



# Catfish Feed Deliveries

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## November 2011 Catfish Feed Deliveries Down 2 Percent from Last Year

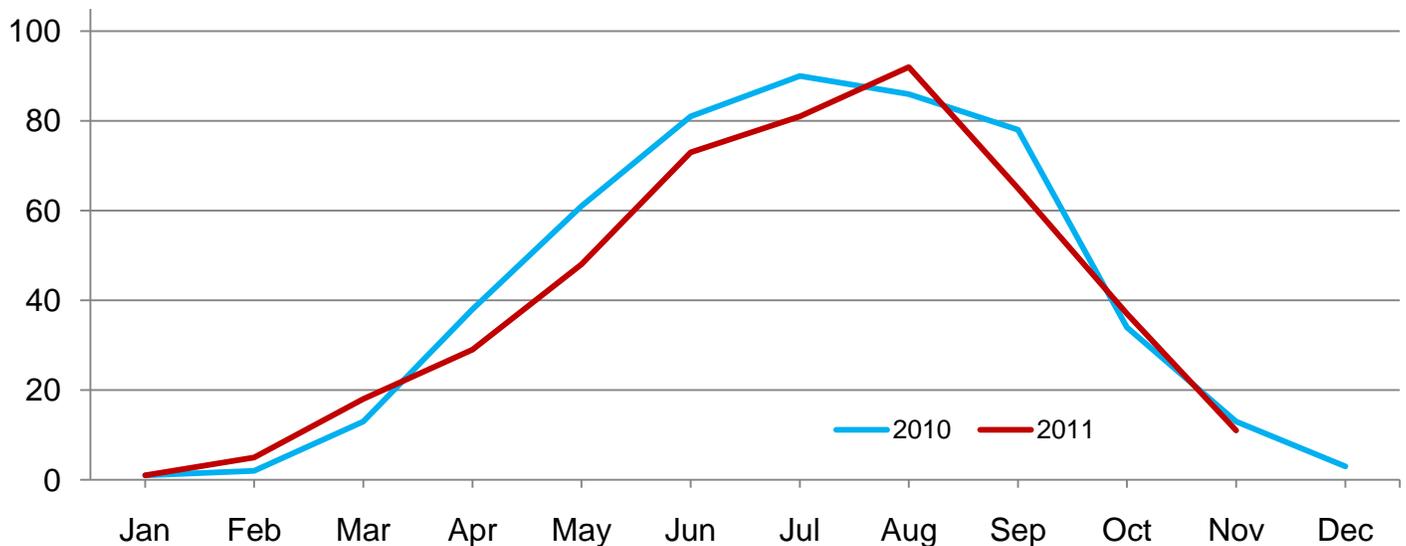
Total catfish feed delivered in the United States during November 2011 was 12,583 tons, down 2 percent from November 2010, and down 68 percent from the previous month. Foodsize catfish feed delivered totaled 11,407 tons, down 9 percent from the corresponding month a year ago. Feed delivered for fingerlings and broodfish totaled 1,176 tons, up 240 percent from the corresponding month a year ago.

November feed delivered to Alabama catfish growers for foodsize fish totaled 4,924 tons, down 12 percent from last year. Alabama accounted for 43 percent of the total foodsize catfish feed delivered to United States farmers.

The other major States with catfish feed deliveries for foodsize fish in November and their comparison to the previous year were Arkansas with 603 tons, down 6 percent; Louisiana with 48 tons, down 28 percent; and Mississippi with 3,155 tons, down 19 percent.

