
Catfish Production



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Board

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RESULTS OF CATFISH GROWERS SURVEY

Catfish growers in 18 selected States had sales of 246 million dollars during 1987. Value of sales from Hatchery operations totaled 19.2 million dollars while the value of sales from production units totaled 226.8 million dollars. Total sales for 1981, the last time a similar survey was conducted, were 72 million for the 16 selected States.

Hatchery operations had 1.05 million broodfish, 67.1 million stockers and 705 million fry/fingerlings. Production operations had 2.35 million large fish (over 3 pounds); 134 million foodsize fish (3/4 pound to 3 pounds); 310 million stockers and 428 million fry/fingerlings.

The average weights per fish held by hatcheries were: broodfish 4.67 pounds; stockers .310 pounds and fry/fingerlings 5.7 pounds per 1000 fish. The average weights per fish held by production operations were: large fish 3.68 pounds; foodsize 1.03 pounds; stockers .393 pounds and fry/fingerlings 17.6 pounds per 1000 fish.

Producing units had 21.7 million pounds of foodsize fish in their inventory being held for "off flavor," 20.2 million pounds of this was in Mississippi, .7 million in Arkansas, .4 million in Alabama, .2 million in Louisiana, and .2 million in other States.

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SALES OUTLETS FOR PRODUCING UNITS

Sales of foodsize fish was dominated by sales to processors with 85 percent. Sales to livehaulers totaled 6 percent; retail, restaurant and food stores accounted for 4 percent; fee fishing and direct to consumers accounted for 2 percent each. All other outlets accounted for 1 percent.

Sales of stocker fish by production units were: other producers 24 percent, fee and recreational use 58 percent; live haulers 4 percent; government 12 percent; all other outlets 2 percent.

LOSSES OF FISH

The 2000 producers in these 18 States reported losses of 89.3 million fish in 1987. Causes of these losses were: disease 53 percent; winterkill 21 percent; oxygen depletion 14 percent; birds 7 percent; and all other causes 5 percent.

SURVEY PROCEDURES AND RELIABILITY

Two thousand growers reported catfish in 18 selected States. A list of all commercial catfish operations was created in each of these States. Each operation on the list was contacted. The questionnaire obtained information on type of operation (hatchery, production, or both), July 1, 1988 inventory numbers and weights by class, sales for 1987 and losses by cause.

Information was collected by mail, telephone interviews and by follow-up personal interviews. Response rates were very good with inaccessible and non-response below 1 percent.

CATFISH: NUMBER OF OPERATIONS, WATER SURFACE AND TOTAL SALES

STATE	OPERATIONS		WATER SURFACE		TOTAL SALES-ALL SIZE	
	JAN. 1	JULY 1	JAN. 1	JULY 1	DURING	DURING
	1982	1988	1982	1988	1981	1987
	NUMBER		ACRES		1,000 DOLLARS	
ALA	250	352	8,200	12,490	7,291	14,224
ARK	130	194	9,310	15,000	10,232	19,521
CALIF	50	91	1,330	2,836	1,563	5,774
FLA	1/	70	1/	820	1/	1,575
GA	30	78	980	1,891	789	1,280
ILL		20		452		941
KANS		31		473		754
KY		70		600		1,609
LA	20	116	790	5,720	760	5,752
MISS	280	356	49,540	83,000	44,706	178,474
MO	70	200	1,130	2,500	2,858	1,239
N C	1/	36	1/	463	1/	274
OKLA		151		1,428		9,171
S C	1/	11	1/	165	1/	53
TENN	16	35	260	384	349	1,410
TEX	115	173	1,550	1,936	2,038	3,313
OTH 1/	26	19	750	112	1,355	640
TOTAL	987	2,003	73,840	130,252	71,941	246,004

1/ INCLUDES FLA, IDA, N C, PA, S C, AND VA IN 1982 AND IDA, AND IND IN 1988, TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS. STATES WITH NO DATA SHOWN WERE NOT SURVEYED IN 1982.

