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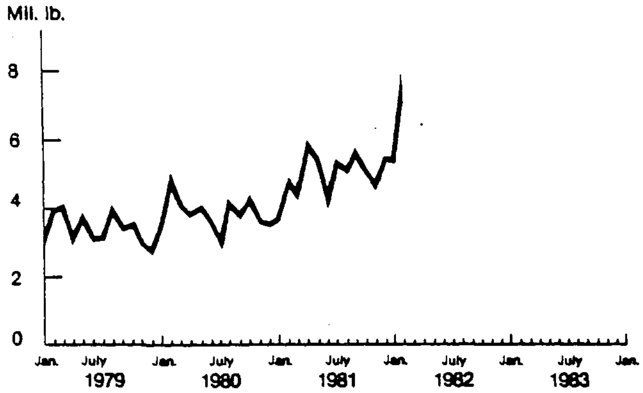
Aquaculture

OUTLOOK & SITUATION

NOTICE

Effective May 1, the Economic Research Service will discontinue free general distribution of publications, including Outlook and Situation reports. Funds must be redirected to maintain basic research and analysis programs. Except for members of the news media, land grant universities, and certain other information outlets, future issues in this series will be available on a paid subscription basis through the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. To order ERS releases, please fill out the subscription form on the inside back cover.

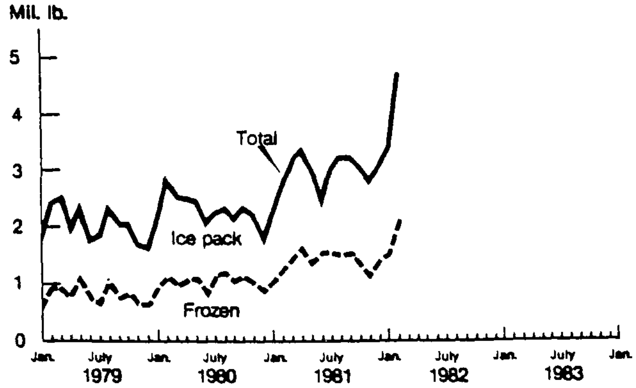
Farm Raised Catfish Production for Processors, by Months*



*Round weight processed.

USDA Neg. ERS 290-82(4)

Catfish Sales by Processors*



*Dressed weight.

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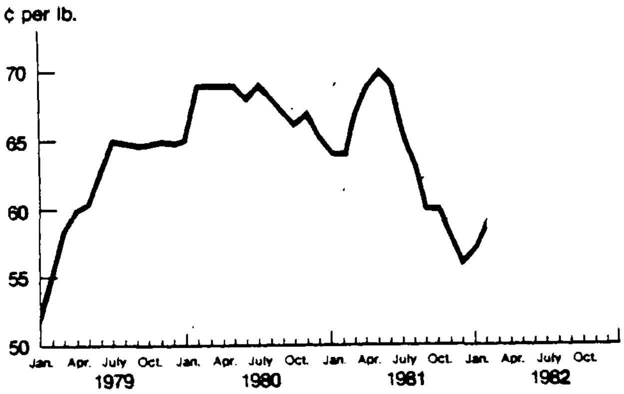
Prices Paid to Farmers for Catfish*



*Harvested, at plant site.

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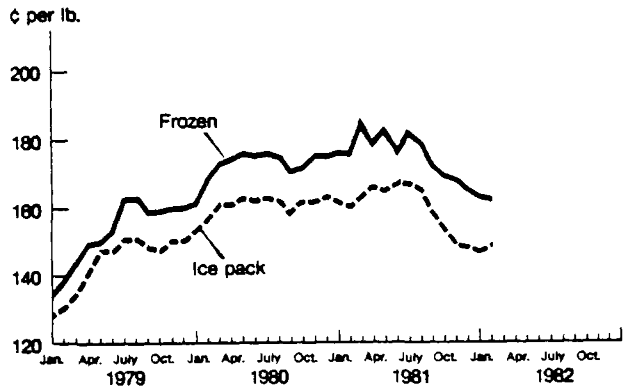
Prices Received by Catfish Processors*



*Dressed weight, F.O.B. plant

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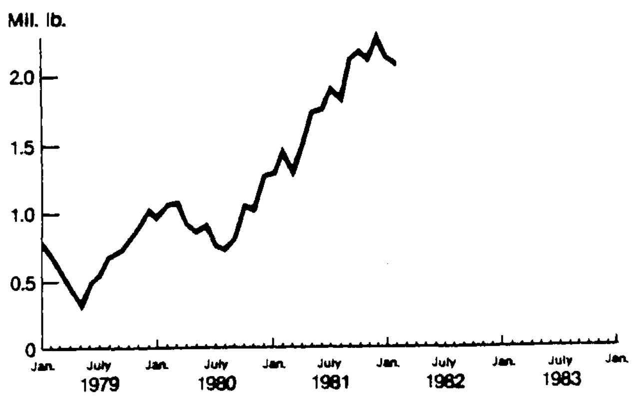
Processors' Catfish Inventory*



*Frozen, dressed weight stocks at end of the month.

USDA Neg. ERS 293-82(4)

In This Issue

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Summary

Abundant supplies of farm-raised catfish and trout characterized 1981. Catfish sales, despite a substantial rise, did not keep pace with production, resulting in a buildup in inventories and lower prices. Producer sales of trout in Idaho, where output and processing are concentrated, were down as processors began to reduce inventories. Large supplies and lower prices at the processor level pushed down farm prices for trout.

During 1981, catfish producers in 15 surveyed States harvested 88 million pounds of foodsize fish—Mississippi produced 60 million (68 percent). The primary sales outlets were processors, who handled 72 million pounds (82 percent). The average farm price was 68 cents a pound, down from 70 cents in 1980. California producers received the highest price—an average $1.47 a pound—while Alabama farmers got the lowest—61 cents. The value of producers' sales of fry/fingerling, stocker, and foodsize fish totaled $71.7 million, which didn't cover cash expenditures of $84 million. Producers carried much larger inventories on January 1, 1982, than on February 1, 1981—contributing to the failure of revenues to cover cash expenses. However, with increased 1982 sales likely to result from large inventories, the value of sales may rise above expenses.

On January 1, there were 987 commercial catfish farms in surveyed States, up from 955 a year earlier. Mississippi, the largest producer, gained 70 for a total of 280.

