

Catfish



**National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service**

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Washington, D.C.

Released November 23, 1992, by the Agricultural Statistics Board. Estimates refer to October 1992 and October 1991.

Catfish Processing Up 11 Percent

Farm-raised catfish processed during October totaled 39.2 million pounds round weight, up 11 percent from October 1991.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during October totaled 19.6 million pounds, an increase of 6 percent from the comparable month in 1991. Sales of whole fish represented 30 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 50 percent. The remaining 20 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 43 percent of the total amount sold.

The October average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.33 per pound for ice pack and \$1.53 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during September totaled 307 thousand pounds, compared with 80 thousand pounds the previous year. Eighty-four percent of the imports were from Brazil and 10 percent were from Mexico. Exports totaled 76.7 thousand pounds for September, of which 50 percent were to Hong Kong, 48 percent to the United Kingdom, and 2 percent to Mexico. Import and export 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	Harvest Select
Aqua Farm Catfish Inc.	Kueter's Lake
Arkansas Prime	La Louision
Cargill Fisheries Products	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Limestone Fish Processors
Confish Inc.	NAIAD Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm	Pisces
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Pride of the Pond
Dorey Fish Co.	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Saul's Fish Processors
Fish Breeders of Idaho	Seabrook Seafood Inc.
Florida Aquaculture Processors	Simmons Farm-Raised
Franklin Catfish	Southern Pride
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Southfresh Farms

For information, call Joel Moore at (202) 720-3244. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

Farm - Raised Catfish
Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers,
Reported by Major Processors; and U.S. Imports, 1991-92

Month	Round Weight Processed				Average Price Paid to Producers <u>1/</u>		Imports of Catfish <u>2/</u>	
	Monthly		Cumulative		1991	1992	1991	1992
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992
	----- 1,000 Pounds -----				Dollars per Pound		(000) Pounds	
Jan	32,206	36,200	32,206	36,200	.69	.53	355	237
Feb	33,036	39,228	65,242	75,428	.69	.56	344	201
Mar	35,951	45,048	101,193	120,476	.69	.60	93	243
Apr	31,205	41,177	132,398	161,653	.69	.63	641	233
May	31,322	39,111	163,720	200,764	.66	.63	184	392
Jun	31,588	36,813	195,308	237,577	.65	.61	484	100
Jul	32,720	36,128	228,028	273,705	.63	.59	723	344
Aug	32,912	37,958	260,940	311,663	.60	.58	621	169
Sep	33,244	37,857	294,184	349,520	.59	.59	80	307
Oct	35,400	39,212	329,584	388,732	.58	.61	974	
Nov	31,114		360,698		.57		93	
Dec	30,172		390,870		.53		594	

1/ Price for fish delivered to Processing Plant door. 2/ Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

Catfish Processors' Sales Volume, Average Price, and Ending Inventory,
October 1991-92

Item	Whole Fish <u>1/</u>		Fillets <u>2/</u>		Other <u>3/</u>		Total	
	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992	1991	1992
Fresh								
Quantity (000) lb	4,155	4,102	3,358	3,461	830	873	8,343	8,436
Price (\$ / lb)	1.31	1.33	2.49	2.45	1.77	1.78	1.83	1.84
Inventory(000) lb	396	371	407	451	81	117	884	939
Frozen								
Quantity(000) lb	1,791	1,694	5,419	6,403	2,993	3,082	10,203	11,179
Price (\$ / lb)	1.55	1.53	2.44	2.42	1.94	1.92	2.14	2.15
Inventory(000) lb	1,862	1,385	3,717	3,679	2,408	3,068	7,987	8,132

1/ Dressed weight, (head, viscera, and skin removed). 2/ Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded product. 3/ Includes all products not already reported, including weight of breading and added ingredients.

Subscription Information

To subscribe to NASS reports or to order single copies, call toll free, 1-800-999-6779 (weekdays 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. ET). You may write: ERS/NASS, 341 Victory Drive, Herndon, VA 22070.

The next "Catfish" report will be released at 3:00 p.m. ET on December 21, 1992.