
Catfish



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Board

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CATFISH PROCESSING UP 14 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during December totaled 25.8 million pounds round weight, up 14 percent from December 1988, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The December average price paid to growers was 68 cents per pound, 10 cents below the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during December totaled 12.8 million pounds, 22 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 48 percent of the total amount sold.

The December average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.45 per pound for ice pack and \$1.58 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during November totaled 66.0 thousand pounds, 76 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were significantly 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	Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
Amite River Industries	Gulf South Processors, Inc.
Aquaculture Products	King Kat, Inc.
Blue Waters Catfish	Kueter's Lake
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Cole Foods, Inc.	Limestone Fish Processors
Corbin Fish Farm	Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Country Fresh Catch	Low Country Aquaculture
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
	U. S. Fish Corp.

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	417
MAY	20,351	28,892	123,139	141,167	.75	.76	1,015	952
JUN	22,839	27,598	145,978	168,765	.78	.75	26	584
JUL	23,687	27,827	169,665	196,592	.80	.71	724	689
AUG	26,941	28,371	196,606	224,963	.80	.68	414	422
SEP	24,611	30,366	221,217	255,329	.79	.65	669	756
OCT	26,221	31,670	247,438	286,999	.79	.64	674	414
NOV	25,037	29,096	272,475	316,095	.78	.64	388	66
DEC	22,634	25,805	295,109	341,900	.78	.68	182	

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	2,546	3,186	1,776	2,386	371	529	4,693	6,101
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.59	1.45	2.73	2.53	1.56	1.93	2.02	1.92
INVENTORY(000) LB:	180	245	179	210	52	82	411	537
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB:	1,017	1,423	3,025	3,463	1,761	1,807	5,803	6,693
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.75	1.58	2.72	2.55	1.77	1.88	2.26	2.16
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,666	2,378	4,706	2,968	2,065	2,264	8,437	7,610

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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