Catfish processors increased total sales by 27 percent in 1981, with the sharpest advances in the frozen market. Aggressive marketing and lower prices account for the gains. Constrained prices point to continued rising sales in 1982.

Processors paid catfish farmers an average 64 cents a pound (live weight) in 1981. Prices hit a record 70 cents during May but declined through the second half of the year to a low of 56 cents in December. In February of this year, the average was 59 cents. The lower prices reflect the current oversupply, which is expected to continue at least through 1982.

Trout producers in 14 surveyed States sold 43 million pounds of foodsize fish during September 1, 1980-August 31, 1981—11 percent below calendar 1980. Producer sales in Idaho totaled 37 million pounds, and virtually all sales went to processors. The average price received by Idaho farmers declined from calendar 1980's 68 cents a pound to 61 cents during the 1980/81 marketing year. The industry's reduction of frozen stocks contributed to the decline.

Trout production in other States is mainly for fresh market sales. This small portion of total sales jumped 20 percent from 1980, to 6.3 million pounds during 1980/81. Of all States surveyed, Idaho, Washington, and Wisconsin showed decreases in producer prices, while the others saw increases.

Producer revenues from trout sales totaled $38.5 million, while cash expenditures were $33 million. The total

number of U.S. operations increased from 199 in August 1980 to 263 in September 1981, while the number of farms in Idaho declined almost 50 percent. Most of the reduction occurred in small farms rather than large raceway operations.

Farm-raised crawfish production in 1981/82 (November-June) will probably equal or surpass last year's estimated 31 to 34 million pounds. Rains since December 1981 should result in a delayed wild harvest, which is expected to be much higher than the poor, drought-reduced ones of the previous 2 years. This will likely bring down the price of farm-raised production. An average 68 to 70 cents a pound is predicted for crawfish prices in Louisiana, down from the high 80 to 85 cents in 1980/81. Acreage in the main producing States is approximately 60,000 in Louisiana, 5,000 in Texas, and 640 in Mississippi. Producer prices are higher in Texas and Mississippi—about $1.50 and $1.10, respectively.

NOTICE TO READERS

The *Statistical Reporting Service* has eliminated or curtailed several reports because of current and expected budget limitations. Two reports concerning farm-raised catfish and the report on trout production are among these reports affected. SRS plans to work with commodity groups and local and state agencies to re-establish some of these data series if possible. However, continuation of ERS's analysis of the fresh-water fish industry is not possible without these data. Therefore, the future of this report is quite uncertain at this time.

CATFISH

Situation

Processors' Output Up 14 Percent in 1981

Catfish producers in 15 surveyed States reported selling 71.8 million pounds (live weight) to processors in 1981, compared with 63.3 million in 1980. Ten processors that handle most of the catfish in the United States took 60.5 million pounds, up 29 percent from 1980. The addition of two new southern plants created a considerable rise in processing capacity, starting in the second quarter. Monthly average output rose from 3.9 million pounds in 1980 to 5 million in 1981 (table 2). The increase in catfish production, resulting from continued acreage expansion, went mostly to the processing market. However, increased sales of foodsize fish have failed to keep up with expanding production. Live hauling increased only 5 percent, and sales for consumer and fee/recreational markets declined.

Table 1—Selected retail price indices

Item	Index base	Year 1980	Year 1981	Change from year earlier	Feb. 1982
					Percent
Consumer Price Index	1967=100	246.8	272.2	10.3	283.4
All food	1967=100	254.6	274.6	7.9	283.3
Fish and seafood	1967=100	330.0	357.7	8.4	373.8
Canned	12/77=100	127.9	139.6	9.1	140.9
Fresh and frozen	12/77=100	124.5	134.2	7.8	143.2
Food-away-from-home	1967=100	266.9	291.0	9.0	301.2
Beef and veal	1967=100	270.3	272.6	0.9	271.5
Pork	1967=100	209.1	228.6	9.3	238.9
Poultry	1967=100	190.8	198.6	4.1	195.7

Table 2—Farm-raised catfish processed (total live weight) by ten leading processors

Month	1980	1981	1982	Change from year earlier 1981	Change from year earlier 1982
	Thousand pounds			*Percent*	
January	3,530	3,772	5,448	+6.9	+44.4
February	4,892	4,844	7,848	−1.0	+62.0
March	4,060	4,490		+10.6	
April	3,829	5,973		+56.0	
May		4,046	5,385		+33.1
June		3,596	4,356		+21.1
July		3,092	5,379		+74.0
August	4,116	5,176		+25.8	
September	3,817	5,711		+49.6	
October	4,310	5,154		+19.6	
November	3,631	4,757		+31.0	
December	3,546	5,495		+55.0	
Annual	46,464	60,492		+30.2	

Processor Sales Increased 27 Percent in 1981.

Surveyed catfish processors sold 35.1 million pounds (dressed weight) of catfish in 1981, compared with 27.8 million in 1980 (table 3). In fact, the seasonal increase in sales during the first quarter of the year was overshadowed by record sales in subsequent quarters. Monthly sales topped the 3-million-pound mark for the first time in 1981. An average 2.9 million pounds were sold each month—26 percent above 1980.

Sales of frozen catfish continued to increase relative to those for ice pack. The amount of frozen fish sold last year made up 48 percent of total processor sales, compared with 40 percent in 1980. Total sales of processed catfish rose 27 percent in 1981—not enough to offset production increases—and a buildup in processed inventories occurred.

In 1981, the monthly ending inventory exceeded 1980 levels for every month (table 4). At the end of 1981, processor inventories totaled 2.3 million pounds, 82 percent higher than a year earlier. The first-quarter inventory increased to 1.3 million pounds, 20 percent over 1980 levels. The second and third quarters' ending inventories were 1.8 and 2.1 million pounds, respectively.

Inventory development by new processing firms and the large production rise primarily contributed to the significant increase in catfish stocks. However, increased sales also generally require larger stocks to meet trade requirements.

Imports Down

Catfish imports totaled 9.6 million pounds, more than 5 million less than in 1980 (table 5). Almost two-thirds of 1981 imports occurred in the first half of the year. Imports in December, at 0.2 million pounds, were the lowest in any month since May 1972.

Imports, which sell at a lower price than domestically raised catfish, increased rapidly in the late 1970's in response to increased U.S. demand for catfish and wholesalers' and retailers' need for a steady supply. However, increased domestic supplies of frozen U.S. farm-raised production and lower domestic prices have been the primary factors resulting in lower imports.

