Catfish

National Agricultural Statistics Service
Fact Finding for Agriculture

United States Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Statistics Board

Washington, D.C.

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CATFISH PROCESSING DOWN 6 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during October totaled 26.2 million pounds round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, down 6 percent from October 1987.

The October average price paid to growers was 79 cents per pound, 18 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during October totaled 13.0 million pounds, 7 percent below the comparable month in 1987. Sales of whole fish represented 35 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 45 percent. The remaining 20 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 41 percent of the total amount sold.

The October average price received by processors for whole fish were $1.68 per pound for ice pack and $1.82 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during September totaled 669 thousand pounds, 90 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were 8 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
Amite River Industries
Aquaculture Products
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.
Cole Foods, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm
Country Fresh Catch
Country Skillet (Con Agra)
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.
Dillons Fresh Catfish
Dorey Fish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.
Franklin Catfish
Freshwater Farms, Inc.
Fish Breeders of Idaho
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
Gulf South Processors, Inc.
King Catfish
King Kat, Inc.
Kueter's Lake
Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Limestone Fish Processors
Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Pisces
Pond Fresh
Pride of the Pond
Prime Line Catfish Co.
Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Simmons Farm-Raised
Southfresh Farms
Southern Pride Catfish
U. S. Fish Corp.

For Information Call: (202) 447-2123

FARM-RAISED CATFISH, 1987-88
QUANTITY PROCESSED AND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS,
REPORTED BY MAJOR PROCESSORS; AND U.S. IMPORTS

MONTH	ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED MONTHLY 1987	MONTHLY 1988	CUMULATIVE 1987	CUMULATIVE 1988	AVERAGE PRICE PAID TO PRODUCERS 1/ 1987	1988	IMPORTS OF CATFISH 2/ 1987	1988
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		THOUSAND POUNDS	
JAN	20,988	26,018	20,988	26,018	.60	.68	583	451
FEB	22,163	27,786	43,151	53,804	.57	.72	1,241	508
MAR	27,583	28,179	70,734	81,983	.59	.75	256	577
APR	26,781	20,805	97,515	102,788	.65	.75	1,012	217
MAY	21,623	20,351	119,138	123,139	.69	.75	688	1,015
JUN	19,581	22,839	138,719	145,978	.64	.78	301	26
JUL	21,638	23,687	160,357	169,665	.61	.80	624	724
AUG	24,403	26,941	184,760	196,606	.60	.80	570	414
SEP	26,577	24,611	211,337	221,217	.60	.79	622	669
OCT	27,920	26,221	239,257	247,438	.61	.79	642	
NOV	20,684		259,941		.62		76	
DEC	20,555		280,496		.64		464	

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
YEAR	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988	1987	1988
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB	4,174	2,994	2,005	1,952	455	415	6,634	5,361
PRICE ($ / LB)	1.42	1.68	2.51	2.81	1.59	1.63	1.76	2.09
INVENTORY(000) LB	361	329	173	196	27	68	561	593
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB	1,578	1,585	3,324	3,828	2,505	2,231	7,407	7,644
PRICE ($ / LB)	1.54	1.82	2.48	2.74	1.97	1.90	2.11	2.30
INVENTORY(000) LB	1,008	739	1,539	3,044	1,295	1,979	3,842	5,762

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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