CATFISH: ACRES OF PONDS OUT OF PRODUCTION; NEW POND CONSTRUCTION
JULY 1988

STATE	OUT OF PRODUCTION		NEW POND CONSTRUCTION	
	TOTAL	BEING	TOTAL	STARTED
		RENOVATED		SINCE APR 1
	ACRES			
ALA	1,636	236	844	664
ARK	1,350	490	660	340
CALIF	312	177	283	112
FLA	160	100	130	110
GA	280	2/	151	132
KY	190	115	70	45
LA	720	2/	437	245
MISS	3,700	1,700	3,600	3,000
OKLA	594	110	113	80
S C	115	110	240	0
TENN	44	21	18	17
TEX	263	120	1,145	1,105
OTH 1/	428	325	245	168
TOTAL	9,792	3,504	7,936	6,018

1/ IDA, ILL, IND, KAN, MO, N C, AND S C COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS. 2/ INCLUDED IN OTHER.

CATFISH: HATCHERY OPERATIONS, INVENTORY NUMBERS & LIVEWEIGHT, JULY 1, 1988

STATE	OPERATIONS	NUMBER OF FISH				LIVEWEIGHT OF FISH		
		BROOD- FISH	STOCK- ERS	FRY AND FINGERLING	BROOD- FISH	STOCK- ERS	FRY AND FINGERLING	
		THOUSANDS				THOUSAND POUNDS		
ALA	53	109	2,612	77,133	625	988	396	
ARK	74	120	4,846	54,527	494	1,877	314	
CALIF	46	17	1,333	7,570	107	556	67	
FLA	20	13	130	6,055	52	30	51	
GA	30	26	629	18,684	129	191	105	
ILL	13	34	370	727	140	152	7	
KANS	9	11	126	3,645	36	59	35	
KY	10	2	7,564	0	8	36	101	
LA	31	35	997	18,776	140	332	112	
MISS	112	576	39,977	469,778	2,585	12,856	2,484	
MO	40	20	3,211	12,220	90	607	144	
N C	13	26	40	3,585	201	28	14	
OKLA	20	27	3,119	9,876	116	2,169	9	
TEX	81	22	491	17,927	123	204	127	
OTH 1/	22	8	1,642	4,077	36	701	37	
TOTAL	574	1,046	67,087	704,580	4,882	20,786	4,003	

1/ IDA, IND, S C, AND TENN COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: HATCHERY SALES, NUMBER, WEIGHT, VALUE STOCKERS, 1987

STATE	NUMBER HEAD	WEIGHT POUNDS	VALUE DOLLARS	AVERAGE PER FISH	
				WEIGHT	VALUE
		THOUSANDS		POUNDS	DOLLARS
ALA	1,507	659	158	0.437	0.105
ARK	363	112	74	0.309	0.204
CALIF	566	153	204	0.270	0.360
FLA	81	33	15	0.407	0.185
LA	739	69	52	0.093	0.070
MISS	16,040	1,482	1,579	0.092	0.098
OKLA	6,134	4,228	3,025	0.689	0.493
TEX	495	122	166	0.246	0.335
OTH 1/	13,957	1,821	1,349	0.130	0.097
TOTAL	39,882	8,679	6,622	0.218	0.166

1/ GA, IDA, ILL, IND, KAN, KY, MO, N C, S C, AND TENN COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: HATCHERY SALES, NUMBER, WEIGHT, VALUE FRY-FINGERLINGS, 1987

STATE	NUMBER HEAD	WEIGHT POUNDS	VALUE DOLLARS	AVERAGE PER FISH	
				WEIGHT	VALUE
		THOUSANDS		POUNDS	DOLLARS
ALA	13,456	305	634	0.023	0.047
ARK	48,774	724	1,484	0.015	0.030
CALIF	1,764	34	217	0.019	0.123
FLA	4,775	90	525	0.019	0.110
LA	3,172	27	135	0.009	0.043
MISS	164,067	5,114	6,411	0.031	0.039
OKLA	4,479	230	1,655	0.051	0.370
TEX	3,368	63	273	0.019	0.081
OTH 1/	9,167	124	520	0.014	0.057
TOTAL	253,022	6,711	11,854	0.027	0.047

1/ GA, IDA, ILL, IND, KAN, KY, MO, N C, S C, AND TENN COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: PRODUCTION OPERATIONS, INVENTORY NUMBERS, JULY 1, 1988