Producer Prices Lower in Response to Higher Production and Inventory

Producer prices in 15 surveyed States averaged 68 cents a pound during 1981, down 2 cents from 1980. Prices were lowest for States selling primarily for the processing market, such as Mississippi, Alabama, and (to a lesser extent) Arkansas. The average price was lowest in Alabama—61 cents a pound—and highest in California—$1.47 (table 8). Prices in all States except California were lower in 1981 than in 1980. For California, the price increased 10 cents—well above the national average of 68 cents—as sales declined slightly. The poor fingerling production of 1980 and the prohibition of transporting live catfish into the State undoubtedly contributed to the higher prices. Most sales were to retailers and fee/recreational outlets.

Table 3—Processor sales of catfish, ice pack, frozen, and total (dressed weight)

Month	Ice pack			Frozen			Total[1]		
	1980	1981	1982	1980	1981	1982	1980	1981	1982
	Thousand pounds								
January	1,265	1,213	1,828	933	1,055	1,512	2,198	2,269	3,340
February	1,680	1,508	2,651	1,134	1,230	2,075	2,814	2,738	4,726
March	1,550	1,673		985	1,454		2,535	3,127	
April	1,424	1,710		1,083	1,638		2,507	3,348	
May	1,398	1,583		1,089	1,372		2,487	2,955	
June	1,234	906		855	1,513		2,089	2,419	
July	1,110	1,462		1,144	1,553		2,254	3,015	
August	1,101	1,693		1,223	1,517		2,324	3,209	
September	1,093	1,664		1,090	1,541		2,183	3,205	
October	1,215	1,693		1,148	1,337		2,363	3,030	
November	1,206	1,625		1,020	1,157		2,226	2,782	
December	883	1,647		898	1,393		1,781	3,040	
Annual	15,159	18,377		12,602	16,760		27,761	35,137	

[1]Totals may not add because of rounding.

Table 4—Processors' total dressed-weight catfish stocks, end of month

Month	1981	1982	Change from year earlier 1981	1982
	Thousand pounds		*Percent*	
January	1,278.7	2,120.4	+31.9	+65.8
February	1,435.5	2,080.3	+34.7	+44.9
March	1,283.3		+19.8	
April	1,501.8		+65.5	
May	1,729.9		+101.5	
June	1,774.2		+93.4	
July	1,901.7		+148.2	
August	1,830.6		+146.9	
September	2,117.0		+164.4	
October	2,180.9		+105.7	
November	2,114.7		+107.3	
December	2,288.0		+81.8	

Table 5—Imports of catfish and trout

Month	Catfish[1]			Trout[2]		
	1980	1981	1982	1980	1981	1982
	Thousand pounds					
January	1,309	1,003	584	0	14	9
February	1,511	1,119	337	*	14	10
March	1,170	1,044		1	39	
April	1,045	1,434		12	15	
May	1,108	982		2	27	
June	2,225	521		13	53	
July	1,110	629		11	10	
August	2,430	1,011		3	9	
September	1,425	569		7	23	
October	284	597		13	19	
November	863	471		13	6	
December	443	239		9	9	
Annual[3]	14,922	9,621		82	239	

[1]Catfish: Filleted, fresh, chilled, or frozen; TSUSA code 110.7024. [2]Fresh- water trout: Fresh or frozen whole, beheaded, but not scaled; TSUSA code 110.1550. [3]Totals may not add because of rounding. ess than 500 pounds. [4]Data collected by U.S. Bureau of Census.

Table 6—Prices paid to producers by processors for farm-raised catfish (harvested, at plant site)

Month	1980	1981	1982
	Dollars per pound		
January	.65	.64	.57
February	.69	.64	.59
March	.69	.67	
April	.69	.69	
May	.69	.70	
June	.68	.69	
July	.69	.65	
August	.68	.63	
September	.67	.60	
October	.66	.60	
November	.67	.57	
December	.65	.56	
Annual6[1]	.676	.637	

[1]Weighted average price.

Prices paid to all catfish producers by processors averaged 63.7 cents a pound in 1981 (table 6). Second-quarter demand by processors was strong, partly because of the opening of a new plant in the Mississippi Delta. Competition for the available supply resulted in a record price of 70 cents a pound in May. However, prices declined throughout the remainder of 1981. December's price, 56 cents, was the lowest since the beginning of 1979. Still, the average monthly price rose in the first 2 months of 1982, to an average 59 cents in February.

Processors' Wholesale Prices Decline in the Second Half of 1981

The weighted-average price received by processors for all catfish (ice pack and frozen) in 1981 was $1.68 a pound (table 7). This is a 2-cent increase from 1980. Monthly wholesale prices through August 1981 gained as much as 7-1/2 cents over a year earlier. During January-August, processors received an average $1.72 a pound. However, price declines in the second half of the

Table 7—Prices received by processors for catfish (f.o.b. plant)

Month	Ice pack			Frozen		
	1980	1981	1872	1980	1981	1982
	Dollars per pound					
January	1.53	1.61	1.47	1.61	1.76	1.63
February	1.56	1.60	1.49	1.69	1.76	1.62
March	1.61	1.63		1.73	1.85	
April	1.61	1.66		1.74	1.78	
May	1.63	1.65		1.76	1.83	
June	1.62	1.67		1.75	1.75	
July	1.63	1.67		1.76	1.82	
August	1.62	1.65		1.75	1.79	
September	1.58	1.58		1.71	1.72	
October	1.62	1.54		1.72	1.69	
November	1.62	1.49		1.75	1.68	
December	1.63	1.48		1.75	1.65	
Annual[1]	1.60	1.60		1.73	1.76	

[1]Weighted average price.

year brought down the yearly average. In January of this year, the price dropped to a low of $1.54 a pound before rising 1 cent in February. Accumulated processed and live stocks have forced wholesale and farm prices lower as the larger supplies are worked off. While sales in the last 4 months of the year increased 40 percent over 1980, the price declined only an average of 4 percent.

The average price of frozen catfish in 1981 was higher than in 1980, while prices for ice-pack catfish were unchanged. In March, the price of frozen catfish reached a record-high $1.85 a pound, and prices remained above year-earlier levels through September. The price declined to $1.65 a pound at the end of the year and dropped further to $1.62 by February. The average price for 1981 was $1.76 a pound.

The wholesale price of ice-pack catfish averaged $1.60 a pound in 1981. Similar to frozen sales, prices increased through the third quarter, then fell to below 1980 levels. In 1982, the low January price of $1.47 a pound was followed by $1.49 in February.

