

Highlights In This Report

Chickens: Total Number, Value per Head and Total Value
Chickens: Layers on Hand, Pullets not of Laying Age and other Chickens
Catfish: Number of Operations, Water Surface and Total Sales
Pecan: Production, Price and Value of Production
Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, United States

Louisiana Chicken Inventory

The December 1, 2002, chicken inventory totaled 2.56 million head, down 5 percent from the 2.70 million head from the previous year. The class breakdown and percent change from the previous year are: hens and pullets of laying age (HPLA), 1.87 million head, down 9 percent; pullets 13 weeks old and older but less than 20 weeks, and not of laying age, 295,000 head, up 28 percent; pullet chicks and pullets under 13 weeks of age, 315,000 head, down 4 percent; and other chickens, 76,000 head, down 12 percent.

Chickens: Total Number, Value per Head and Total Value: December 1, 2001-2002¹

Selected States	Number		Value per Head		Total Value	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	-----1,000 Head-----		-----Dollars-----		-----1,000 Dollars-----	
Alabama	15,903	15,256	4.90	3.60	77,925	54,922
Arkansas	23,366	22,787	4.40	4.70	102,810	107,099
Louisiana	2,700	2,560	3.00	2.90	8,100	7,424
Mississippi	10,388	10,814	4.90	4.90	50,901	52,989
Oklahoma	5,395	5,590	4.20	5.00	22,659	27,950
Texas	26,101	25,506	2.50	2.20	65,253	56,113
United States	441,509	438,948	2.42	2.38	1,068,851	1,045,222

¹Excludes commercial broilers.

Chickens: Layers on Hand, Pullets not of Laying Age and other Chickens: December 1, 2001-2002

Selected States	Total Layers		Pullets 13 Weeks Old and Older, but Less Than 20 Weeks		Pullet Chicks and Pullets Under 13 Weeks of Age		Other Chickens	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	-----1,000 Head-----							
Alabama	10,390	19,645	2,132	2,148	2,281	2,237	1,100	1,226
Arkansas	14,735	14,312	3,037	2,460	4,321	4,715	1,273	1,300
Louisiana	2,056	1,874	231	295	327	315	86	76
Mississippi	6,750	6703	1,594	1,313	1,492	2,134	552	664
Oklahoma	3,872	4,194	632	380	666	724	225	292
Texas	19,035	18,775	2,717	2,452	3,921	3,851	428	428
United States	338,628	337,213	42,807	39,679	51,948	53,706	8,126	8,350

Louisiana Catfish Growers Survey

Commercial catfish growers had sales of 15.8 million dollars during 2002, down 40 percent from the previous year. Water surface acres totaled 9,900, of which 8,600 were being used for foodsize fish, 1,050 for fingerlings, and 170 for broodfish. Last year water surface acres totaled 12,100.

U.S. Catfish Growers Survey

Catfish growers in the 13 selected States had sales of 410 million dollars during 2002, down 8 percent from the previous year. The top four states (Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, and Louisiana) accounted for 96 percent of the U.S. total sales. Nationwide, sales of all foodsize fish decreased 8 percent from 2001 to 378 million dollars. Fingerlings and fry sales totaled 17.3 million dollars, a decrease of 27 percent from 2001. Sales of stockers totaled 12.6 million dollars in 2002, up 50 percent from the previous year.

By point of first sale, direct sales to processors accounted for 95 percent of the total sales of foodsize fish, while 86 percent of the stocker sales were to other producers. Remaining sales were for recreational use, to live haulers, or for retail, government, or other uses.

The water surface area in use for catfish production as of January 1, 2003, totaled 186,745 acres, down 5 percent from the 196,760 acres used a year earlier. Of the total acres, 5,443 acres are to be renovated during the period of January 1, 2003 to June 30, 2003. An additional 1,225 acres are under construction or expected to be constructed and in use by July 1, 2003. During the period of July 1, 2002, through December 31, 2002, the area taken out of production totaled 7,950 acres. As of January 1, 2003, foodfish were produced on 152,040 acres, fingerling producing acres totaled 25,070, and 4,830 acres were being used for broodfish.

