

# Ag Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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## Foodsize Inventory Down From Last Year

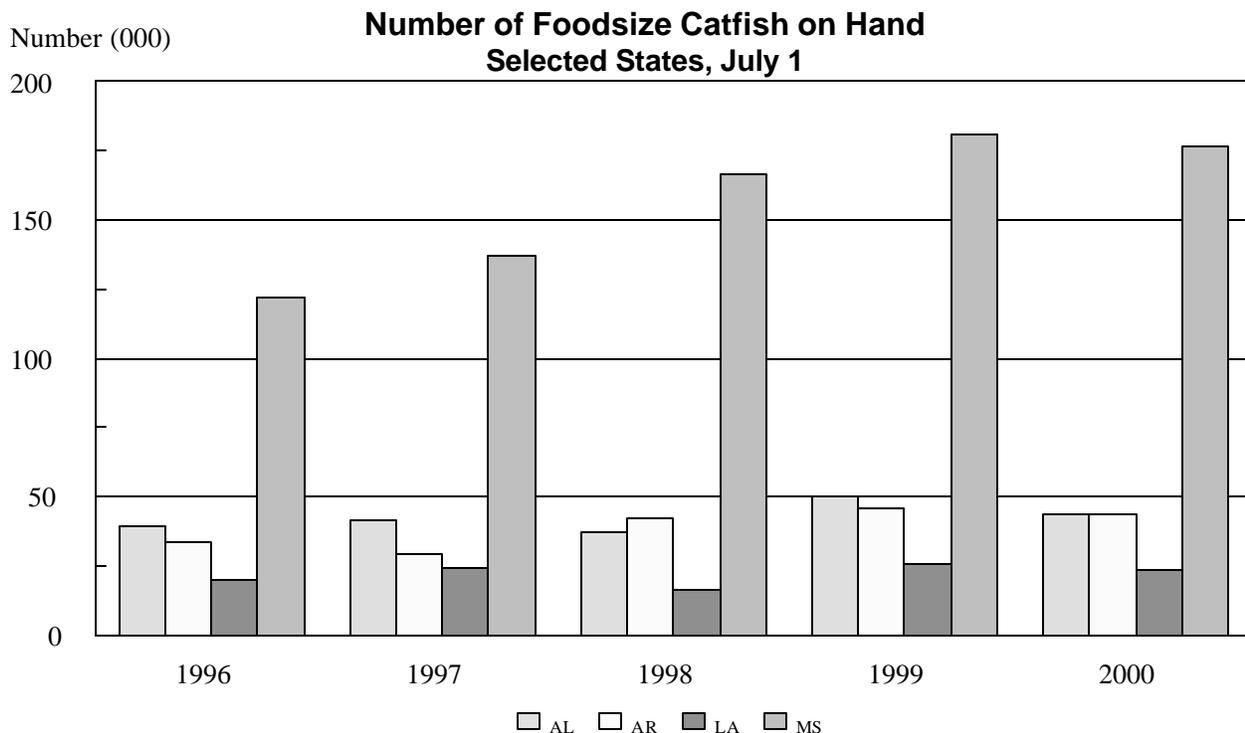
### Catfish Report

This report contains results from the Catfish Growers Survey, July 2000.

We appreciate your cooperation with this survey.

**Mississippi:** Commercial catfish operations in Mississippi had 177 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2000, down 3 percent from the July 1, 1999, total of 181 million fish. Of the total number of foodsize fish, 1.36 million were large foodsize (over 3 pounds per fish), 24.3 million medium foodsize (over 1½ to 3 pounds per fish), and 151 million were small foodsize fish (over ¾ to 1½ pounds per fish). The number of stockers on hand July 1, 2000, totaled 559 million fish, up 1 percent from a year ago. Of the total number of stockers, 289 million were large (over 180 pounds to 750 pounds per 1,000 fish) and 270 million were small (over 60 pounds to 180 pounds per 1,000 fish). Operators had 1.27 billion fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 2000, virtually the same as number on hand July 1, 1999.