Farmers Sell 88 Million Pounds of Catfish in 1981

Catfish producers in 15 surveyed States reported a 14-percent rise in 1981 sales, to 88 million pounds of foodsize catfish, compared with 77 million in 1980 (table 8). This increase is because of expanded production in the main producing States, rather than the addition of five new States to the survey. Sales in two States, California and Georgia, declined slightly, while all others increased. Arkansas and Mississippi reported substantial sales increases—4.5 and 4 million pounds (16 and 7 percent), respectively.

Mississippi, Alabama, and Arkansas accounted for 94 percent of foodsize sales in 1981. Almost 72 million pounds, or four-fifths of producers' sales, were to processors (table 9). The live haul market was second with almost 7 percent. Producer sales to retailers increased dramatically in 1981. Although too small to be included as a separate category in 1980, it was the third largest market in 1981—3.6 million pounds or 4 percent of sales.

The value of producers' sales of all catfish (foodsize, stocker, and fry/fingerling) totaled $71.7 million during 1981 (table 10). Mississippi producers had the largest value of sales, $44.6 million, while farmers in Arkansas and Alabama received $10.1 million and $7.2 million, respectively.

Farm Expenditures Exceed Revenues in 1981

Producer expenditures in the catfish industry totaled $84.1 million in 1981. Feed, at $41 million, was the largest component of input purchases (table 11). The next three largest categories—fish for stocking, equipment purchases, and labor—accounted for an additional 25 percent. Total revenues in 1981 equaled just over $71.1 million, resulting in a net cash loss for producers. New entrants and expansion by established producers contributed to increased capital costs in the industry. Revenues did not cover costs because of 1981's increased production and the large accumulation of producer-held inventories.

Total revenue failed to cover cash expenditures at the farm level by 12.4 million dollars (table 12). An inven-

Table 8—Catfish producers: Foodsize fish sales and prices received, January 1-December 31, 1980-81, selected States

State	Foodsize fish sales[1]		Percent of total		Percent per pound	
	1980	1981	1980	1981	1980	1981
	Thousand pounds		*Percent*		*Dollars*	
Alabama	8,459	9,568	11	11	.65	.61
Arkansas	8,273	12,821	11	15	.72	.71
California	959	911	1	1	1.37	1.47
Georgia	201	191	*	*	1.01	1.00
Louisiana	490	839	1	1	.86	.76
Mississippi	56,377	60,333	74	69	.68	.65
Missouri	473	1,074	*	1	1.00	.95
Tennessee	N.A.	252	N.A.	*	N.A.	1.04
Texas	809	968	1	1	1.31	1.18
Other[2]	640	1,154	1	1	.83	.79
Total	76,681	88,111	100	100	.70	.68

[1]Live weight. [2]Includes Idaho and Pennsylvania for January 1-December 31, 1980 data; includes Florida, Idaho, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia for January 1-Dec. 31, 1981 data. N.A. = Not available. *Less than .5 percent.

Table 9—Producer sales of foodsize catfish and trout by sales outlets, United States

Outlet	Catfish				Trout	
	Jan. 1, 1980-Dec. 31, 1980		Jan. 1, 1981-Dec. 31, 1981		Sept. 1, 1980-Aug. 31, 1981	
	Quantity sold[1]	Percent of total	Quantity sold[1]	Percent of total	Quantity sold[1]	Percent of total
	Thousand pounds	*Percent*	*Thousand pounds*	*Percent*	*Thousand pounds*	*Percent*
Processors	63,253	82	71,800	81	36,579	85
Live haul	5,640	7	5,921	7	748	2
Consumers	3,044	4	2,704	3	487	1
Fee and recreational	2,108	3	1,951	2	2,125	5
Other producers	1,229	2	1,812	2	508	1
Government agencies	7	*	49	*	18	*
Retailers	N.A.	N.A.	3,602	4	2,106	5
Other sources	1,340	2	272	*	302	1
Total	76,681	100	88,111	100	42,873	100

[1]Live weight. N.A. = Not available. * = Less than .5 percent

Table 10—Value of producers' sales: Catfish 1981, trout Sept. 1, 1980-Aug. 31, 1981

Type	Catfish	Trout
	Thousand dollars	
Stocker	2,815	3,660
Broodfish	227	N.A.
Eggs	N.A.	1,392
Fry/fingerling	9,150	N.A.
Foodsize	59,749	33,435
Total	71,941	38,487

N.A. = Not available.

Table 11—Catfish farm expenditures, sales, and returns, 1981

Item	1981
	Thousand dollars
Expenditures	84,122
Feed	41,431
Fish for stocking	7,514
Equipment purchases	6,232
Labor	7,654
Other	21,291
Total sales	71,714
Returns	−12,408

Table 12—Catfish farm sales, expenditures, 1981

State	Expenditures	Total sales
	Thousand dollars	
Alabama	7,345	7,218
Arkansas	9,695	10,232
California	1,863	1,558
Georgia	717	788
Louisiana	1,287	753
Mississippi	60,344	44,575
Missouri	553	2,856
Tennessee	181	349
Texas	1,530	2,035
Other	607	1,350
Total	84,122	71,714

tory buildup of a large number of heavier foodsize fish in the major production States has further increased expenditures. The inventory of foodsize fish doubled between February 1, 1981, and January 1, 1982, an increase of 64.8 million pounds (table 13). These fish, which will bring in revenue in 1982, incurred most of their production costs in 1981. The revenue generated from sales of these fish, which will probably be processed before summer, is difficult to estimate. Orderly marketings and good sales will be necessary to avoid further price declines.

Operations and Acreage Increase

There were 987 catfish operations in surveyed States on January 1, 1982, up from the 955 recorded 11 months earlier (table 14). However, of the nine largest States, six reported a decrease in the number of farms. On the other hand, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee each gained farms. Mississippi—the largest and fastest growing producer—had 70 new operations during 1981, for a total of 280.

Water acreage devoted to catfish production increased by 17 percent to 63,050 between February 1, 1981, and January 1, 1982. Mississippi accounts for 63 percent of the total.

