

CATFISH



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Economics, Statistics, &
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August 1980

CATFISH PROCESSING UP 3 PERCENT

The domestic production of farm-raised catfish processed during August 1980 totaled 4.12 million pounds roundweight (live weight), up 3 percent from August 1979, and 33 percent above July 1980. The accumulated January - August 1980 production totaled 31.2 million pounds, a 12 percent increase from the corresponding period of 1979.

Net pounds sold during August 1980 were 2.32 million, virtually unchanged from August 1979. Ice pack sales of 1.10 million pounds were 47 percent of the total amount sold.

Freshwater catfish imports during July 1980 totaled 1.11 million pounds, primarily from Brazil. July imports were 51 percent below July 1979, and 50 percent below June 1980. Import data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The Operation Price Watch retail fish price index advanced 1.2 percent from July, and 8.4 percent above a year ago. Of the 17 frozen and canned products included in the index, 12 advanced, 4 declined, and 1 was unchanged. Prices for fish sticks and portions; fillets of whiting, haddock, and cod; breaded shrimp; canned pink salmon; and tuna were substantially above the previous month. Prices for halibut steaks, turbot fillets, flounder fillets, and canned Norway sardines declined in August.

Production data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

ConAgra
Corbin Fish Farm
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.
Fish Breeders of Idaho

King Kat, Inc.
Seminole Brand
Welfed Catfish, Inc.
Wilkinson, Friday & Kyser
Processing Co.

FARM - RAISED CATFISH, PRODUCTION, INVENTORY, AND QUANTITY SOLD, 1979-80

MONTH	ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED 1/		CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION 1/		1980 2/				
	1979	1980	1979	1980	ENDING INVENTORY	CHANGE IN INVENTORY	QUANTITY SOLD		
							ICE PACK	FROZEN	TOTAL
THOUSAND POUNDS									
JAN	3,032	3,530	3,032	3,530	969.6	56.9-	1,265	933	2,198
FEB	3,929	4,892	6,961	8,422	1,065.0	95.4+	1,680	1,134	2,814
MAR	4,010	4,060	10,971	12,482	1,070.9	5.9+	1,550	985	2,535
APR	3,025	3,829	13,996	16,311	907.3	163.6-	1,424	1,083	2,507
MAY	3,716	4,045	17,712	20,356	858.3	49.0-	1,398	1,089	2,487
JUN	3,081	3,596	20,793	23,952	917.2	58.9+	1,234	855	2,089
JUL	3,138	3,092	23,931	27,044	766.1	151.1-	1,110	1,144	2,254
AUG	3,978	4,116	27,909	31,160	741.4	24.7-	1,101	1,223	2,324
SEP	3,417		31,326						
OCT	3,531		34,857						
NOV	3,000		37,857						
DEC	2,779		40,636						

FARM - RAISED CATFISH, PRICE, 1979-80

MONTH	WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE				PRICES PAID 3/			
	F.O.B. PLANT				RANGE	WEIGHTED AVERAGE		
	ICE PACK	FROZEN	1979	1980		1979	1980	
DOLLARS PER POUND								
JAN	1.27	1.53	1.33	1.61	.60-.78	.52	.65	
FEB	1.31	1.56	1.39	1.69	.60-.80	.55	.69	
MAR	1.34	1.61	1.44	1.73	.65-.80	.58	.69	
APR	1.41	1.61	1.49	1.74	.65-.92	.60	.69	
MAY	1.47	1.63	1.50	1.76	.65-.92	.60	.69	
JUN	1.46	1.62	1.53	1.75	.65-.92	.63	.68	
JUL	1.51	1.63	1.62	1.76	.65-.92	.65	.69	
AUG	1.51	1.62	1.63	1.75	.65-.92	.65	.68	
SEP	1.48		1.59			.65		
OCT	1.47		1.59			.65		
NOV	1.50		1.60			.65		
DEC	1.50		1.60			.65		

1/ TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT OF FISH DELIVERED FOR PROCESSING. 2/ DRESSED WEIGHT. 3/ PRICES PAID TO FARMERS, HARVESTED, AT PLANT SITE.