**Major Producing States:** Commercial catfish operations in the four major producing states (Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi) had 288 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2000, down 5 percent from the July 1, 1999, total of 302 million. Live weight totaled 336 million pounds for all foodsize fish, 5 percent below July 1 a year ago. The breakout of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2000, with percent changes from the previous year are: large foodsize, at 4.00 million, down 20 percent; medium foodsize, at 52.1 million, down 8 percent; and small foodsize, at 231 million, down 4 percent.



**Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Large Foodsize, Selected States, July 1**

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	1,180	870	3,840	2,790	3.3	3.2
Arkansas	1,110	980	3,825	3,400	3.4	3.5
Louisiana	490	790	1,580	2,520	3.2	3.2
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>2,210</b>	<b>1,360</b>	<b>7,310</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Total	4,990	4,000	16,555	13,410	3.3	3.4

**Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Medium Foodsize, Selected States, July 1**

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	13,200	10,600	25,200	20,000	1.9	1.9
Arkansas	11,800	8,800	21,500	17,400	1.8	2.0
Louisiana	7,360	8,350	14,800	14,100	2.0	1.7
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>24,400</b>	<b>24,350</b>	<b>43,200</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Total	56,760	52,100	104,700	94,400	1.8	1.8

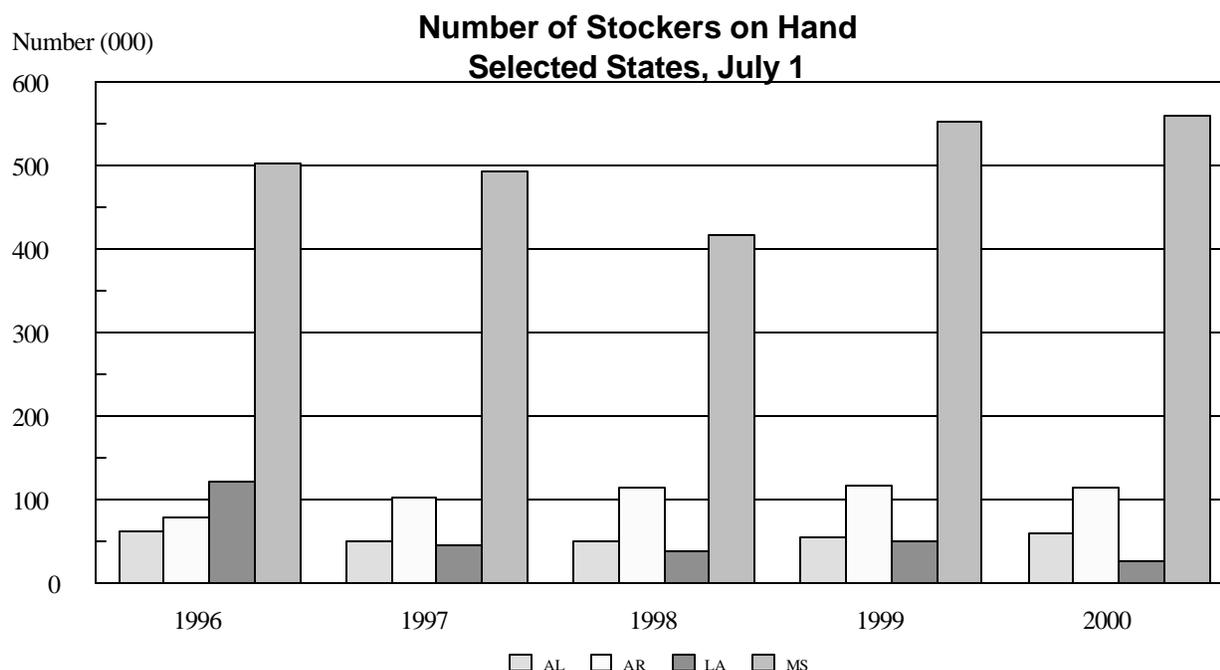
**Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Small Foodsize, Selected States, July 1**

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	35,400	32,200	36,200	32,200	1.0	1.0
Arkansas	32,850	33,800	32,800	35,300	1.0	1.0
Louisiana	17,800	14,600	16,750	14,100	0.9	1.0
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>154,500</b>	<b>150,800</b>	<b>147,500</b>	<b>146,200</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Total	240,550	231,400	233,250	227,800	1.0	1.0

**Quick Statistic:** In 1999, Mississippi Catfish Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings ranked third in the state behind Broilers and Cotton.