Outlook

As of January 1, there were 124.5 million pounds of foodsize fish held in ponds, 40 percent more than in 1981. However, winter kill may bring this number down by as much as 5 percent. Meanwhile, the average weight of catfish in ponds increased from .81 pound in February 1981 to 1.2 on January 1, 1982, underscoring the degree to which supply gains have outpaced sales increases over the past year. By summer, this supply should be processed. In addition to the large accumulation of foodsize fish, the number of fry/fingerlings, which will determine the harvest this fall and next spring, was 55 percent larger than a year ago at the beginning of this year. Pond acreage, a final supply factor, increased by over 10,000 in 1981, mainly in the Mississippi Delta. Consequently, the volume of producer sales in the first half of 1982 must increase substantially.

Table 13—Catfish: Producers' inventory of broodfish, fry/fingerlings/stockers, and foodsize fish (February 1, 1981, and January 1, 1982)

Type	Number		Live weight		Average weight	
	Feb. 1, 1981	Jan. 1, 1982	Feb. 1, 1871	Jan. 1, 1982	Feb. 1, 1981	Jan. 1, 1982
	Thousands		*Thousands pounds*		*Pounds*	
Broodfish						
United States[1]	765	858	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Three States[2]	657	654	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Mississippi	410	465	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Fry/fingerling/stocker						
United States[1]	277,361	525,947	11,177	30,824	N.A.	N.A.
Three States[2]	259,858	495,418	9,865	29,305	N.A.	N.A.
Mississippi	193,307	420,042	7,101	25,073	N.A.	N.A.
Foodsize						
United States[1]	73,530	104,181	59,763	124,531	.81	1.20
Three States[2]	70,517	100,152	56,176	119,587	.90	1.20
Mississippi	57,787	81,328	44,681	96,963	.77	1.19

[1]15 surveyed States. [1]Includes Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

N.A. = Not available.

Table 14—Catfish: Number of operations, water acreage, and average size per operation, February 1 and January 1, 1982

State	Total operations		Percent of total		Water surface		Percent of total		Average size per operation	
	Feb. 1, 1981	Jan. 1, 1982	Feb. 1, 1981	Jan. 1, 1982	Feb. 1, 1981	Jan. 1, 1982	Feb. 1, 1981	Jan. 1 1982	1981	Feb. 1, 1982
	Number		*Percent*		*Acres*		*Percent*		*Acres*	
Alabama	270	250	28	25	8,450	8,200	13	11	31	33
Arkansas	140	130	15	13	7,880	9,310	13	13	56	72
California	65	50	7	5	1,720	1,330	3	2	26	27
Georgia	35	30	4	3	1,250	980	2	1	36	33
Louisiana	30	20	3	2	820	790	1	1	27	40
Mississippi	210	280	22	28	40,020	49,540	63	67	191	177
Missouri	70	70	7	7	930	1,130	1	2	13	16
Tennessee	N.A.	16	N.A.	2	N.A.	260	N.A.	*	N.A.	16
Texas	130	115	14	12	1,590	1,550	3	2	12	13
Other[1]	5	26	*	3	390	750	1	1	78	29
Total	955	987	100	100	63,050	73,840	100	100	66	75

[1]Includes Florida, Idaho, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. N.A. = Not available. * Less than .5 percent.

Stocking rates for second-half 1982 production may be delayed until the large supplies of overwintered fish are worked down.

Lower feed costs in 1982 should help ease producer cash flow problems. Feed costs, which account for over 50 percent of operating expenses, are expected to average between $250 to $260 a ton, bulk, this year in Mississippi, compared with an average $287 in 1981. However, prices outside the major producing area could be as much as $120 higher. Prices for the primary feed ingredients—corn, soybean meal, and fishmeal—have all declined from a year ago. April prices for bulk catfish feed at Delta feed mills were quoted at $250 to $255 a ton.

The mid-March U.S. farm price of corn averaged $2.41 a bushel, 22 percent lower than March 1981's $3.10. Soybean meal prices at Decatur, the largest component of the feed mix, averaged about 15 percent lower this April than the $218 a ton recorded in April 1981. The January price of Menhaden fishmeal was $365 a ton, $100 lower than a year earlier.

Supply adjustments in the catfish industry are expected to occur gradually. The current surplus and resulting lower prices will tend to slow expansion in the industry. Producer prices have not been so low that established producers are discouraged from expanding. But, the larger expenditures required to maintain the inventory until it's processed, as well as likely lower prices, will continue to place financial pressures on producers because of negative cash flow. Producers still paying off capital investments or refinancing loans will be under greater pressure. These factors could hasten production adjustments if sales slacken in the coming year.

Historically, the farm-raised catfish industry generated increased sales to market larger production. However, while sales continue to rise, markets have not expanded fast enough to absorb the current large supply. Furthermore, processors are unwilling to purchase quantities much over their needs because of high carrying costs. While a record 60.1 million pounds were processed in the United States in 1981, processing capacity in Mississippi alone is approximately 85 million pounds.

Purchases by processors of farm-raised catfish in the first 2 months of 1982 remained high. Meanwhile, the amount of catfish processed reached a record 7.8 million pounds in February, 66 percent more than a year earlier. Two more processing plants are opening this year, which may help to ease farm inventory problems, but may put more pressure on processed prices.

Sales in other markets increased in 1981, particularly retail sales. Producers with large inventories have had to pursue all markets more aggressively, and producer groups have been active in promoting farm-raised catfish. The emphasis has been on widening the geographic area of consumption.

Prices paid to producers by processors may have bottomed out with the December low of 56 cents a pound. However, the price rose modestly in both January and February. Nevertheless, the large supply of market-ready fish now in ponds will likely keep downward pressure on prices. Without further increases in demand, prices in 1982 will likely average lower than in 1981. While the new processing plants will tend to increase competition for the available catfish, the large stocks in ponds suggest that this additional demand may have negligible effect on producer prices.

TROUT

Situation

Producers in 14 surveyed States reported sales of 42.9 million pounds—36.6 million from Idaho—during September 1, 1980-August 31, 1981 (table 9). This figure is 11 percent below the amount reported for calendar 1980. Producer sales in Idaho, where the trout processing industry is concentrated, declined over 6 million pounds. Idaho producer-processors have not been buying trout from small farmers in the area as they attempt to reduce frozen inventories. From a high of 3.3 million pounds held in April, only 868,000 were still in inventory by the end of the year. Total industry trout holdings, as reported by the National Marine Fisheries Service, had been averaging 200,000 pounds higher in 1981 than in the previous 3 years.

Burdensome supplies, combined with the current economic slump, have depressed prices for processed trout. Trout producers in Idaho received an average of 61 cents a pound during the 1980/81 marketing year, down from the calendar 1980 average of 68 cents.

