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# 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 12 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during February totaled 31.9 million pounds round weight, up 12 percent from February 1989, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The February 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 February totaled 16.5 million pounds, 9 percent above the comparable month in 1989. Sales of whole fish represented 32 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 46 percent. The remaining 22 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 44 percent of the total amount sold.

The February average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.60 per pound for ice pack and \$1.70 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during January totaled 115 thousand pounds, 98 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were significantly below 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	Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
Amite River Industries	Gulf South Processors, Inc.
Aquaculture Products	King Kat, Inc.
Blue Waters Catfish	Kueter's Lake
Blue Ridge Fisheries	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Limestone Fish Processors
Cole Foods, Inc.	Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm	Low Country Aquaculture
Country Fresh Catch	NAIAD Inc.
Country Skillet (Con Agra)	Pisces
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Pond Fresh
Dillons Fresh Catfish	Pride of the Pond
Dorey Fish Co.	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Franklin Catfish	Simmons Farm-Raised
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Southfresh Farms
Fish Breeders of Idaho	Southern Pride

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	
MAR	29,458		84,965		.77		795	
APR	27,310		112,275		.76		417	
MAY	28,892		141,167		.76		952	
JUN	27,598		168,765		.75		584	
JUL	27,827		196,592		.71		689	
AUG	28,371		224,963		.68		422	
SEP	30,366		255,329		.65		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,  
 FEBRUARY

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
<b>FRESH</b>								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	3,673	3,522	2,514	2,968	660	763	6,847	7,253
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.61	1.60	2.74	2.70	1.58	1.94	2.03	2.09
INVENTORY(000) LB:	318	382	464	253	176	87	958	722
<b>FROZEN</b>								
QUANTITY(000) LB:	1,624	1,768	4,103	4,663	2,584	2,792	8,311	9,224
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.73	1.70	2.73	2.68	2.01	2.07	2.31	2.31
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,879	2,466	4,526	3,285	853	2,495	7,258	8,246

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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