

Ag Report

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Catfish Report

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July 1 Catfish Inventory

Commercial catfish operations in Mississippi had 229 million foodsize fish on hand July 1, 2002, up slightly from the July 1, 2001 total. Of the total number of foodsize fish, 2.70 million were large foodsize (over 3 pounds per fish), 41.4 million medium foodsize (over 1½ to 3 pounds per fish), and 185.1 million were small foodsize fish (over ¾ to 1½ pounds per fish). The number of stockers on hand July 1, 2002,

totaled 440 million fish, down 16 percent from a year ago. Of the total number of stockers, 218 million were large (over 180 pounds to 750 pounds per 1,000 fish) and 222 million were small (over 60 pounds to 180 pounds per 1,000 fish). Operators had 1.12 billion fingerlings and fry on hand July 1, 2002, down 10 percent from the 1.25 billion on hand July 1, 2001.

All known catfish operators in the four states surveyed were contacted during the first half of July by mail, telephone and personal interview. 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.

Catfish Production: Water Surface Acre Usage, by State Surveyed, 2001-2002

State	Acres Intended for Utilization During January 1 - June 30 for:					Acres Taken out of Production During Jan 1 - Jun 30 Previous Year
	Foodsize	Fingerlings	Broodfish	Currently Under or Scheduled for-		
				Renovation	New Construction	
2001						
Alabama	23,200	2,100	600	550	700	280
Arkansas	31,000	5,000	750	700	500	650
Louisiana	11,000	1,700	260	570	210	590
Mississippi	90,500	17,300	3,300	2,600	1,500	2,900
Four State Total	155,700	26,100	4,910	4,420	2,910	4,420
2002						
Alabama	23,100	1,800	470	320	440	680
Arkansas	31,000	5,000	750	700	150	1,350
Louisiana	9,300	1,600	220	270	60	1,040
Mississippi	88,000	16,600	3,300	3,300	800	2,300
Four State Total	151,400	25,000	4,740	4,590	1,450	5,370

**Catfish: Number of Operations, Water Surface Acres Used for
Production, 2001-2002, by State Surveyed**

State	Number of Operations on July 1		Water Surface Acres Used for Production During July 1 - December 31	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Number		Acres	
Alabama	270	245	26,000	26,100
Arkansas	185	180	37,000	37,500
Louisiana	78	65	13,200	11,300
Mississippi	400	390	113,500	110,000
Four State Total	933	880	189,700	184,900

Catfish: Inventory by Size Category and State Surveyed, July 1, 2001-2002

State and Size Category	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average Per Fish	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Large Foodsize						
Alabama	1,170	3,900	3,900	12,700	3.3	3.3
Arkansas	1,700	3,100	5,600	10,400	3.3	3.4
Louisiana	860	520	2,750	1,890	3.2	3.4
Mississippi	2,440	2,700	8,200	9,200	3.4	3.4
Four State Total	6,170	10,220	20,450	34,190	3.3	3.3
Medium Foodsize						
Alabama	14,800	23,300	27,400	44,900	1.9	1.9
Arkansas	19,800	24,800	36,500	47,700	1.8	1.9
Louisiana	8,300	4,900	15,700	8,500	1.9	1.7
Mississippi	33,200	41,400	60,400	75,700	1.8	1.8
Four State Total	76,100	94,400	140,000	176,800	1.8	1.9
Small Foodsize						
Alabama	40,200	45,700	39,700	46,700	1.0	1.0
Arkansas	42,200	41,800	42,200	42,300	1.0	1.0
Louisiana	13,400	8,400	12,900	8,400	1.0	1.0
Mississippi	193,500	185,100	192,600	187,900	1.0	1.0
Four State Total	289,300	281,000	287,400	285,300	1.0	1.0
Broodfish						
Alabama	160	135	890	960	5.6	7.1
Arkansas	160	140	830	710	5.2	5.1
Louisiana	50	27	292	165	5.8	6.1
Mississippi	910	750	3,900	3,600	4.3	4.8
Four State Total	1,280	1,052	5,912	5,435	4.6	5.2

Catfish: Inventory by Size Category and State Surveyed, July 1, 2001-2002—Cont.

State and Size Category	Number of Fish		Live Weight			
			Total		Average Per Fish	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Large Stockers						
Alabama	40,900	94,900	17,900	45,000	438	474
Arkansas	48,500	49,600	17,000	18,300	351	369
Louisiana	23,600	16,500	7,760	7,200	329	436
Mississippi	224,600	217,800	91,000	89,300	405	410
Four State Total	337,600	378,800	133,660	159,800	396	422
Small Stockers						
Alabama	30,700	59,000	3,600	7,700	117	131
Arkansas	71,200	78,800	7,100	7,600	99.7	96.4
Louisiana	11,100	28,500	990	2,400	89.2	84.2
Mississippi	300,200	221,800	28,800	21,700	95.9	97.8
Four State Total	413,200	388,100	40,490	39,400	98.0	102
Fingerlings and Fry						
Alabama	118,500	121,700	1,860	1,540	15.7	12.7
Arkansas	349,000	297,000	3,700	4,400	10.6	14.8
Louisiana	114,800	94,300	1,420	1,700	12.4	18.0
Mississippi	1,248,000	1,123,000	15,100	17,500	12.1	15.6
Four State Total	1,830,300	1,636,000	22,080	25,140	12.1	15.4

Catfish Processors: Sales Volume, Average Price and Ending Inventory, United States, June 2001-2002

Item	Sales Volume		Average Price		Ending Inventory	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Pounds		Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
Fresh						
Whole Fish	3,166	3,313	1.62	1.37	154	195
Fillets ¹	5,122	5,093	2.78	2.55	493	407
Other ²	1,298	1,527	1.64	1.51	95	112
Total Fresh	9,586	9,933	2.24	2.00	742	714
Frozen						
Whole Fish	1,111	1,194	1.94	1.87	633	819
Fillets ¹	9,077	10,134	2.67	2.40	8,349	5,864
Other ²	3,916	3,409	1.54	1.55	2,537	2,396
Total Frozen	14,104	14,737	2.30	2.16	11,519	9,079
Total Fresh & Frozen	23,690	24,670	2.38	2.09	12,261	9,793

¹ Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.² Includes all products not already reported including weight of breading and added ingredients.

United States Farm-Raised Catfish: Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers by Major Processors, and United States Imports, 2001-2002

Month	Round Weight Processed				Average Price Paid to Producers ¹		Imports of Catfish ²	
	Monthly		Cumulative		2001	2002	2001	2002
	2001	2002	2001	2002				
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
January	46,999	52,551	46,999	52,551	.693	.549	862	1,037
February	50,257	52,856	97,256	105,407	.696	.555	510	1,048
March	57,766	58,340	155,022	163,747	.697	.565	1,201	414
April	52,478	50,694	207,500	214,441	.694	.561	1,787	618
May	51,736	52,902	259,236	267,343	.687	.574	1,989	1,491
June	47,883	49,450	307,119	316,793	.669	.588	2,114	
July	47,829		354,948		.656		1,968	
August	51,690		406,638		.624		1,385	
September	49,699		456,337		.610		1,536	
October	52,264		508,601		.596		1,608	
November	44,670		553,271		.566		1,724	
December	43,837		597,108		.554		1,395	

¹ Price for fish delivered to processing plant door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements.

² Pounds of frozen boneless fillets. Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.