STATE	OPERATIONS	NUMBER OF FISH			
		LARGE FISH	FOOD SIZE	STOCKERS	FRY-FINGERLING
NUMBER		THOUSANDS			
ALA	251	319	5,921	25,464	26,825
ARK	161	241	12,508	17,959	44,289
CALIF	71	1/	2,172	1,705	1,471
FLA	56	32	971	717	1,120
GA	55	43	1/	554	3,168
ILL	17	12	69	133	478
KANS	29	17	129	311	91
KY	60	46	347	186	282
LA	109	43	3,599	9,689	20,174
MISS	341	973	104,667	245,348	306,732
MO	170	67	826	1,060	1,783
N C	34	11	166	737	3,415
TENN	30	9	523	726	3,090
TEX	109	289	483	721	951
OTH 1/	80	249	2,113	4,799	13,741
TOTAL	1,573	2,351	134,494	310,109	427,610

1/ IDA, IND, OKLA, AND S C COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: PRODUCTION OPERATIONS, LIVWEIGHT, JULY 1, 1988

STATE	LIVWEIGHT OF FISH			
	LARGE FISH	FOOD SIZE	STOCKERS	FRY-FINGERLING
THOUSANDS				
ALA	1,168	5,979	10,576	352
ARK	936	14,208	6,707	697
CALIF	1/	2,914	550	66
FLA	140	1,045	288	13
GA	189	1/	157	28
ILL	41	106	43	5
KANS	94	168	144	2
KY	297	562	78	8
LA	149	4,439	3,265	263
MISS	3,214	103,297	95,399	5,972
MO	274	1,134	412	30
N C	49	294	255	33
TENN	31	756	304	2
TEX	1,192	710	449	23
OTH 1/	888	2,830	3,182	49
TOTAL	8,662	138,442	121,809	7,543

1/ IDA, IND, OKLA, AND S C COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: PRODUCTION SALES, LARGE FISH, NUMBER, WEIGHT, VALUE, 1987

STATE	NUMBER	WEIGHT	VALUE	AVERAGE	
				WEIGHT	PER POUND
		THOUSANDS		POUNDS	DOLLARS
ALA	156	601	439	3.85	0.73
ARK	678	2,411	1,593	3.56	0.66
CALIF	88	316	492	3.59	1.56
GA	33	152	126	4.61	0.83
KANS	26	89	93	3.42	1.04
KY	106	408	440	3.85	1.08
LA	78	299	213	3.83	0.71
MISS	2,188	8,009	5,255	3.66	0.66
MO	56	187	94	3.34	0.50
N C	26	106	62	4.08	0.58
TENN	11	46	52	4.18	1.13
TEX	84	434	543	5.17	1.25
OTH 1/	15	63	74	4.20	1.17
TOTAL	3,545	13,121	9,476	3.70	0.72

1/ FLA, IDA, ILL, IND, OKLA, AND S C COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: PRODUCTION SALES, FOOD SIZE FISH NUMBER, WEIGHT, VALUE, 1987

STATE	NUMBER	WEIGHT	VALUE	AVERAGE	
				WEIGHT	PER POUND
		THOUSANDS		POUNDS	DOLLARS
ALA	15,592	17,487	12,252	1.12	0.70
ARK	16,982	24,547	16,172	1.45	0.66
CALIF	1,997	2,918	4,718	1.46	1.62
FLA	360	685	1,010	1.90	1.47
GA	649	841	666	1.30	0.79
ILL	180	323	359	1.79	1.11
KANS	217	333	406	1.53	1.22
KY	481	962	895	2.00	0.93
LA	7,009	8,358	5,262	1.19	0.63
MISS	206,943	249,265	164,165	1.20	0.66
MO	671	1,087	765	1.62	0.70
N C	113	218	157	1.93	0.72
OKLA	844	1,577	1,311	1.87	0.83
TENN	388	463	473	1.19	1.02
TEX	992	1,935	2,270	1.95	1.17
OTH 1/	415	809	1,020	1.95	1.26
TOTAL	253,833	311,808	211,901	1.23	0.68

1/ IDA, IND, AND S C COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: PRODUCTION SALES, STOCKERS, NUMBER, WEIGHT, VALUE, 1987

