
CATFISH



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Statistics
Board

Washington, D.C.

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CATFISH PROCESSING DOWN 1 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during December totaled 25.5 million pounds round weight, down 1 percent from December 1989, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The December average price paid to growers was 73 cents per pound, 5 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during December totaled 12.3 million pounds, 4 percent below 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 December average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.61 per pound for ice pack and \$1.69 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during November totaled 381 thousand pounds, 80 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were up sharply from the amount imported a year earlier. There were no Exports reported during November. Import and export data were compiled by the US 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.
Blue Waters Catfish Processors	La Louisian
Blue Ridge Fisheries	Limestone Fish Processors
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm	Low Country Aquaculture
Country Skillet (ConAgra)	NAIAD Inc.
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Pisces
Dorey Fish Co.	Pond Fresh
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Pride of the Pond
Franklin Catfish	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Fish Breeders of Idaho	Sauls Fish Processors
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.	Simmons Farm-Raised
King Kat, Inc.	Southfresh Farms

Southern Pride

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				
	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	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	619
OCT	31,670	29,211	286,999	306,984	.64	.78	414	33
NOV	29,096	27,913	316,095	334,897	.64	.77	66	381
DEC	25,805	25,538	341,900	360,435	.68	.73	1,024	

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
	YEAR	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB	3,186	2,649	2,386	2,194	529	589	6,101	5,432
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.45	1.61	2.53	2.71	1.93	1.86	1.92	2.08
INVENTORY(000) LB	245	258	210	283	82	69	537	610
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB	1,423	1,343	3,463	3,440	1,807	2,085	6,693	6,868
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.58	1.69	2.55	2.69	1.88	2.13	2.16	2.33
INVENTORY(000) LB	2,378	1,863	2,968	3,960	2,264	2,951	7,610	8,774

1/ PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR FISH DELIVERED TO PROCESSING PLANT. 2/ DATA FURNISHED BY US 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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