
Catfish



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CATFISH PROCESSING UP 13 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during April totaled 31.0 million pounds round weight, up 13 percent from April 1989, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board.

The April average price paid to growers was 79 cents per pound, 3 cents above the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during April totaled 15.4 million pounds, 6 percent above the comparable month in 1989. Sales of whole fish represented 33 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 47 percent. The remaining 20 percent were mostly steaks, nuggets, and value added products. Ice pack sales were 46 percent of the total amount sold.

The April average prices received by processors for whole fish were \$1.65 per pound for ice pack and \$1.78 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during March totaled 322 thousand pounds, 68 percent of which were from Brazil. Imports were significantly below 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	Gulf South Processors, Inc.
Amite River Industries	King Kat, Inc.
Aquaculture Products	Kueter's Lake
Blue Waters Catfish	Lake's Farm Raised Catfish, Inc.
Blue Ridge Fisheries	La Louision
Carolina Classics Catfish, Inc.	Limestone Fish Processors
Cole Foods, Inc.	Louisiana Catfish, Inc.
Corbin Fish Farm	Low Country Aquaculture
Country Fresh Catch	NAIAD Inc.
Country Skillet (Con Agra)	Pisces
Delta Pride Catfish, Inc.	Pond Fresh
Dillons Fresh Catfish	Pride of the Pond
Dorey Fish Co.	Prime Line Catfish Co.
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.	Red-Ark (Aqua Farms)
Franklin Catfish	Simmons Farm-Raised
Freshwater Farms, Inc.	Southfresh Farms
Fish Breeders of Idaho	Southern Pride
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.	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				
	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	
MAY	28,892		141,167		.76		952	
JUN	27,598		168,765		.75		584	
JUL	27,827		196,592		.71		689	
AUG	28,371		224,963		.68		422	
SEP	30,366		255,329		.65		756	
OCT	31,670		286,999		.64		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,
 APRIL

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/		FILLETES 4/		OTHER 5/		TOTAL	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990
FRESH								
QUANTITY (000) LB:	3,609	3,425	2,587	3,052	617	683	6,813	7,160
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.59	1.65	2.72	2.79	1.77	2.04	2.04	2.17
INVENTORY(000) LB:	319	405	222	228	68	89	609	722
FROZEN								
QUANTITY(000) LB:	1,631	1,624	4,101	4,176	2,070	2,484	7,802	8,284
PRICE (\$ / LB)	1.72	1.78	2.68	2.77	2.05	2.16	2.32	2.39
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,759	3,046	3,386	3,181	1,482	2,506	6,627	8,733

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 FILLETES; EXCLUDES ANY BREADED PRODUCT. 5/ INCLUDES ALL PRODUCTS NOT ALREADY REPORTED, INCLUDING WEIGHT OF BREADING AND ADDED INGREDIENTS.

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