STATE	NUMBER	WEIGHT	VALUE	AVERAGE	
				WEIGHT	PER FISH
		THOUSANDS		POUNDS	DOLLARS
ALA	1,225	635	444	0.518	0.362
ARK	1,360	209	189	0.154	0.139
CALIF	127	60	105	0.472	0.827
GA	1,632	178	248	0.109	0.152
ILL	170	58	51	0.341	0.300
KANS	80	37	47	0.463	0.588
KY	428	263	216	0.614	0.505
LA	545	92	81	0.169	0.149
MISS	6,930	1,039	731	0.150	0.105
MO	198	45	67	0.227	0.338
TENN	204	23	19	0.113	0.093
TEX	126	59	60	0.468	0.476
OTH	6,315	4,575	3,148	0.724	0.498
TOTAL	19,340	7,273	5,406	0.376	0.280

1/ FLA, IDA, ILL, IND, OKLA, AND S C COMBINED TO AVOID DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

CATFISH: TOTAL NUMBER LOST AND PERCENT BY CAUSE, 1987

STATE	TOTAL NO. LOST	WINTER KILL	FLOOD	DIS-EASE	OXYGEN DEPLETION	CHEMICALS	BIRDS	PREDATORS	OTHER
	(000)								
ALA	2,833	1	0	56	31	0	1	2	3
ARK	12,768	2	34	35	8	1	1	18	0
CALIF	1,532	0	0	8	63	3	0	22	0
FLA	1,440	0	0	16	62	0	0	1	1
GA	1,552	1	0	40	37	1	0	2	3
IDAHO	33	0	0	97	2	1	0	0	0
ILL	123	4	0	15	11	1	42	1	1
IND	16	1	0	83	6	0	0	0	0
KANS	2,062	88	0	0	10	0	0	1	0
KY	137	1	0	37	53	3	0	1	1
LA	5,322	16	2	72	5	0	1	1	0
MISS	59,621	26	0	56	11	0	0	5	1
MO	934	43	1	11	26	0	0	3	0
N C	48	1	0	50	30	2	0	12	2
OKLA	327	2	4	13	10	12	0	16	3
S C	14	1	0	1	88	0	0	0	10
TENN	87	18	7	43	19	0	0	4	0
TEX	447	0	4	38	14	2	0	35	3
TOTAL	89,296	21	1/	53	14	1/	1/	7	1

1/ ACCOUNTS FOR LESS THAN 1 PERCENT.

CATFISH: FOOD SIZE PERCENT SOLD BY OUTLET TYPE, 1987

STATE :	LIVE- HAUL :	FEE/REC FISHING :	OTHER PROD- ERS :	GOVT. :	DIRECT TO CONSUM :	PROCESS :	RETAIL REST. & FD.STORE :	OTHER OUTLETS
ALA :	3	1	0	0	4	90	2	0
ARK :	20	1	1	0	4	70	4	0
CALIF :	18	30	1	2	5	0	43	1
FLA :	0	42	1	0	20	0	31	6
GA :	5	32	0	0	23	6	33	1
IDAHO :	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
ILL :	63	28	1	0	7	1	0	0
IND :	7	10	0	0	74	9	0	0
KANS :	1	43	9	10	27	0	10	0
KY :	28	38	1	1	21	9	2	0
LA :	4	1	1	0	4	87	3	0
MISS :	5	0	0	0	1	93	1	0
MO :	21	13	1	0	9	43	13	0
N C :	14	19	0	0	28	3	36	0
OKLA :	1	3	1	0	17	2	76	0
S C :	17	24	3	0	47	3	6	0
TENN :	16	37	0	0	16	16	15	0
TEX :	0	13	0	0	26	0	61	0
TOTAL :	6	2	1/	1/	2	85	4	1/

1/ ACCOUNTS FOR LESS THAN 1 PERCENT.