## Stockers on Hand

The number of stockers on hand July 1, 2000, in the four major producing states totaled 762 million fish, down 2 percent from the 775 million fish on hand a year ago. Of the total number of stockers on hand, 385 million were large stockers, up 7 percent from the previous year. The remaining 377 million were small stockers, down 9 percent. Percent change in stocker numbers are as follows: Alabama, up 8 percent; Arkansas, down 1 percent; Louisiana, down 47 percent; and Mississippi, up 1 percent. Live weight ( for four states) totaled 194 million for all stockers, up 5 percent from July 1, 1999.

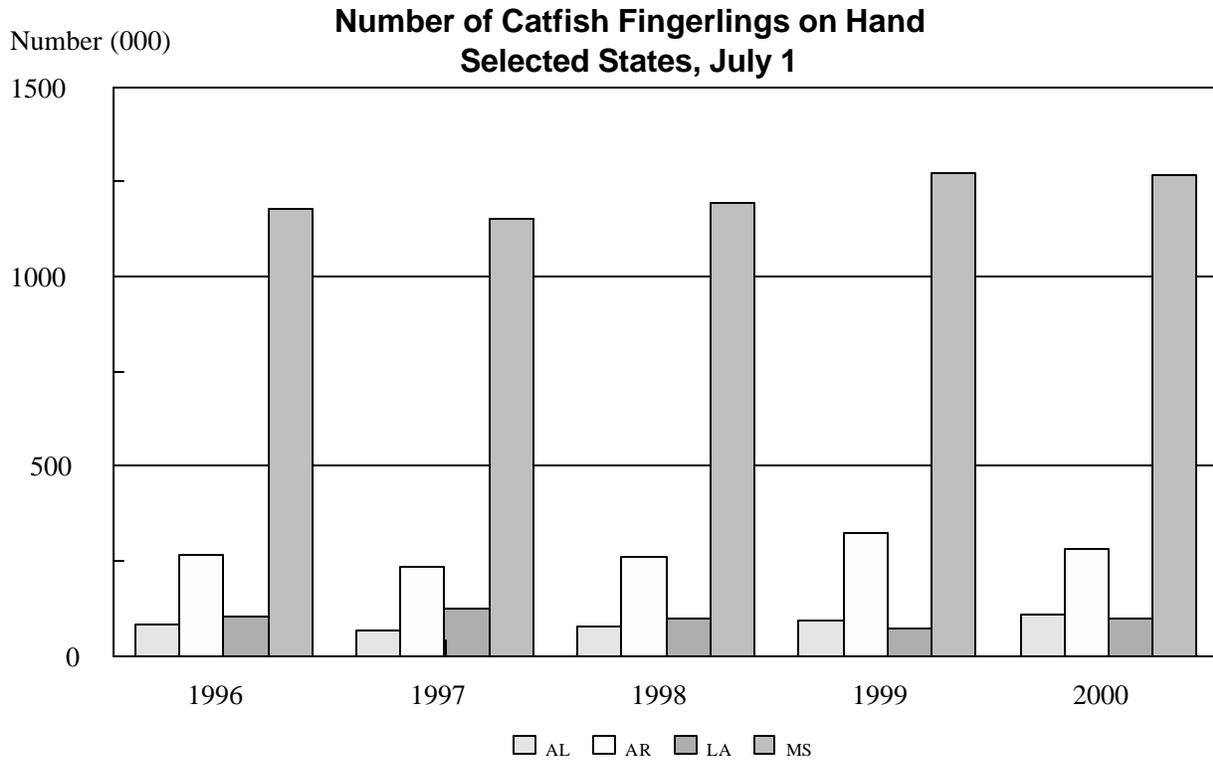


### Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Large Stockers, Selected States, July 1

