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# Catfish



Crop  
Reporting  
Board

Statistical Reporting  
Service

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Washington, D.C. 20250

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## CATFISH PROCESSING UP 38 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during January totaled 18.5 million pounds (8410 metric tons) round weight, according to the Crop Reporting Board, an increase of 38 percent from January 1985.

The January average price paid to growers was 70 cents per pound, 3 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during January totaled 8.76 million pounds (3970 metric tons), an increase of 21 percent from the comparable month in 1985. Sales of whole fish represented 47 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 36 percent. The remainder was mostly steaks and nuggets. Ice pack sales were 49 percent of the total amount sold.

The January average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.55 per pound for ice pack and \$1.65 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during December totaled 501 thousand pounds (230 metric tons), 98 percent from Brazil. Imports were 19 percent above the amount imported a year earlier. Import data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

NOTE: This is the initial report showing the breakdown of sales and inventory data for whole fish, fillets and other.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

Corbin Fish Farm  
Country Skillet (Con Agra)  
Crawford Catfish Acres  
Delta Catfish Processors  
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.  
Fish Breeders of Idaho  
Fishland/Welfed, Inc.

Grain Fed Fish, Ltd.  
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.  
King Kat, Inc.  
Le Flore - Bolivar  
Pride of the Pond  
Seminole Brand  
Simmons Farm-Raised

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FARM-RAISED CATFISH, PROCESSING, INVENTORY, QUANTITY SOLD,  
AND PRICE, 1985-86, FROM MAJOR PROCESSORS

MONTH	ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED 1/	WEIGHTED AVERAGE GROWER PRICE DOLLAR PER POUND 2/		WEIGHTED AVERAGE DOLLAR/ POUND SALES--FOB PLANT : FRESH 3/ : FROZEN 3/ :		IMPORTS OF CATFISH 4/		
		1985	1986	1985	1986	1986	1986	1984
THOUSAND POUNDS								
JAN	13,453	18,549	.67	.70	1.55	1.65	401	589
FEB	17,191		.69				479	425
MAR	18,332		.73				661	976
APR	16,542		.78				861	602
MAY	17,536		.77				436	214
JUN	16,035		.77				656	928
JUL	14,295		.76				384	871
AUG	16,726		.72				515	423
SEP	16,673		.71				54	832
OCT	16,893		.70				599	96
NOV	14,827		.70				696	603
DEC	13,427		.70				422	501

SALES AND ENDING INVENTORY OF  
CATFISH FOR JANUARY 1986

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/	FILLETS 5/	OTHER 6/	TOTAL
THOUSAND POUNDS				
FRESH	2,827	1,070	353	4,250
AVERAGE DOLLAR PER POUND	1.55	2.73	1.68	1.86
INVENTORY END OF MONTH	209	143	29	381
FROZEN	1,322	2,123	1,067	4,512
AVERAGE DOLLAR PER POUND	1.65	2.60	1.86	2.15
INVENTORY END OF MONTH	1,684	2,074	963	4,721

- 1/ TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT OF FISH DELIVERED FOR PROCESSING.  
2/ PRICES PAID TO FARMERS, HARVESTED AT PLANT SITE.  
3/ DRESSED WEIGHT, WHOLE FISH, (HEAD, VISERA AND SKIN REMOVED).  
4/ U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS.  
5/ INCLUDES REGULAR, SHANK AND STRIP FILLETS; EXCLUDES ANY BREADED PRODUCT.  
6/ INCLUDES ALL PRODUCTS NOT ALREADY REPORTED, INCLUDING WEIGHT OF BREADING AND ADDED INGREDIENTS.