Although prices paid in Idaho are relatively low, trout farmers in other areas of the country have not been as badly hurt (see table 15). Prices are traditionally higher in these States, and in 1980 almost all producers experienced a price increase. The markets for these producers are heavily weighted towards fee/recreational, retail, and live hauling. During 1980/81, over 6 million pounds of foodsize trout were sold by producers outside of Idaho. Also, the number of farms outside of Idaho increased by 77 to 245 operations. Prices received by producers ranged from $1.34 a pound in North Carolina to $2.46 in Pennsylvania.

In a survey covering September 1, 1980, to August 31, 1981, producer expenditures totaled $33.1 million. Purchased feed accounted for the largest share—$20 million. Over the same period, producer sales of all trout (eggs, stocker, and foodsize) equaled $38.5 million. Cash costs were covered in all regions of production (table 16), with the Western States averaging the highest cash returns per operation. This region, which includes Idaho, Washington, and California, has on the whole experienced a decline of sales and prices. Large capital investments and high overhead costs are associated with the raceway systems used extensively in Idaho. Consequently, while returns above cash costs appear favorable, returns to capital investment and replacement funds are minimal.

Outlook

The Idaho trout industry apparently is in a period of transition. Dominated by four large producer-processors, it began to accumulate frozen stocks in the late seventies because the demand did not meet supplies at current prices. With no strong rise in demand and high interest rates increasing the inventory cost, these stocks became burdensome. To reduce supplies, contracts with local farmers growing pond-raised trout were terminated. A year ago, the frozen inventory, some of it 1 to 2 years old, was put on the market, depressing prices. One processor was bought up by another, leaving three main Idaho processors, with one of the remaining three in bankruptcy proceedings.

Processed trout production during 1981/82 is forecast to be no more than 25 million pounds. Current production is not being held in inventory and may put more downward pressure on prices.

The frozen inventory has been reduced to just under 900,000 pounds at the beginning of the year. By contrast, 3 million pounds were held from April to July of last year. Prices are recovering from the large inventory reduction, but future gains will depend on the strength of the general economic recovery and the degree of supply adjustments.

Prices in other areas of the country are less affected by events in the processed market. With the exception of Idaho, producer prices on the whole increased in 1981. Higher prices are expected to encourage some expansion in production in these fresh-market areas.

CRAWFISH

Situation

Crawfish acreage in Louisiana is estimated at over 60,000 this year. Ponds used exclusively for crawfish production can produce 1,000 pounds per acre a year with good management. Double cropping with rice, estimated in 1980 at 22,000 to 23,000 acres, yields 400 to 500 pounds per acre. This year's production in Louisiana will probably equal or better last year's estimate of 28 to 30 million pounds. Texas has 5,000 acres in production, with average yield of 800 pounds per acre. Production may reach 4 million pounds in 1981/82 (November-June). Mississippi has increased its production area from 159 acres at the end of 1980 to 640 in December 1981.

The 1982 harvest of wild crawfish was delayed until early April because of a late thaw. Nevertheless, the

Table 15—Trout: Number of operations, September 1, 1981; foodsize fish sales and prices, September 1, 1980-August 31, 1981; selected States

State	Total operations		Foodsize fish sales[1]	Percent of total	Price per pound
	Aug. 1, 1980	Sept. 1, 1981			
	Number	*Number*	*Thousand pounds*	*Percent*	*Dollars*
California	32	30	1,446	3	1.77
Georgia	11	11	354	1	1.55
Idaho	31	18	36,612	85	.61
Missouri	8	8	1,054	2	2.00
New York	N.A.	18	16	*	2.38
North Carolina	N.A.	45	1,100	3	1.34
Pennsylvania	39	40	866	2	2.46
Tennessee	N.A.	8	101	*	1.51
Virginia	N.A.	16	360	1	1.55
Washington	42	30	385	1	1.41
Wisconsin	28	30	392	1	1.71
Other[2]	8	9	187	1	1.95
Total	199	263	42,873	100	.78

[1]Live weight. [2]Includes Alabama and Arkansas for Aug. 1, 1980 data; includes Alabama, Arkansas, and South Carolina for Sept. 1, 1981 data. N.A. = Not available. * Less than .5 percent.

Table 16—Trout: Sales, expenditures, Sept. 1, 1980-Aug. 31, 1981

Total input expenditures	Total sales	Returns	returns per farm	Average Feed expenditures	
			Thousand dollars		
North	5,428	6,170	742	8.63	1,670
South	3,351	3,689	338	6.26	1,195
West	24,309	28,628	4,319	47.46	17,248
Total	33,088	38,487	5,399	23.37	20,113

wild supply is expected to be larger than the extremely poor harvests of the previous 2 years, but it is too early to tell how large the total supply will be. Louisiana farmers were receiving 80 to 85 cents a pound early this winter, but the price paid by processors has dropped to 65 to 70 cents and may go lower. The average price paid by processors over the season is expected to stay between 68 and 70 cents, compared with 80 to 85 cents last year. There are approximately 40 Louisiana firms that buy crawfish for processing, but they also sell them live. Up to 80 percent of production may be sold live.

The average farm price in Texas is $1.50 a pound, pondside. Brokers are offering $1.00 to $1.25 and are selling by the truckload for $1.25. Sales have expanded to include out-of-State buyers as far away as Colorado and Utah.

Crawfish in Mississippi are selling for $1.10 a pound at the farm. Quantity purchases (over 500 pounds) average 90 cents, and frozen tails are selling at $7.50 a pound.

Outlook

Crawfish production has been profitable for the past few years. With lower prices for major field crops, raising crawfish has become very popular as an additional enterprise. Rice farms—with existing levees, water systems, and food supplies (rice stubble)—are good candidates for raising crawfish.

Because of favorable returns in the last few years, more acreage expansion is expected. However, local markets may become saturated, and sales in new markets would probably necessitate processing. The infrastructure for this industry is not well developed. There is little processing capacity outside of Louisiana. Mississippi's production is only sold locally at this point, while Texas producers have been reluctant to sell to jobbers or brokers because of the lower price offered. As production increases (Texas anticipates a doubling of acreage next year), marketing and promotional activities will have to expand to prevent precipitous price drops.