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per 1,000 Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	33,700	36,700	14,800	17,000	439	463
Arkansas	32,400	43,100	13,800	17,800	426	413
Louisiana	26,300	16,700	10,750	6,650	409	398
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>268,900</b>	<b>288,800</b>	<b>104,300</b>	<b>114,800</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>398</b>
Total	361,300	385,300	143,650	156,250	398	406

### Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Small Stockers, Selected States, July 1

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per 1,000 Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	22,900	24,400	2,520	2,850	110	117
Arkansas	84,200	72,700	8,920	7,900	106	109
Louisiana	23,300	9,600	2,550	1,230	109	128
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>284,000</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>27,600</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>97.2</b>	<b>94.1</b>
Total	414,400	376,700	41,590	37,380	100	99.2



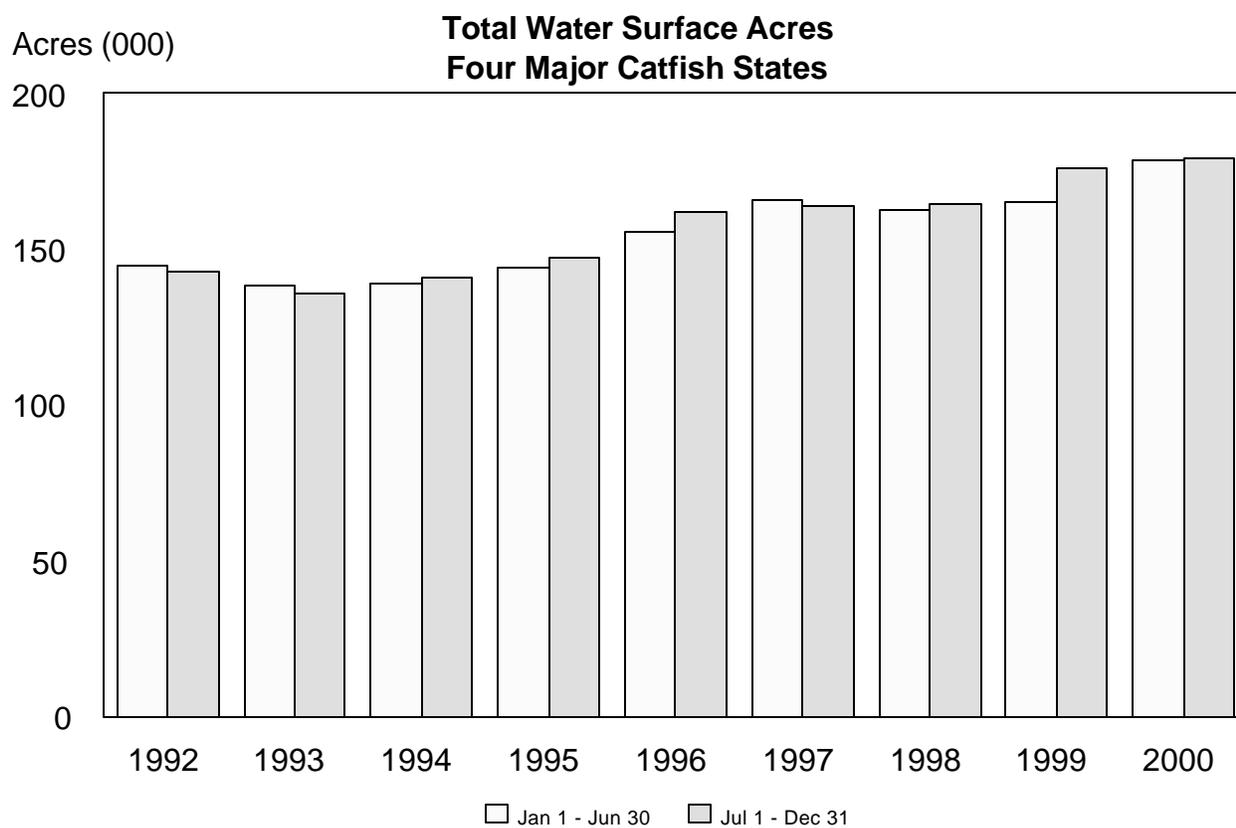
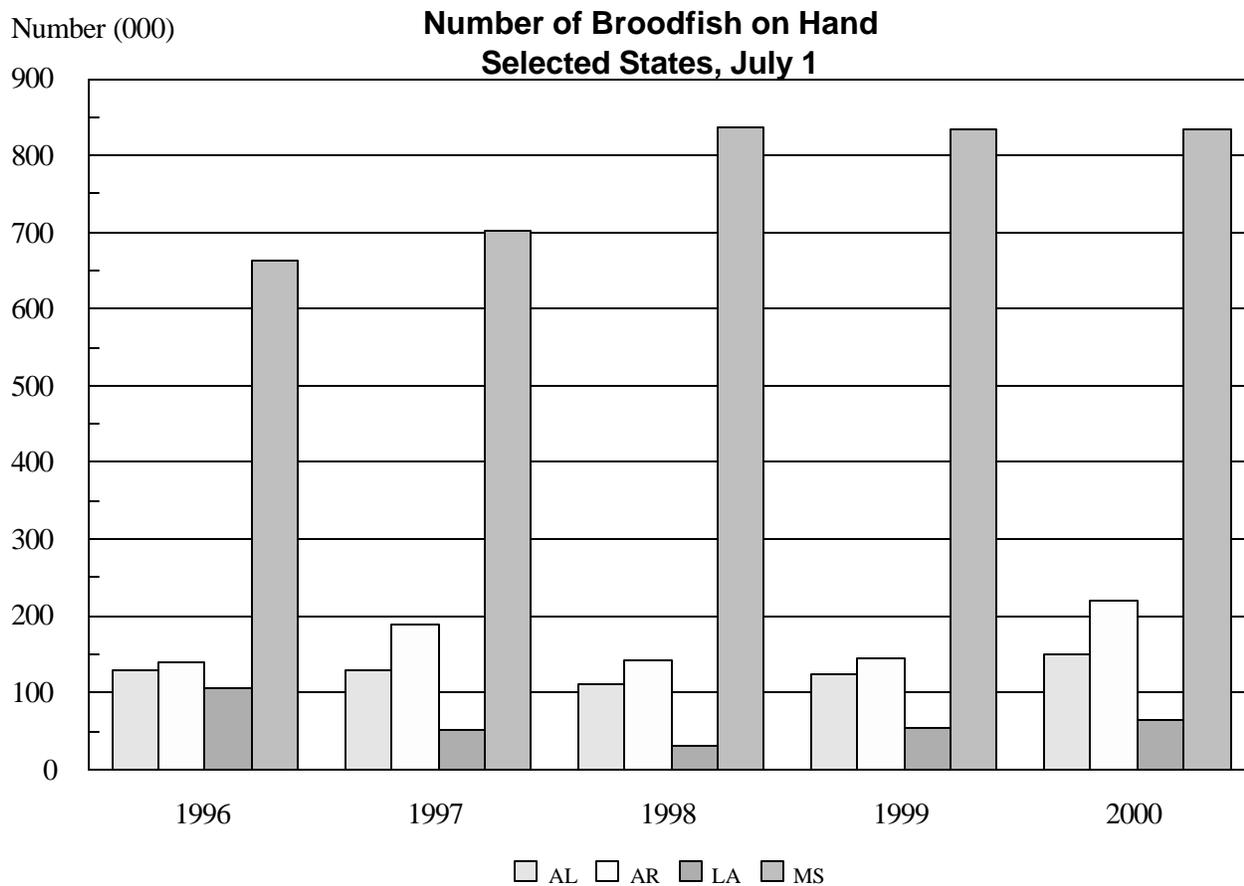
### Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Fingerlings and Fry, Selected States, July 1 \*

