

West Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service

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West Virginia Commercial Trout Sales Down

West Virginia -- The 17 commercial trout producers in West Virginia had fish sales of 477 thousand dollars for the 12 month period from January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2003. This was an 18 percent decrease from the 583 thousand dollars in fish sales during the same period in 2002. Fish 12 inches or longer accounted for 94 percent of total sales of fish sold. Trout losses for the period totaled 50,000 pounds, down from last year's 53,000 pounds.

The value of trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes is estimated at 1.74 million dollars, up 38 percent from the 2002 value of 1.26 million dollars.

United States -- The total value of all sales, both fish and eggs, received by trout growers in the 20 selected States totaled 66.4 million dollars during 2003, a decrease of 5 percent from 2002. Sales of fish totaled 62.3 million dollars for 2003, while egg sales totaled 4.18 million dollars. The State of Idaho accounted for 47 percent of the total value of fish sold.

The number of **trout 12 inches and longer** sold during 2003 totaled 45.9 million fish, down 8 percent from the previous year. The average price per pound, at 1.09, increased 1 cent from 2002. The value of sales for the 2003 marketing year was 55.4 million dollars, down 5 percent from 2002. Based on the dollar value, 68 percent were sold to processors and 20 percent were sold to fee and recreational fishing establishments.

The number of **6"-12" trout** sold during 2003 totaled 6.33 million fish, a decrease of 14 percent from 2002. The average price per pound was \$2.49 during 2003, down 4 cents from the 2002 price. The total value of sales was 5.66 million dollars during 2003, up 2 percent from the previous year. The major sales outlets for 6"-12" trout were to fee and recreational fishing establishments with 54 percent of the total sales, followed by government with 14 percent, and sales to other producers at 12 percent.

The number of **1"-6" trout** sold during 2003 totaled 7.34 million, a 20 percent decrease from the previous year. The average value per 1,000 fish was \$168.00 during 2003, a \$7.00 increase from 2002. The total value of sales was 1.23 million dollars, down 16 percent from last year's total.

Trout egg sales in 2003 totaled 264 million eggs, down 12 percent from the 298 million eggs sold during the previous year. The average value per 1,000 eggs during 2003 was \$15.80, up 90 cents from 2002. The total value of trout egg sales during 2003 was 4.18 million dollars, down 6 percent from the 4.45 million dollars in egg sales during the previous year.

Distributed Trout

Trout distributed for restoration, conservation, and recreational purposes, primarily by State and Federal hatcheries, included 11.4 million 12" or longer fish, 43.7 million 6"-12", and 63.6 million fingerlings. The estimated value of fish and eggs distributed totaled 61.2 million dollars, up 1 percent from 2002.

Losses of Fish

Total losses of all trout intended for sale were 29.2 million fish during 2003, with 81.7 percent being lost to disease and 13.1 percent lost to predators. Losses to trout raised for distribution were primarily due to disease (71 percent) and predators (18 percent).

TROUT VALUE OF SALES (excluding eggs) JANUARY 1, 2003 - DECEMBER 31, 2003

State	12" and longer		6"-12" Size		1"- 6" Size		Total Value of Fish Sold ^{1/}	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Thousand Dollars								
CA	4,416	4,560	*	577	*	48	5,091	5,185
CO	1,330	1,410	1,125	*	48	*	2,503	2,125
CT	*	*	*	*	--	*	275	337
GA	529	363	*	*	*	*	579	581
ID	29,920	29,064	*	*	*	*	30,456	29,407
ME	*	*	*	*	*	*	165	220
MA	190	153	*	*	*	*	369	389
MI	553	297	83	*	27	*	663	346
MO	*	*	*	*	*	*	1,858	1,990
NY	327	487	198	289	42	21	567	797
NC	6,348	5,014	158	351	323	305	6,829	5,670
OR	691	418	99	74	11	14	801	506
PA	3,876	3,796	873	802	116	80	4,865	4,678
TN	297	139	*	*	*	*	400	198
UT	893	469	181	549	7	*	1,081	1,033
VA	1,168	1,310	*	108	*	30	1,259	1,448
WA	4,505	4,418	492	386	388	387	5,385	5,191
WV	559	450	*	*	*	*	583	477
WI	1,490	1,455	212	191	58	31	1,760	1,677
Other States	1,400	1,558	2,102	2,334	454	317	--	--
Total	58,492	55,361	5,523	5,661	1,474	1,233	65,489	62,255

* Included in Other States
^{1/} Arkansas reported trout only for distribution and no sales.