
Catfish



National
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Statistics
Service

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Statistics
Board

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CATFISH PROCESSING DOWN 8 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during October totaled 29.2 million pounds round weight, down 8 percent from October 1989, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The October average price paid to growers was 78 cents per pound, 14 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during October totaled 15.2 million pounds, 5 percent below the comparable month in 1989. 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 44 percent of the total amount sold.

The October average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.62 per pound for ice pack and \$1.68 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during September totaled 619 thousand pounds, 90 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were down 18 percent from the amount imported a year earlier. There were no exports reported during September. 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
Amite River Industries
Aquaculture Products
Blue Waters Catfish
Blue Ridge Fisheries
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.
Cole Foods, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm
Country Skillet (ConAgra)
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.
Dorey Fish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.
Franklin Catfish
Freshwater Farms, Inc.
Fish Breeders of Idaho
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
King Kat, Inc.

Kueter's Lake
Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
La Louisiana
Limestone Fish Processors
Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Low Country Aquaculture
NAIAD Inc.
Pisces
Pond Fresh
Pride of the Pond
Prime Line Catfish Co.
Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Sauls Fish Processors
Simmons Farm-Raised
Southfresh Farms
Southern Pride
U.S. Fish Corp.

FARM - RAISED CATFISH, 1989-90
 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		1989	1990	1989	1990
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		(000) POUNDS	
JAN	26,948	33,066	26,948	33,066	.78	.73	588	115
FEB	28,559	31,884	55,507	64,950	.78	.75	117	553
MAR	29,458	33,120	84,965	98,070	.77	.78	795	322
APR	27,310	30,980	112,275	129,050	.76	.79	417	48
MAY	28,892	31,542	141,167	160,592	.76	.79	952	618
JUN	27,598	28,967	168,765	189,559	.75	.79	584	342
JUL	27,827	29,540	196,592	219,099	.71	.79	689	406
AUG	28,371	31,108	224,963	250,207	.68	.79	422	362
SEP	30,366	27,566	255,329	277,773	.65	.78	756	619
OCT	31,670	29,211	286,999	306,984	.64	.78	414	
NOV	29,096		316,095		.64		66	
DEC	25,805		341,900		.68		1,024	

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

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETS 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
	YEAR	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	3,948	3,106	3,324	2,941	854	642	8,126	6,689
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.41	1.62	2.47	2.74	1.70	1.86	1.87	2.14
INVENTORY(000) LB:	406	314	346	326	130	104	882	744
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB:	1,515	1,524	3,973	4,581	2,364	2,418	7,852	8,523
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.55	1.68	2.51	2.70	1.92	2.00	2.15	2.32
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,742	1,908	2,891	3,138	1,936	2,171	6,569	7,217

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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