CATFISH: STOCKERS PERCENT SOLD BY OUTLET TYPE, 1987

STATE :	LIVE HAULERS :	RECREATIONAL AND FEE FISHING :	OTHER PRODUCERS :	GOVERNMENT :	OTHER OUTLETS
ALA :	4	56	40	0	0
ARK :	70	0	30	0	0
CALIF :	36	54	8	0	2
FLA :	0	18	3	0	79
GA :	2	55	37	0	6
IDAHO :	0	0	0	0	0
ILL :	10	80	0	10	0
IND :	0	100	0	0	0
KANS :	0	72	28	0	0
KY :	20	34	43	3	0
LA :	0	0	100	0	0
MISS :	0	0	94	0	6
MO :	0	89	11	0	0
N C :	0	0	0	0	0
OKLA :	1	76	3	19	1
S C :	0	0	0	0	100
TENN :	89	0	11	0	0
TEX :	0	25	6	1	68
TOTAL :	4	58	24	12	2

CATFISH: ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED, 1975 - CURRENT

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	
THOUSANDS POUNDS							
1975	1,664	1,729	1,504	1,011	790	1,481	
1976	1,785	1,711	2,094	1,397	1,037	1,471	
1977	1,344	2,278	1,901	1,749	1,810	1,901	
1978	1,598	2,361	2,951	2,510	2,729	2,189	
1979	3,032	3,929	4,010	3,025	3,716	3,081	
1980	3,530	4,892	4,060	3,829	4,045	3,596	
1981	3,836	4,844	4,490	6,057	5,385	4,356	
1982	5,448	7,848	8,845	7,937	7,974	8,156	
1983	8,713	11,972	13,104	12,518	11,615	12,068	
1984	13,265	14,585	14,658	13,349	12,856	11,130	
1985	13,429	17,166	18,290	16,474	17,432	15,897	
1986	19,761	19,083	18,664	16,354	16,013	15,951	
1987	20,988	22,163	27,583	26,781	21,623	19,581	
1988	26,018	27,786	28,179	20,805	20,351	22,839	
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
THOUSANDS POUNDS							
1975	1,426	1,369	1,339	1,402	1,100	1,325	16,140
1976	1,458	1,763	1,904	1,545	1,500	1,312	18,977
1977	1,965	2,192	1,986	1,766	1,661	1,573	22,126
1978	2,310	3,186	2,607	2,647	2,935	2,154	30,177
1979	3,138	3,978	3,417	3,531	3,000	2,779	40,636
1980	3,092	4,116	3,817	4,310	3,631	3,546	46,464
1981	5,379	5,176	5,711	5,154	4,757	5,495	60,640
1982	7,269	8,398	9,883	9,209	8,609	9,829	99,405
1983	10,347	11,998	11,250	11,138	11,754	10,773	137,250
1984	12,181	13,379	12,520	12,588	12,527	11,217	154,255
1985	14,311	17,130	16,638	16,861	14,625	13,363	191,616
1986	17,036	18,663	18,859	20,453	17,107	15,812	213,756
1987	21,638	24,403	26,577	27,920	20,684	20,555	280,496
1988							

CATFISH: AVERAGE PRICE PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR LIVE FISH, 1975 - CURRENT

YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	
CENTS PER POUND							
1975	45.8	46.5	46.3	48.5	51.6	52	
1976	48.7	48.7	49.3	51.3	54.5	55.1	
1977	52.9	55.5	59.6	60.9	60.7	61	
1978	56.1	56	56.1	55.8	55.6	55.8	
1979	52.3	55	58.5	60	60.4	62.8	
1980	65	69	69	69	69	68	
1981	64	64	67	69	70	69	
1982	57	59	57	54	53	53	
1983	56	55	56	59	62	65	
1984	61	66	72	74	73	74	
1985	67	69	73	78	77	77	
1986	70	70	72	74	72	68	
1987	60	57	59	65	69	64	
1988	68	72	75	75	75	78	
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
CENTS PER POUND							
1975	51.7	51.9	51.6	48.6	48.1	48.2	49.1
1976	55.7	55.5	55.8	54.1	52.9	52.7	52.7
1977	61.1	58	56.4	56.6	56.2	56.1	58
1978	55.9	55.7	53.3	51.6	51.3	51.6	54.5
1979	64.9	64.8	64.6	64.7	64.9	64.8	61.4
1980	69	68	67	66	67	65	67.6
1981	65	63	60	60	58	56	63.7
1982	53	53	54	55	56	56	54.9
1983	65	65	64	63	62	61	61.1
1984	74	72	69	67	65	65	69.2
1985	76	72	71	70	70	70	72.6
1986	66	63	63	62	61	61	66.8
1987	61	60	60	61	62	64	61.7
1988							

