mills *deliver* feed to more than one State and to growers of other species, any inferences about overall production per State or per mill are not valid.

**Revision Policy:** Revisions may be necessary in the following month's publication pending a review of late reports received from mills. Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve month-to-month relationships. Estimates for the previous month are subject to revision in all States and regions monthly totals. In February, all monthly estimates for the previous year are reviewed and subject to revisions. The review is primarily based on data that may have been received after the original estimates were published.

**Reliability:** Estimates are based on data from cooperating catfish feed mills, and therefore have no sampling variability. However, estimates may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing of 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.

### Data were compiled in cooperation with the following feed mills:

Alabama Feed Mill LLC	Land O Lakes
Arkat Feeds	Melick Aqua Feed LLC
Cargill Animal Nutrition	Rangen Inc.
Carolina Fish Feeds	Silver Cup
Delta Western	Southfresh Feeds
Fishbelt Feeds Inc.	Star Milling Co.
Flint River Mills Inc.	Topwater Feed Mill

## Terms and Definitions Used for Catfish Feed Deliveries Estimates

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

**Catfish Feed:** For the purposes of this report catfish feed is defined as feed *delivered* to bonafide catfish producers. Thus, it is not the absolute total amount of feed produced or even sold by a mill. (Some catfish feed is sold to producers of other species of fish.) The definition includes medicated feed. Catfish feed is designed to float on the surface of the water. Catfish are fed this way from the moment they hatch. Therefore, they learn to go to the surface for feed. The result is a clean nutritious diet for American farm raised catfish.

**Catfish Feed for Foodsize Fish:** Feed containing pellets larger than 1/8 of an inch.

**Catfish Feed for Fingerlings/Broodfish:** Feed containing pellets 1/8 of an inch or smaller.

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

**Foodsize Fish:** Fish being grown commercially for human consumption. Optimum sizes at harvest depend on the market but are generally no lower than 3/4 pound but near one pound.

## 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](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov)

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Doug Bounds – Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 690-3237
Charles Butler – Catfish Feed Deliveries .....	(601) 965-4542
David Colwell – Cold Storage .....	(202) 720-8784
Chris Hawthorn – Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink .....	(202) 720-0585
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-8632
Troy Marshall – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Honey .....	(202) 720-3244

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