



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**Arkansas Catfish Production Report**  
Released January 30, 2015



Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture  
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This report contains part of the results from the *Catfish Production Survey* conducted during January 2015. The data are posted on our Web site at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ar> and in a more detailed report, *Catfish Production*, at the Internet address above. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire or interview for this survey.

### Foodsize Catfish Inventory Down 27 Percent

Arkansas catfish producers had 9.02 million foodsize fish on January 1, 2015, down 27 percent from a year ago. The number of large foodsize fish on hand totaled 620,000, up 72 percent from January 1, 2014. Medium foodsize inventory, at 2.63 million, was down 17 percent from last year; while, small foodsize, at 5.77 million, was down 34 percent from January 1, 2014. Arkansas catfish growers had foodsize fish sales of \$18.2 million during 2014, down 23 percent from 2013.

#### Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, Arkansas, January 1, 2014-2015

Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight		
	2014	2015	% Change from '14	2014	2015	% Change from '14	2014	2015	
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish		
<b>Broodfish</b>	40	70	+ 75	192	253	+ 32	4.8	3.6	
<b>All Foodsize</b>	12,280	9,020	- 27	16,330	13,650	- 16	-	-	
Large	360	620	+ 72	1,230	2,450	+ 99	3.4	4.0	
Medium	3,170	2,630	- 17	6,350	5,100	- 20	2.0	1.9	
Small	8,750	5,770	- 34	8,750	6,100	- 30	1.0	1.1	
	<i>Pounds per 1,000 Fish</i>								
<b>All Stockers</b>	34,070	44,540	+ 30	5,540	5,550	-	-	-	
Large	4,370	4,430	+ 1	1,940	2,300	+ 19	444	519	
Small	29,700	40,000	+ 35	3,600	3,250	- 10	121.2	81.3	
<b>Fingerlings</b>	35,800	27,500	- 23	1,510	957	- 37	42.2	34.8	

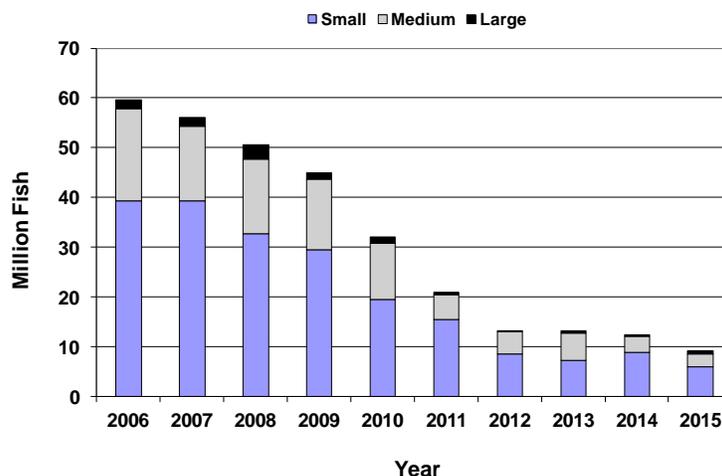
#### Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, U.S., January 1, 2014-2015

Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight		
	2014	2015	% Change from '14	2014	2015	% Change from '14	2014	2015	
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish		
<b>Broodfish</b>	650	577	- 11	3,218	2,831	- 12	5.0	4.9	
<b>All Foodsize</b>	157,290	150,120	- 5	215,716	212,239	- 2	-	-	
Large	4,500	5,090	+ 13	15,363	17,909	+ 17	3.4	3.5	
Medium	50,600	48,220	- 5	98,770	93,029	- 6	2.0	1.9	
Small	102,190	96,810	- 5	101,583	101,301	-	1.0	1.0	
	<i>Pounds per 1,000 Fish</i>								
<b>All Stockers</b>	289,080	249,015	- 14	59,881	53,101	- 11	-	-	
Large	112,310	95,240	- 15	40,899	38,644	- 6	364	406	
Small	176,770	153,550	- 13	18,982	14,457	- 24	107.4	94.2	
<b>Fingerlings</b>	420,060	449,510	+ 7	14,817	14,701	- 1	35.3	32.7	

#### Definitions Used for Catfish Production

- Broodfish: Fish kept for egg production, including males, 3 to 10 lbs., or 4 to 6 years of age.
- Large foodsize: Over 3 lbs. per fish.
- Medium foodsize: 1 ½ to 3 lbs. per fish.
- Small foodsize: ¾ to 1 ½ lbs. per fish.
- Large Stockers: 180 to 750 lbs. per 1,000 fish.
- Small Stockers: 60 to 180 lbs. per 1,000 fish or over 6" in length.
- Fingerlings: 2 to 60 lbs. per 1,000 fish or 2" to 6" in length.

**Arkansas Foodsize Catfish Inventory by Size, January 1, 2006-2015**



**Catfish: Sales by Size Category, Arkansas, 2013-2014**

Size Category	Number		Live Weight Sold				Average Price per Pound		Total Sales	
			Average Weight		Total		2013	2014	2013	2014
	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014				
	<i>1,000 Fish</i>		<i>Pounds per Fish</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Dollars</i>		<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	
Foodsize	15,500	9,980	1.6	1.7	25,300	17,200	0.93	1.06	23,529	18,232
Fingerlings	13,400	8,100	35.9	34.3	481	278	2.55	2.87	1,227	798

**Catfish: Water Surface Acres, Arkansas and U.S., January 1, 2013-2014**

Item	Unit	Arkansas			United States		
		2014	2015	% Change from '14	2014	2015	% Change from '14
Water Surface Used for Catfish Production	Acres	6,800	5,800	- 15	77,725	69,910	- 10
For Foodsize	Acres	4,900	4,200	- 14	59,075	53,510	- 9
For Fingerlings	Acres	1,500	1,200	- 20	10,320	9,420	- 9
For Broodfish	Acres	210	195	- 7	1,965	2,155	+ 10