## 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	17,797	140	15,641	23,473	150
April .....	38,080	29,131	76	53,721	52,604	98
May .....	60,913	47,896	79	114,634	100,500	88
June .....	80,769	73,483	91	195,403	173,983	89
July .....	89,734	80,905	90	285,137	254,888	89
August .....	86,024	92,282	107	371,161	347,170	94
September .....	77,963	65,023	83	449,124	412,193	92
October .....	33,567	37,061	110	482,691	449,254	93
November .....	12,525	11,407	91	495,216	460,661	93
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	568	63	1,101	972	88
April .....	2,065	1,177	57	3,166	2,149	68
May .....	3,198	2,172	68	6,364	4,321	68
June .....	4,917	4,038	82	11,281	8,359	74
July .....	6,579	5,831	89	17,860	14,190	79
August .....	7,004	8,210	117	24,864	22,400	90
September .....	4,949	3,734	75	29,813	26,134	88
October .....	2,198	2,311	105	32,011	28,445	89
November .....	346	1,176	340	32,357	29,621	92
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	7,597	219	4,463	9,456	212
April .....	12,416	10,192	82	16,879	19,648	116
May .....	19,589	18,168	93	36,468	37,816	104
June .....	27,165	27,706	102	63,633	65,522	103
July .....	30,783	27,527	89	94,416	93,049	99
August .....	30,537	32,038	105	124,953	125,087	100
September .....	25,700	21,310	83	150,653	146,397	97
October .....	10,298	12,706	123	160,951	159,103	99
November .....	5,619	4,924	88	166,570	164,027	98
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	1,431	102	1,557	1,945	125
April .....	4,087	2,548	62	5,644	4,493	80
May .....	6,336	3,924	62	11,980	8,417	70
June .....	7,102	5,970	84	19,082	14,387	75
July .....	8,802	6,792	77	27,884	21,179	76
August .....	8,559	7,042	82	36,443	28,221	77
September .....	7,740	5,766	74	44,183	33,987	77
October .....	3,132	3,097	99	47,315	37,084	78
November .....	643	603	94	47,958	37,687	79
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	133	24	701	239	34
April .....	718	131	18	1,419	370	26
May .....	789	403	51	2,208	773	35
June .....	474	658	139	2,682	1,431	53
July .....	902	676	75	3,584	2,107	59
August .....	976	1,361	139	4,560	3,468	76
September .....	1,086	912	84	5,646	4,380	78
October .....	516	605	117	6,162	4,985	81
November .....	82	125	152	6,244	5,110	82
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	298	104	297	399	134
April .....	565	348	62	862	747	87
May .....	678	493	73	1,540	1,240	81
June .....	735	537	73	2,275	1,777	78
July .....	679	339	50	2,954	2,116	72
August .....	601	503	84	3,555	2,619	74
September .....	500	272	54	4,055	2,891	71
October .....	136	154	113	4,191	3,045	73
November .....	67	48	72	4,258	3,093	73
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	5,746	127	4,953	7,411	150
April .....	17,203	12,757	74	22,156	20,168	91
May .....	29,285	21,465	73	51,441	41,633	81
June .....	39,337	33,344	85	90,778	74,977	83
July .....	43,676	40,684	93	134,454	115,661	86
August .....	40,022	46,342	116	174,476	162,003	93
September .....	37,849	32,582	86	212,325	194,585	92
October .....	15,488	16,991	110	227,813	211,576	93
November .....	3,900	3,155	81	231,713	214,731	93
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	365	130	290	616	212
April .....	1,134	1,000	88	1,424	1,616	113
May .....	2,294	1,657	72	3,718	3,273	88
June .....	4,287	3,277	76	8,005	6,550	82
July .....	5,579	5,036	90	13,584	11,586	85
August .....	5,900	6,642	113	19,484	18,228	94
September .....	3,723	2,526	68	23,207	20,754	89
October .....	1,593	1,590	100	24,800	22,344	90
November .....	230	1,029	447	25,030	23,373	93
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	1,362	190	928	1,754	189
April .....	1,563	1,505	96	2,491	3,259	131
May .....	1,540	1,338	87	4,031	4,597	114
June .....	2,009	1,914	95	6,040	6,511	108
July .....	1,647	1,914	116	7,687	8,425	110
August .....	1,923	2,113	110	9,610	10,538	110
September .....	2,266	1,667	74	11,876	12,205	103
October .....	1,149	1,290	112	13,025	13,495	104
November .....	604	728	121	13,629	14,223	104
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	1,363	60	3,443	2,508	73
April .....	2,246	1,781	79	5,689	4,289	75
May .....	3,485	2,508	72	9,174	6,797	74
June .....	4,421	4,012	91	13,595	10,809	80
July .....	4,147	3,649	88	17,742	14,458	81
August .....	4,382	4,244	97	22,124	18,702	85
September .....	3,908	3,426	88	26,032	22,128	85
October .....	3,364	2,823	84	29,396	24,951	85
November .....	1,692	1,949	115	31,088	26,900	87
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	18	43	46	18	39
April .....	102	6	6	148	24	16
May .....	31	5	16	179	29	16
June .....	69	18	26	248	47	19
July .....	62	4	6	310	51	16
August .....	48	95	198	358	146	41
September .....	78	97	124	436	243	56
October .....	46	14	30	482	257	53
November .....	6	4	67	488	261	53
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 10 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

\*Estimated

## 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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Cody Brokmeyer – Honey, Poultry Slaughter, Turkey Hatchery, Turkeys Raised .....	(202) 690-3237
Charles Butler – Catfish Feed Deliveries .....	(601) 965-4575
David Colwell – Cold Storage .....	(202) 720-8784
Kim Linonis – Layers, Eggs .....	(202) 690-8632
Miste Salmon – Broiler Hatchery, Chicken Hatchery, Catfish Processing, Catfish Production, Trout Production, Census of Aquaculture, Egg Products, Mink .....	(202) 720-3244

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