

CATFISH



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Economics, Statistics, &
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July 1980

CATFISH PROCESSING DOWN 1 PERCENT

The domestic production of farm-raised catfish processed during July 1980 total 3.09 million pounds round weight (live weight), down 1 percent from July 1979, and 14 percent below June 1980. The accumulated January-July 1980 production totaled 27.0 million pounds, a 13 percent increase from the corresponding period of 1979.

Net pounds sold during July 1980 was 2.25 million, 23 percent greater than the 1.84 million pounds sold during July 1979. Ice pack sales of 1.11 million pounds was 49 percent of the total amount sold during July.

Freshwater catfish imports during June 1980 totaled 2.23 million pounds received primarily from Brazil. June imports were more than twice the amount received during June 1979 or May 1980. Import data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

The Operation Price Watch retail price advanced 0.6 percent from previous month, and was 8.4 percent above July 1979. Of the 17 frozen and canned products included in the index, 8 advanced, 8 declined, and 1 was unchanged. Prices for hailbut steak, king crabmeat, canned Maine and Norway sardines and canned light and light meat tuna were significantly higher from the previous month. The decline of prices for fillets of whiting, haddock, cod, and turbot; canned red and pink salmon; and fish portions did not offset the increases. The one exception was breaded shrimp, which recorded the largest change - down 8 percent from June.

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/		QUANTITY SOLD		
	1979	1980	1979	1980	ENDING INVENTORY	CHANGE IN INVENTORY	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		27,909						
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	1979	1980	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		1.63			.65			
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.