
Catfish



National
Agricultural
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Fact Finding
for Agriculture

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Statistics
Board

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CATFISH PROCESSING UP 4 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during January totaled 26.9 million pounds round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, up 4 percent from January 1988.

The January average price paid to growers was 78 cents per pound, 10 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during January totaled 14.0 million pounds, 12 percent above the comparable month in 1988. Sales of whole fish represented 34 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 46 percent. The remaining 20 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 44 percent of the total amount sold.

The January average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.61 per pound for ice pack and \$1.72 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during December totaled 182 thousand pounds, 77 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were sharply 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 Catfish
Aquaculture Products	King Kat, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Kueter's Lake
Cole Foods, Inc.	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm	Limestone Fish Processors
Country Fresh Catch	Louisiana Catfish, 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 Catfish
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.	U. S. Fish Corp.

FARM - RAISED CATFISH, 1987-88
 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	1987	1988
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		THOUSAND POUNDS	
JAN	26,018	26,948	26,018	26,948	.68	.78	583	451
FEB	27,786		53,804		.72		1,241	508
MAR	28,179		81,983		.75		256	577
APR	20,805		102,788		.75		1,012	217
MAY	20,351		123,139		.75		688	1,015
JUN	22,839		145,978		.78		301	26
JUL	23,687		169,665		.80		624	724
AUG	26,941		196,606		.80		570	414
SEP	24,611		221,217		.79		622	669
OCT	26,221		247,438		.79		642	674
NOV	25,037		272,475		.78		76	388
DEC	22,634		295,109		.78		464	182

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	3,993	3,127	2,047	2,519	464	471	6,504	6,117
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.53	1.61	2.62	2.72	1.67	1.55	1.89	2.06
INVENTORY(000) LB:	312	295	176	260	48	78	536	633
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB:	1,395	1,672	2,847	3,956	1,787	2,251	6,029	7,879
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.58	1.72	2.61	2.68	2.07	1.90	2.21	2.26
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,472	1,785	2,155	4,598	1,785	1,397	5,412	7,780

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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