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per 1,000 Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	95,200	110,000	1,220	1,760	12.8	16.0
Arkansas	325,000	284,000	4,800	3,800	14.8	13.4
Louisiana	72,500	99,500	1,165	1,940	16.1	19.5
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>1,273,000</b>	<b>1,266,000</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>13.4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,765,700</b>	<b>1,759,500</b>	<b>23,985</b>	<b>24,500</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.9</b>

\* Over 2 lbs/1000 to 60 lbs/1000 fish.

### Catfish: Inventory Number and Live Weight of Broodfish, Selected States, July 1

State	Number		Live Weight			
			Total		Average per Fish	
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Alabama	125	150	670	840	5.4	5.6
Arkansas	145	220	760	1,100	5.2	5.0
Louisiana	55	64	280	280	5.1	4.4
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>1,269</b>	<b>5,710</b>	<b>5,970</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>



**Catfish: Number of Operations by State July 1 and  
Water Surface Area, by State, Jul 1 - Dec 31**

State	Number of Operations		Total Water Surface Area	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
	Number		Acres	
Alabama	255	255	22,000	22,800
Arkansas	160	160	32,000	31,000
Louisiana	105	80	14,200	13,900
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>108,000</b>	<b>111,500</b>
Total	910	895	176,200	179,200

**Catfish: Water Surface Acre Usage, 2000**

State	July 1 - December 31					Jan 1 - Jun 30
	Being Renovated	New Construction	Used for Broodfish	Used for Foodsize	Used for Fingerlings	Taken Out of Production
	Acres					
Alabama	340	480	600	19,800	2,100	330
Arkansas	800	800	1,100	25,000	4,500	300
Louisiana	990	350	300	11,500	1,700	280
<b>Mississippi</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>88,800</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>1,300</b>
Total	5,130	3,730	5,600	145,100	24,400	2,210

