



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Mississippi Catfish Production Report
Released July 22, 2016



Cooperating with the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
PO Box 980 · Jackson, MS 39205
(601) 965-4575 · (601) 965-5622 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

This report contains the results from the **2016 July Catfish Growers Survey**. The data are posted on our Web site at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms> and in a more detailed report at the Internet address above. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire or interview for this survey.

July 1 All Foodsize Inventory Declines from 2015

Commercial catfish operations in Mississippi had 43.2 million foodsize fish on hand on July 1, 2016. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory with their respective percent change from January 1, 2016 are: large foodsize, 640,000, down 30 percent; medium foodsize, 9.65 million, down 58 percent; and small foodsize, 32.9 million, down 50 percent.

Mississippi was ranked first in the nation, ahead of Alabama and Arkansas, in total foodsize catfish inventory on July 1, 2016. Broodfish on hand totaled 340,000, down 11 percent from the January 1, 2016 number; total stockers, at 184 million, were up 69 percent; and fingerlings and fry, at 372 million, were up 69 percent from earlier this year.

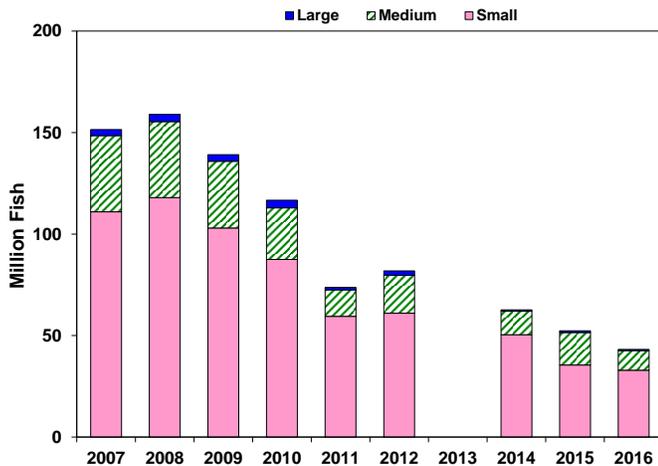
Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, Mississippi, January 1, 2016 and July 1, 2015-2016

Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight	
	July 2015	Jan. 2016	July 2016	July 2015	Jan. 2016	July 2016	January 1	July 1
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish	
Broodfish	370	380	340	1,980	1,960	1,890	5.4	5.6
All Foodsize	52,350	89,410	43,190	68,700	109,600	53,700	-	-
Large	850	910	640	3,000	3,100	2,300	3.5	3.6
Medium	16,000	23,100	9,650	29,700	41,700	17,500	1.9	1.8
Small	35,500	65,400	32,900	36,000	64,800	33,900	1.0	1.0
							<i>Pounds per 1,000 Fish</i>	
All Stockers	162,200	109,200	184,300	42,400	19,050	47,900	-	-
Large	80,100	37,100	104,000	32,400	11,700	37,600	404	362
Small	82,100	72,100	80,300	10,000	7,350	10,300	122	128
Fingerlings and fry	355,000	220,000	372,000	6,400	7,050	5,000	18.0	13.4

Definitions Used for Catfish Production

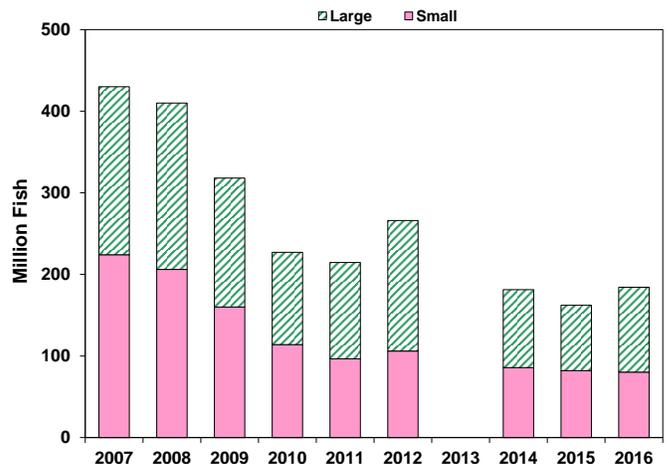
- Broodfish: Fish kept for egg production, including males, 3 to 10 lbs., or 4 to 6 years of age.
- Large foodsize: Over 3 lbs. per fish.
- Medium foodsize: 1 ½ to 3 lbs. per fish.
- Small foodsize: ¾ to 1 ½ lbs. per fish.
- Large Stockers: 180 to 750 lbs. per 1,000 fish.
- Small Stockers: 60 to 180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

Mississippi Foodsize Catfish Inventory by Size, July 1, 2007-2016*



* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

Mississippi Stocker Inventory by Size, July 1, 2007-2016*

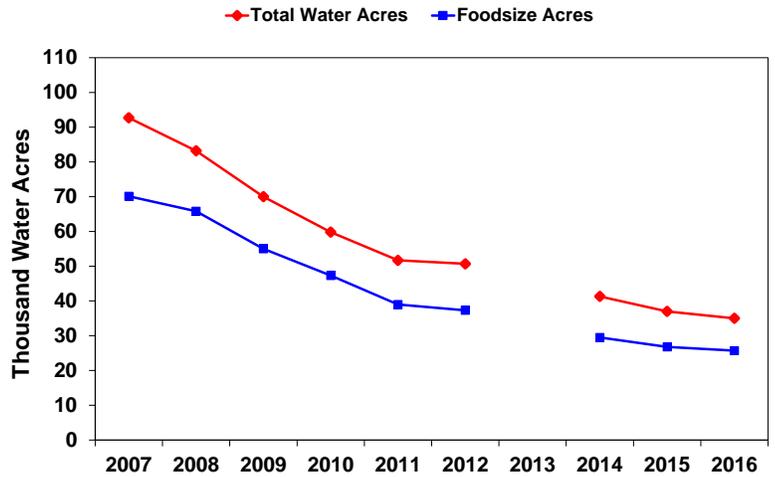


* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

Mississippi Water Surface Area Set at 35,000 Acres

The water surface area to be used for catfish production in Mississippi during July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, totaled 35,000 acres. During July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, water surface acres intended for foodsize catfish production is expected to total 25,700 acres. A total of 1,400 acres were taken out of production during the January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016 period.

Mississippi Total Water and Foodsize Acreage, July 1, 2007-2016*



* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

State	2015	2016
	<i>Acres</i>	
MS	37,000	35,000
AL	15,100	14,800
AR	4,800	4,900
Total	56,900	54,700

Water Surface Acre Usage by State, 2015-2016

State	Acres Intended for Utilization During July 1 - December 31										Acres Taken Out of Production Jan. 1 - Jun. 30	
	For Foodsize		For Fingerlings		For Broodfish		Currently Under or Scheduled for:					
							Renovation		New Construction			
	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
<i>Acres</i>												
MS	26,800	25,700	6,600	6,300	1,400	1,300	2,700	1,700	*	*	1,500	1,400
AL	14,600	14,500	380	75	55	45	*	290	*	*	200	660
AR	3,400	3,300	1,200	1,300	180	230	*	180	*	*	570	35
Total	44,800	43,500	8,180	7,675	1,635	1,575	2,930	2,170	25	430	2,270	2,095

*Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.