

Catfish



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

Released August 20, 1991, by the Agricultural Statistics Board.

Catfish Processing up 11 Percent

Farm-raised catfish processed during July totaled 32.7 million pounds round weight, up 11 percent from July 1990.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during July totaled 16.9 million pounds, an increase of 11 percent from the comparable month in 1990. Sales of whole fish represented 30 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 48 percent. The remaining 22 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 42 percent of the total amount sold.

The July average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.50 per pound for ice pack and \$1.64 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during June totaled 484 pounds, 59 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were up 42 percent from the amount imported a year earlier. Exports reported during June totaled 19.8 thousand pounds, most of which were to the United Kingdom. Import and export data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

America's Catch	Kueter's Lake
American Freshwater Farms	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Amite River Industries	La Louision
Blue Waters Catfish Processors	Limestone Fish Processors
Cargill Fisheries Products	Low Country Aquaculture
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	NAIAD Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm	Pisces
Country Skillet (ConAgra)	Pond Fresh
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Pride of the Pond
Dorey Fish Co.	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Franklin Catfish	Sauls Fish Processors
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Simmons Farm-Raised
Fish Breeders of Idaho	Southfresh Farms
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.	Southern Pride

For information, call Ron Sitzman (202) 447-3244. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Farm - Raised Catfish, 1990-91
Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers,
Reported by Major Processors; and U.S. Imports

Month	Round Weight Processed				Average Price		Imports	
	Monthly		Cumulative		Paid to		of	
	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
	Thousand Pounds				Dollars Per Pound		(000) Pounds	
Jan	33,066	32,206	33,066	32,206	.73	.72	115	355
Feb	31,884	33,036	64,950	65,242	.75	.71	553	344
Mar	33,120	35,951	98,070	101,193	.78	<u>1/</u>	322	93
Apr	30,980	31,205	129,050	132,398	.79	<u>1/</u>	48	641
May	31,542	31,322	160,592	163,720	.79	<u>1/</u>	618	184
Jun	28,967	31,588	189,559	195,308	.79	<u>1/</u>	342	484
Jul	29,540	32,720	219,099	228,028	.79	<u>1/</u>	406	
Aug	31,108		250,207		.79		362	
Sep	27,566		277,773		.78		619	
Oct	29,211		306,984		.78		33	
Nov	27,913		334,897		.77		381	
Dec	25,538		360,435		.74		226	

1/ Price suspended. 2/ Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

Catfish Processors' Sales Volume, Average Price, and Ending Inventory,
July

Item	Whole Fish <u>1/</u>		Fillets <u>2/</u>		Other <u>3/</u>		Total	
	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991	1990	1991
Fresh								
Quantity (000) lb	3,264	3,300	2,690	3,022	607	732	6,561	7,054
Price (\$ / lb)	1.65	1.50	2.79	2.61	1.98	1.79	2.15	2.01
Inventory(000) lb	195	330	218	340	94	104	507	774
Frozen								
Quantity(000) lb	1,722	1,748	4,763	5,133	2,168	2,943	8,653	9,824
Price (\$ / lb)	1.76	1.64	2.68	2.56	2.12	1.85	2.36	2.19
Inventory(000) lb	2,697	1,885	2,868	3,394	2,636	2,309	8,201	7,588

1/ Dressed weight, (head, visera, and skin removed). 2/ Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded product. 3/ Includes all products not already reported, including weight of breading and added ingredients.

Subscription Information

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The next Catfish report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on September 19, 1991.