Catfish

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Fact Finding for Agriculture Since 1863

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Statistics Board

Washington, D.C.

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CATFISH PROCESSING UP 21 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during June totaled 27.6 million pounds round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, up 21 percent from June 1988.

The June average price paid to growers was 75 cents per pound, 3 cents below the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during June totaled 14.4 million pounds, 20 percent above the comparable month in 1988. Sales of whole fish represented 36 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 46 percent. The remaining 18 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 49 percent of the total amount sold.

The June average prices received by processors for whole fish were $1.51 per pound for ice pack and $1.70 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during May totaled 952 thousand pounds, 90 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were down 6 percent from the amount imported a year earlier. Import data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

America's Catch
Amite River Industries
Aquaculture Products
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.
Cole Foods, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm
Country Fresh Catch
Country Skillet (Con Agra)
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.
Dillons Fresh Catfish
Dorey Fish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.
Franklin Catfish
Freshwater Farms, Inc.
Fish Breeders of Idaho
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
Gulf South Processors, Inc.
King Kat, Inc.
Kueter's Lake
Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Limestone Fish Processors
Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Pisces
Pond Fresh
Pride of the Pond
Prime Line Catfish Co.
Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Simmons Farm-Raised
Southfresh Farms
Southern Pride Catfish
U. S Fish Corp.

For Information Call: (202) 447-2123

FARM - RAISED CATFISH, 1988-89
QUANTITY PROCESSED AND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS,
REPORTED BY MAJOR PROCESSORS; AND U.S. IMPORTS

MONTH	ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED				AVERAGE PRICE PAID TO PRODUCERS 1/		IMPORTS OF CATFISH 2/	
	MONTHLY		CUMULATIVE					
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		THOUSAND POUNDS	
JAN	26,018	26,948	26,018	26,948	.68	.78	451	588
FEB	27,786	28,559	53,804	55,507	.72	.78	508	117
MAR	28,179	29,458	81,983	84,965	.75	.77	577	795
APR	20,805	27,310	102,788	112,275	.75	.76	217	417
MAY	20,351	28,892	123,139	141,167	.75	.76	1,015	952
JUN	22,839	27,598	145,978	168,765	.78	.75	26	
JUL	23,687		169,665		.80		724	
AUG	26,941		196,606		.80		414	
SEP	24,611		221,217		.79		669	
OCT	26,221		247,438		.79		674	
NOV	25,037		272,475		.78		388	
DEC	22,634		295,109		.78		182	

CATFISH PROCESSORS' SALES VOLUME, AVERAGE PRICE, AND ENDING INVENTORY,
JUNE

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
YEAR	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB	2,740	3,709	1,754	2,658	368	630	4,862	6,997
PRICE ($ / LB)	1.68	1.51	2.83	2.67	1.84	1.73	2.11	1.97
INVENTORY(000) LB	264	300	218	338	57	72	539	710
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB	1,497	1,518	3,724	3,935	1,935	1,923	7,156	7,376
PRICE ($ / LB)	1.80	1.70	2.79	2.63	2.14	2.03	2.41	2.28
INVENTORY(000) LB	761	1,580	885	3,524	1,601	1,156	3,247	6,260

1/ PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR FISH DELIVERED TO PROCESSING PLANT. 2/ DATA FURNISHED BY U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS. 3/ DRESSED WEIGHT, (HEAD, VISERA, AND SKIN REMOVED). 4/ INCLUDES REGULAR, SHANK, AND STRIP FILLETS; EXCLUDES ANY BREADED PRODUCT. 5/ INCLUDES ALL PRODUCTS NOT ALREADY REPORTED, INCLUDING WEIGHT OF BREADING AND ADDED INGREDIENTS.

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