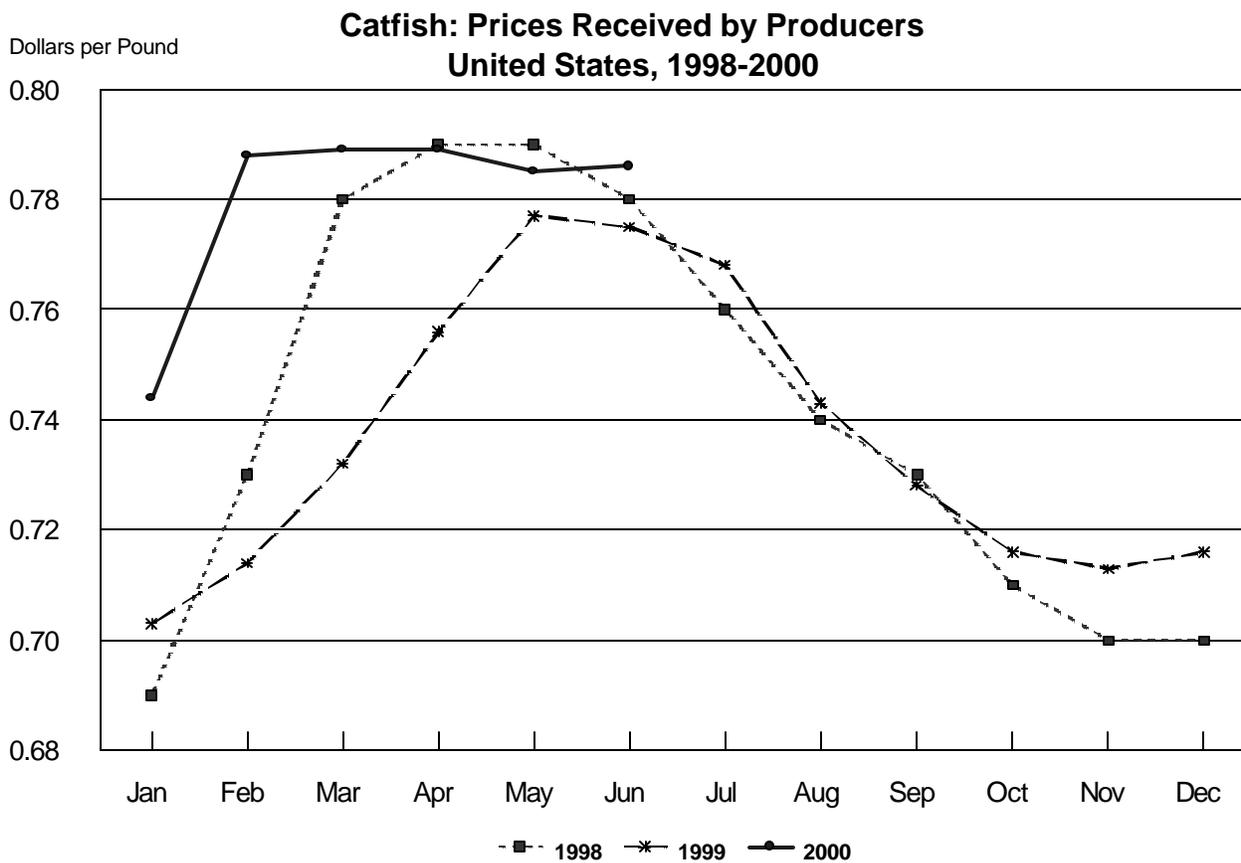
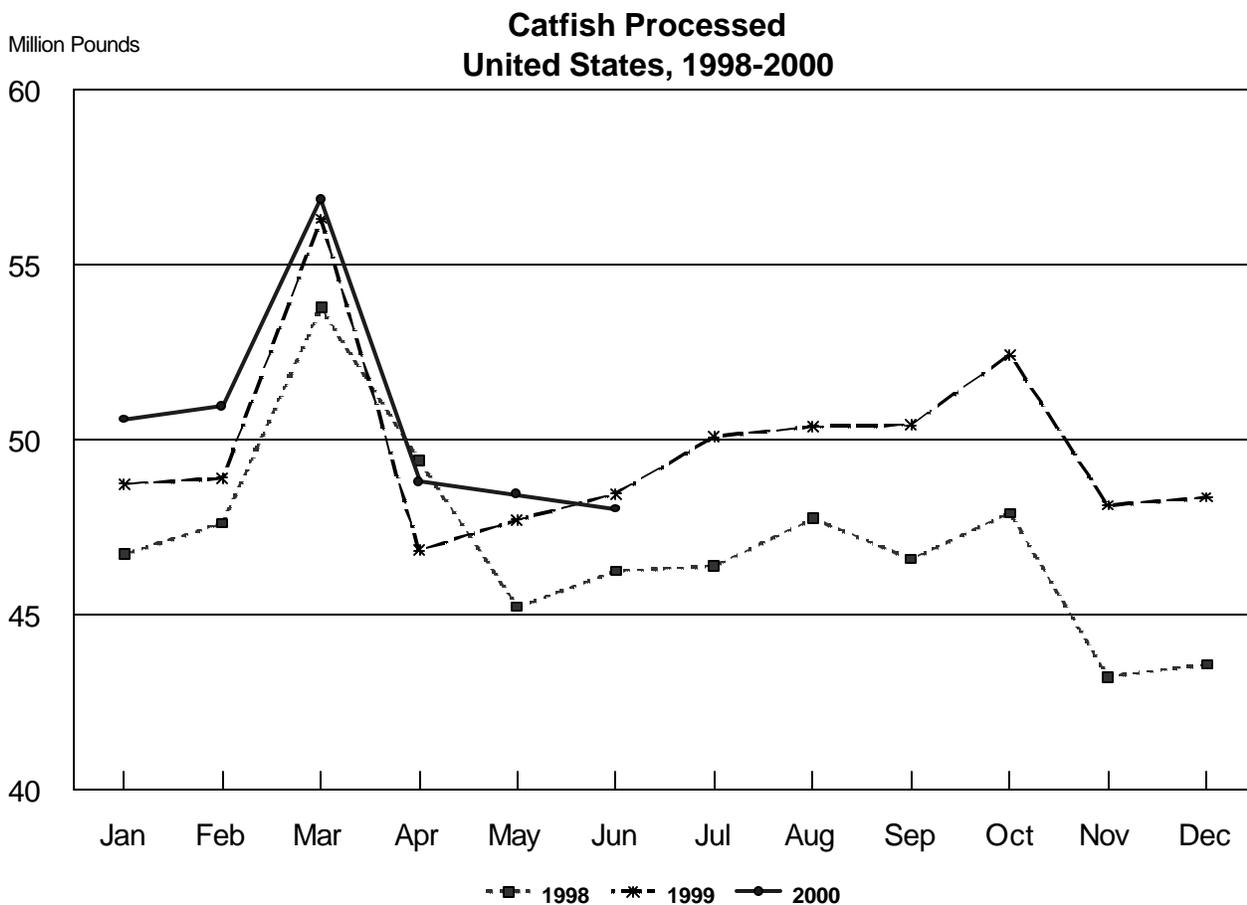
**Mississippi Catfish County Estimates<sup>1</sup>, January 2000**

