
Catfish



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Fact Finding
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CATFISH PROCESSING DOWN 9 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during September totaled 27.6 million pounds round weight, down 9 percent from September 1989, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The September average price paid to growers was 78 cents per pound, 13 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during September totaled 15.3 million pounds, 2 percent below the comparable month in 1989. Sales of whole fish represented 31 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 47 percent. The remaining 22 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 43 percent of the total amount sold.

September average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.63 per pound for ice pack and \$1.67 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during August totaled 362 thousand pounds, 96 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were down 14 percent from the amount imported a year earlier. Exports totaled 33.0 thousand pounds during August, all of which went to Angola. 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
Amite River Industries	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Aquaculture Products	La Louision
Blue Waters Catfish	Limestone Fish Processors
Blue Ridge Fisheries	Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Low Country Aquaculture
Cole Foods, 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
King Kat, Inc.	U.S. Fish Corp.

FARM - RAISED CATFISH, 1989-90
 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			1989	1990	1989	1990
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		(000) POUNDS	
JAN	26,948	33,066	26,948	33,066	.78	.73	588	115
FEB	28,559	31,884	55,507	64,950	.78	.75	117	553
MAR	29,458	33,120	84,965	98,070	.77	.78	795	322
APR	27,310	30,980	112,275	129,050	.76	.79	417	48
MAY	28,892	31,542	141,167	160,592	.76	.79	952	618
JUN	27,598	28,967	168,765	189,559	.75	.79	584	6/342
JUL	27,827	29,540	196,592	219,099	.71	.79	689	406
AUG	28,371	31,108	224,963	250,207	.68	.79	422	362
SEP	30,366	27,566	255,329	277,773	.65	.78	756	
OCT	31,670		286,999		.64		414	
NOV	29,096		316,095		.64		66	
DEC	25,805		341,900		.68		1,024	

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	4,056	3,090	2,966	2,801	711	664	7,733	6,555
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.42	1.63	2.49	2.76	1.83	1.88	1.87	2.14
INVENTORY (000) LB:	336	268	369	286	112	96	817	650
FROZEN								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	1,565	1,622	4,099	4,470	2,210	2,640	7,874	8,732
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.56	1.67	2.54	2.71	2.00	1.97	2.19	2.29
INVENTORY (000) LB:	1,479	2,016	2,732	3,186	1,651	1,913	5,862	7,115

1/ PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR FISH DELIVERED TO PROCESSING PLANT. 2/ DATA FURNISHED BY U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS. 3/ DRESSED WEIGHT, (HEAD, VISCERA, AND SKIN REMOVED). 4/ INCLUDES REGULAR, SHANK, AND STRIP FILLETS; EXCLUDES ANY BREADED PRODUCT. 5/ INCLUDES ALL PRODUCTS NOT ALREADY REPORTED, INCLUDING WEIGHT OF BREADED AND ADDED INGREDIENTS. 6/ CORRECTED REPORT.

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