Table A--Catfish: Round weight processed, 1969-1982 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 3/
						Thousand pounds							
1969	169	439	434	194	23	52	104	193	273	349	421	550	3,201
1970	689	1,092	520	177	97	149	221	241	348	723	715	769	5,741
1971	926	1,154	1,386	897	487	556	716	918	1,008	1,106	1,097	1,006	11,257
1972	1,320	1,520	2,134	1,487	1,531	1,365	1,180	1,638	1,483	1,673	1,781	1,221	18,331
1973	2,128	2,257	2,244	1,388	1,259	1,324	1,646	1,773	1,642	1,690	1,249	1,129	19,731
1974	1,267	1,418	1,734	1,355	1,395	1,436	1,304	1,541	1,277	1,530	1,324	1,364	16,944
1975	1,664	1,729	1,504	1,011	790	1,481	1,426	1,369	1,339	1,402	1,100	1,325	16,140
1976	1,785	1,711	2,094	1,397	1,037	1,471	1,458	1,763	1,904	1,545	1,500	1,312	18,978
1977	1,344	2,278	1,901	1,749	1,810	1,901	1,965	2,192	1,986	1,766	1,661	1,573	22,125
1978	1,598	2,361	2,951	2,510	2,729	2,189	2,310	3,186	2,607	2,647	2,935	2,154	30,179
1979	3,032	3,929	4,010	3,025	3,716	3,081	3,138	3,978	3,417	3,531	3,000	2,779	40,636
1980	3,530	4,892	4,060	3,829	4,045	3,596	3,092	4,116	3,817	4,310	3,631	3,546	46,464
1981	3,772	4,737	4,390	5,973	5,393	4,180	5,379	5,176	5,714	5,154	4,765	5,495	60,128
1982	5,448	7,848											

1/ Total live weight of fish delivered for processing.

2/ Data for 1969-73 originally reported as dressed weight; used a conversion factor of 1.67 to get round weight.

3/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table B--Catfish sold by processors, 1970-82: Total 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 3/
						Thousand pounds							
1970	—	373.1	145.3	202.4	181.7	353.3	216.6	190.8	257.5	291.1	282.8	293.7	4/ 2,788.4
1971	596.3	884.4	750.3	959.7	467.8	455.9	427.2	436.6	571.4	494.8	630.2	544.9	7,219.5
1972	682.3	936.7	1,385.5	852.8	976.8	879.3	797.0	1,058.6	953.0	991.0	881.1	680.5	11,057.6
1973	1,450.5	1,446.1	1,518.8	979.3	835.1	755.8	916.7	726.4	887.4	1,012.5	806.4	609.3	11,944.1
1974	805.5	935.9	1,014.6	983.5	870.7	934.8	958.9	1,054.9	787.3	967.3	767.1	826.5	10,906.9
1975	1,060.8	1,227.1	1,209.7	840.0	553.7	794.1	793.5	771.7	796.7	800.9	700.3	768.6	10,317.2
1976	990.2	984.8	1,320.1	922.3	722.0	982.2	912.5	1,087.7	1,138.8	986.0	877.4	813.8	11,737.7
1977	966.6	1,369.1	1,290.0	1,115.6	1,081.7	1,077.9	1,098.8	1,328.3	1,150.8	1,025.8	965.2	778.0	13,247.7
1978	1,048.1	1,472.5	1,831.4	1,527.6	1,741.9	1,330.5	1,471.4	2,003.4	1,550.2	1,617.8	1,739.0	1,179.4	18,513.2
1979	1,828.8	2,443.2	2,529.8	1,943.1	2,319.2	1,731.2	1,839.1	2,320.5	2,029.8	2,058.3	1,684.4	1,602.3	24,329.7
1980	2,198	2,814	2,535	2,507	2,487	2,089	2,254	2,324	2,183	2,363	2,226	1,781	27,761
1981	2,269	2,738	3,127	3,348	2,955	2,419	3,015	3,209	3,205	3,030	2,782	3,040	35,137
1982	3,340	4,726											

1/ Dressed weight.

2/ Data for 1970-73 are as published by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for 1974-79, data are sum of individual processors' sales as reported to NMFS.

3/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

4/ 11-month total: January data not available.

Table C—Catfish sold by processors, 1974-82: Ice pack 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 3/
						Thousand pounds							
1974	491.6	537.4	614.1	604.8	501.4	566.6	507.4	497.9	428.3	579.2	431.5	524.8	6,284.9
1975	635.2	753.2	762.3	495.2	359.1	407.9	456.8	430.1	439.9	532.8	430.6	502.1	6,205.3
1976	629.5	661.4	857.7	601.7	479.5	614.3	505.6	636.2	635.4	644.7	604.5	586.6	7,457.1
1977	632.5	897.7	784.4	755.8	690.7	622.4	653.6	772.2	686.5	606.4	593.0	469.5	8,164.7
1978	603.5	936.3	1,136.8	904.5	990.3	818.1	899.2	1,194.2	960.9	1,041.2	1,034.4	767.2	11,286.4
1979	1,223.1	1,518.9	1,599.2	1,190.9	1,215.7	992.5	1,140.2	1,269.3	1,245.8	1,208.8	1,038.3	941.7	14,584.3
1980	1,265	1,680	1,550	1,424	1,398	1,234	1,110	1,101	1,093	1,215	1,206	883	15,159
1981	1,113	1,508	1,673	1,710	1,583	906	1,462	1,693	1,664	1,693	1,625	1,647	18,377
1982	1,828	2,651											

1/ Dressed weight.

2/ For 1974-79, data are sum of individual processors' sales as reported to the NMFS.

3/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table D—Catfish sold by processors, 1974-82: Frozen 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 3/
						Thousand pounds							
1974	313.9	398.5	400.5	378.7	369.3	368.2	451.5	557.0	359.0	388.1	335.6	301.7	4,622.0
1975	425.6	474.0	447.8	344.8	194.6	386.2	336.7	341.6	356.7	268.1	269.7	266.4	4,111.8
1976	360.7	323.4	462.4	320.5	242.5	367.9	406.9	451.5	503.4	341.3	272.9	227.3	4,280.7
1977	334.1	471.4	505.6	359.8	391.0	455.4	445.1	556.2	464.3	419.4	372.2	308.5	5,083.0
1978	444.6	536.2	694.6	623.2	751.6	512.4	572.2	809.2	589.3	576.6	704.6	412.2	7,226.8
1979	605.6	924.2	930.6	752.3	1,103.5	738.7	698.9	1,051.3	784.1	849.5	646.1	660.7	9,745.4
1980	933	1,134	985	1,083	1,089	855	1,144	1,223	1,090	1,148	1,020	898	12,602
1981	1,055	1,230	1,454	1,638	1,372	1,513	1,553	1,517	1,541	1,337	1,157	1,393	16,760
1982	1,512	2,075											

1/ Dressed weight.