County	Total Water Surface Acres Used for Production <sup>2</sup>		1999 Foodsize Sales	
	1999	2000	Live Weight	Total Sales
	Acres		Pounds	Dollars
District 10	4,600	4,200	12,938,000	9,560,000
District 30	200	200	---	---
Humphreys	30,900	30,400	100,044,000	73,202,000
Issaquena	1,700	1,800	9,787,000	7,164,000
Leflore	15,500	19,100	70,221,000	51,692,000
Sharkey	5,000	5,200	16,467,000	12,106,000
Sunflower	24,900	23,800	77,419,000	56,694,000
Washington	8,500	8,900	36,555,000	27,015,000
Yazoo	5,500	6,000	22,126,000	15,961,000
District 40	92,000	95,200	332,619,000	243,834,000
District 50	700	700	---	---
Chickasaw	700	700	2,526,000	1,732,000
Lowndes	900	1,100	4,500,000	3,132,000
Noxubee	3,500	4,300	20,176,000	13,921,000
Other Counties	1,800	2,900	11,158,000	8,051,000
District 60	6,900	9,000	38,360,000	26,836,000
Other Districts	600	700	1,083,000	820,000
State Total	105,000	110,000	385,000,000	281,050,000

<sup>1</sup> Estimates for operations with ponds in more than one county are included in the county where the farm's headquarters is located.

<sup>2</sup> Total water surface acres include acres used for broodfish, foodfish and fingerling production.

--- Included in Other Districts.



## Mississippi Catfish Estimates

All known catfish operators were contacted during the first half of January and July by telephone and personal interview. Sound statistical methodology was employed to derive the estimates from reported data. All data were analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation were compared to their own past operating profile and to trends of similar operations. Data for missing operations were estimated based on similar operations or historical data. Estimates may be subject to errors such as omissions, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing of the data. These errors are minimized through strict quality controls in the edit and summarization process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

### Definitions Used for Catfish Production

**Broodfish** - Fish kept for egg production, including males. Broodfish produce the fertilized eggs which go to hatcheries. The most desirable size is 3 to 10 pounds or 4 to 6 years of age.

**Large Foodsize** - Fish weighing over 3 pounds.

**Medium Foodsize** - Fish weighing over one and one-half pounds to 3 pounds.

**Small Foodsize** - Fish weighing over three-fourths pound to one and one-half pounds.

**Large Stockers** - Fish weighing over 180 pounds to 750 pounds per 1,000 fish.

**Small Stockers** - Fish weighing over 60 pounds to 180 pounds per 1,000 fish.

**Fingerlings/Fry** - Fish weighing 60 pounds per 1,000 fish and less.