

# Catfish



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Agricultural  
Statistics  
Board

Washington, D.C.

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## CATFISH PROCESSING UP 31 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during April totaled 27.3 million pounds round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, up 31 percent from April 1988.

The April average price paid to growers was 76 cents per pound, 1 cent above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during April totaled 14.6 million pounds, 19 percent above the comparable month in 1988. Sales of whole fish represented 36 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 46 percent. The remaining 18 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 47 percent of the total amount sold.

The April average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.59 per pound for ice pack and \$1.72 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during March totaled 795 thousand pounds, 92 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were 38 percent above 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	Guidry Catfish Processors Inc.
Amite River Industries	Gulf South Processors, Inc.
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	Pisces
Country Skillet (Con Agra)	Pond Fresh
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Pride of the Pond
Dillons Fresh Catfish	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Dorey Fish Co.	Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Simmons Farm-Raised
Franklin Catfish	Southfresh Farms
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Southern Pride Catfish
Fish Breeders of Idaho	U. S. Fish Corp.

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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	
MAY	20,351		123,139		.75		1,015	
JUN	22,839		145,978		.78		26	
JUL	23,687		169,665		.80		724	
AUG	26,941		196,606		.80		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,  
 APRIL

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
<b>FRESH</b>								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	3,348	3,609	1,998	2,587	433	617	5,779	6,813
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.63	1.59	2.77	2.72	1.74	1.77	2.04	2.04
INVENTORY(000) LB:	211	319	162	222	51	68	424	609
<b>FROZEN</b>								
QUANTITY(000) LB:	1,547	1,631	2,916	4,101	2,011	2,070	6,474	7,802
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.65	1.72	2.76	2.68	2.10	2.05	2.29	2.32
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,086	1,759	1,532	3,386	1,631	1,482	4,249	6,627

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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 \* The next issue of this report will be published June 21, 1989. \*  
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