
Catfish



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Board

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CATFISH PROCESSING UP 5 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during August totaled 28.4 million pounds round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, up 5 percent from August 1988.

The August average price paid to growers was 68 cents per pound, 12 cents below the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during August totaled 14.4 million pounds, 16 percent above the comparable month in 1988. Sales of whole fish represented 34 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 47 percent. The remaining 19 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 45 percent of the total amount sold.

The August average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.46 per pound for ice pack and \$1.63 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during July totaled 689 thousand pounds, 80 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were 5 percent 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	Gulf South Processors, Inc.
Amite River Industries	King Kat, Inc.
Aquaculture Products	Kueter's Lake
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Cole Foods, Inc.	Limestone Fish Processors
Corbin Fish Farm	Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Country Fresh Catch	Low Country Aquaculture
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
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.	U. S. Fish Corp.

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		IMPORTS	
	MONTHLY		CUMULATIVE		PAID TO PRODUCERS 1/		OF CATFISH 2/	
	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	584
JUL	23,687	27,827	169,665	196,592	.80	.71	724	689
AUG	26,941	28,371	196,606	224,963	.80	.68	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,
 AUGUST

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	2,555	3,337	1,903	2,534	380	535	4,838	6,406
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.79	1.46	2.89	2.59	1.83	1.78	2.23	1.94
INVENTORY (000) LB:	251	381	268	324	75	87	594	792
FROZEN								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	1,602	1,525	3,849	4,236	2,164	2,218	7,615	7,979
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.86	1.63	2.86	2.56	2.15	1.97	2.45	2.22
INVENTORY (000) LB:	647	1,335	1,730	3,013	2,471	1,703	4,848	6,051

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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