Catfish: Number of Operations, Water Surface and Total Sales

Selected States	Operations		Water Surface		Total Sales - All Sizes	
	January 1 2002	January 1 2003	January 1 2002	January 1 2003	During 2002	During 2003
	-----Number-----		-----Acres-----		-----1,000 dollars-----	
Alabama	240	231	25,900	25,500	69,965	76,045
Arkansas	195	155	38,000	34,000	65,306	56,380
California	42	38	2,200	2,400	8,365	7,875
Florida	45	34	880	660	1,327	756
Georgia	50	43	1,220	960	2,577	1,411
Illinois	15	12	260	130	309	226
Kentucky	50	60	400	570	1,097	1,180
Louisiana	70	57	12,100	9,900	26,207	15,812
Mississippi	395	405	111,500	109,000	260,852	243,226
Missouri	40	31	1,800	1,400	2,840	1,070
North Carolina	45	46	1,400	1,700	3,151	3,143
South Carolina	15	13	520	130	923	617
Texas	34	30	580	395	762	2,087
United States	1,236	1,155	196,760	186,745	443,681	409,828

Pecan: Production, Price and Value of Production

State	All Pecan Production			Utilized Production for 2002 Crop		2002	2002
	Final 2000	Final 2001	Ind 2002	Improved	Native & Seedling	Average Price per Pound, all Pecans	Value of Production
	-----1,000 pounds-----			-----1,000 pounds-----		---Dollars---	--1,000 Dollars--
Alabama	15,000	15,000	7,000	6,500	500	0.577	4,040
Arizona	14,500	21,000	16,000	16,000	---	1.220	19,520
Arkansas	900	2,600	1,700	1,200	500	0.571	970
California	3,400	3,700	3,600	3,600	---	1.200	4,320
Florida	3,300	3,300	1,500	900	600	0.722	1,083
Georgia	80,000	110,000	45,000	42,000	3,000	1.000	44,853
Kansas	550	2,200	1,700	---	1,700	0.750	1,275
Louisiana	18,000	14,000	6,000	2,000	4,000	0.600	3,600
Mississippi	3,500	4,500	3,000	2,200	800	0.720	2,160
New Mexico	35,000	60,000	36,000	36,000	---	1.120	40,320
North Carolina	1,600	3,200	1,900	1,500	400	0.926	1,760
Oklahoma	2,500	20,000	14,000	2,000	12,000	0.514	7,200
South Carolina	1,600	4,000	1,000	800	200	0.898	898
Texas	30,000	75,000	40,000	25,000	15,000	0.933	37,300
United States	209,850	338,500	178,400	139,700	38,700	0.949	169,299

U. S. Pecan Production

The February end-of-season estimate for the 2002 crop is 178 million pounds, down 47 percent from the 2001 crop. Improved varieties are expected to account for 140 million pounds of the total with native and seedling varieties making up the difference. The 2002 average U.S. all pecan price is \$0.95 per pound (in-shell basis), up from 2001's average of \$0.59. Total value of utilized production is 169 million dollars, down 16 percent from last season. Louisiana pecan production is estimated at 6.0 million pounds, down 57 percent from last year's production.

**Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class, United States,
January 1, 2001-2003¹**

Class	2001	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
All Sheep and Lambs	6,965	6,685	6,350	95
Market	1,998	1,772	1,668	94
Breeding Sheep and Lambs	4,967	4,913	4,682	95
Replacement Lambs-				
Under One Year Old	675	734	702	96
Ewes - One Year Old and Older	4,091	3,980	3,789	95
Rams - One Year Old	201	200	192	96
Lamb Crop	4,495	4,360	-----	-----

¹May not add due to rounding.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2003, totaled 6.35 million head, down 5 percent from 2002 and 9 percent below two years ago. The inventory has trended down since peaking at 56.2 million head in 1942.

Breeding sheep inventory declined to 4.68 million head on January 1, 2003, down 5 percent from 4.91 million head on January 1, 2002. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.79 million head, were 5 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2003 totaled 1.67 million head, down 6 percent from January 1, 2002. Market lambs comprised 96 percent of the total. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent 85 - 105 pounds, 29 percent were over 105 pounds, and 4 percent were market sheep.

The 2002 lamb crop of 4.36 million head was down 3 percent from 2001 and established a new record low. The 2002 lambing rate was 110 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2002, unchanged from 2001.

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