
Catfish



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CATFISH PROCESSING UP 16 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during November totaled 29.1 million pounds round weight, up 16 percent from November 1988, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The November average price paid to growers was 64 cents per pound, 14 cents below the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during November totaled 14.4 million pounds, 22 percent above the comparable month in 1988. Sales of whole fish represented 34 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 46 percent. The remaining 20 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 48 percent of the total amount sold.

The November average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.42 per pound for ice pack and \$1.54 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during October totaled 414 thousand pounds, 78 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were 39 percent 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
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 Kat, Inc.
Kueter's Lake
Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Limestone Fish Processors
Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Low Country Aquaculture
Pisces
Pond Fresh
Pride of the Pond
Prime Line Catfish Co.
Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Simmons Farm-Raised
Southfresh Farms
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 PAID TO PRODUCERS 1/		IMPORTS OF CATFISH 2/	
	MONTHLY	CUMULATIVE			1988	1989	1988	1989
	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	
DEC	22,634		295,109		.78		182	

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	2,785	3,467	1,963	2,828	361	663	5,109	6,958
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.63	1.42	2.75	2.47	1.60	1.80	2.06	1.88
INVENTORY (000) LB:	252	302	236	279	69	117	557	698
FROZEN								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	1,341	1,435	3,340	3,837	2,025	2,206	6,706	7,478
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.81	1.54	2.73	2.53	1.89	1.79	2.29	2.12
INVENTORY (000) LB:	1,122	2,149	3,934	3,319	2,103	1,830	7,159	7,298

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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