2/ For 1974-79, data are sum of individual processors' sales as reported to the NMFS.

3/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table E--Catfish: Processors' frozen inventory, end of month, 1969-82 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Thousand pounds											
1969	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	451.1	875.2
1970	1,268.9	1,549.8	1,715.6	1,619.3	1,495.9	1,232.0	1,147.9	1,101.6	1,052.4	1,194.1	1,339.3	1,506.0
1971	1,464.3	1,271.0	1,350.7	928.4	752.2	629.5	630.8	743.9	776.0	943.2	969.8	1,027.3
1972	1,135.3	1,109.0	1,018.1	1,055.5	995.3	933.2	842.7	765.1	699.9	710.7	896.1	946.5
1973	770.5	675.9	500.9	352.8	271.5	308.9	377.8	713.3	809.1	808.9	750.5	817.4
1974	866.9	690.4	729.7	652.7	648.8	457.8	551.0	582.2	564.8	606.9	654.9	649.4
1975	746.4	703.5	526.2	295.3	220.5	267.8	250.9	298.1	324.4	366.3	330.9	357.8
1976	407.4	415.2	350.1	283.6	236.7	215.3	231.6	226.1	370.8	373.3	450.6	499.9
1977	400.5	455.1	275.4	215.6	258.1	368.8	467.0	503.9	602.9	654.9	674.1	819.5
1978	732.6	715.5	710.0	696.9	623.8	677.2	619.9	654.4	724.2	721.7	741.7	816.1
1979	790.4	691.4	563.6	448.3	334.7	468.0	532.1	681.0	731.3	801.8	903.2	1,026.5
1980	969.6	1,065.0	1,070.9	907.3	858.3	917.2	766.1	741.4	800.6	1,060.1	1,020.0	1,259.9
1981	1,278.7	1,435.5	1,283.8	1,501.8	1,729.9	1,774.2	1,901.7	1,830.6	2,117.0	2,180.9	2,114.7	2,288.0
1982	2,120.4	2,080.3										

1/ Dressed weight.

Table F--Prices paid to producers for farm-raised catfish by processors, 1969-82 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average 2/
	Cents per pound												
1969 3/	37.0	37.0	37.0	37.0	37.5	37.5	40.0	40.0	40.0	35.3	35.3	35.3	6/37.4
1970 4/	35.5	34.6	34.7	35.5	37.6	36.7	35.4	35.8	34.0	32.3	31.2	31.1	33.8
1971 4/	30.4	30.1	31.7	32.9	33.2	34.6	33.6	33.3	33.2	32.7	32.7	33.1	32.4
1972 4/	32.2	32.1	33.1	33.1	34.2	34.5	34.1	34.3	33.2	32.6	32.6	33.3	33.2
1973 4/	33.9	35.6	40.6	45.0	48.3	48.6	49.6	49.8	49.5	47.7	46.5	46.4	44.3
1974 4/	46.4	46.4	45.9	46.6	46.5	46.3	45.9	45.2	45.2	45.5	45.6	46.0	45.9
1975 4/	45.8	46.5	46.3	48.5	51.6	52.0	51.7	51.9	51.6	48.6	48.1	48.2	49.1
1976 4/	48.7	48.7	49.3	51.3	54.5	55.1	55.7	55.5	55.8	54.1	52.9	52.7	52.7
1977 4/	52.9	55.5	59.6	60.9	60.7	61.0	61.1	58.0	56.4	56.6	56.2	56.1	58.0
1978 4/	56.1	56.0	56.1	55.8	55.6	55.8	55.9	55.7	53.3	51.6	51.3	51.6	54.5
1979 4/	52.3	55.0	58.5	60.0	60.4	62.8	64.9	64.8	64.6	64.7	64.9	64.8	61.4
1980 5/	65	69	69	69	69	68	69	68	67	66	67	65	67.6
1981 5/	64	64	67	69	70	69	65	63	60	60	58	56	63.7
1982	57	59											

1/ Harvest, at plant site.

2/ Weighted average.

3/ January-September data are midpoint of range as reported by NMFS; October and December data are calculated weighted averages; November price assumed equal to October and December.

4/ Prices are calculated weighted averages from NMFS-collected data.

5/ Reported weighted average prices.

6/ Simple average.

Table G—Prices received by processors for all catfish, 1969-82 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
						Cents per pound							
1969 3/	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	87.5	88.5	88.5	88.5	—
1970	4/85.0	85.4	85.4	84.8	83.1	81.0	82.9	84.2	85.6	81.5	80.3	79.9	83.0
1971	77.2	75.9	79.0	76.1	77.3	81.2	80.0	80.0	79.4	79.3	80.3	79.9	78.5
1972	79.4	79.2	79.8	79.6	79.1	80.5	80.2	81.0	81.2	81.4	80.7	5/82.5	80.3
1973	6/84.3	85.1	93.9	99.2	105.0	105.6	108.6	111.8	112.5	111.5	110.1	110.9	101.3
1974	107.0	108.4	107.7	107.4	107.6	107.2	107.1	105.9	107.0	107.2	107.3	105.9	107.2
1975	106.6	107.2	109.8	111.5	116.0	117.2	117.8	119.2	116.5	113.6	117.3	116.6	113.4
1976	115.6	115.2	115.0	117.4	121.4	123.3	126.3	125.6	126.2	122.8	122.5	121.5	120.9
1977	120.6	124.5	130.4	133.9	133.3	133.9	134.3	133.5	133.3	132.1	131.8	131.5	131.1
1978	131.0	130.4	131.4	131.3	131.9	131.0	130.6	130.3	131.5	129.0	129.9	129.0	130.6
1979	129.3	133.7	137.7	144.3	148.2	151.9	155.1	156.8	152.1	152.0	153.7	154.3	147.0
1980	156.4	161.2	165.7	166.6	168.7	167.3	169.6	168.8	164.5	166.9	168.0	169.1	166.0
1981	167.9	167.2	173.2	171.9	173.4	172.0	174.7	171.1	164.7	160.6	156.8	156.5	167.6
1982	154.0	155.0											

1/ F.O.B. plant.

2/ Weighted average prices.

3/ 1969 data are midpoint of reported range.

4/ No data available; price is arbitrarily assumed.

5/ No data available; December price is midpoint between November 1972 and January 1973 prices.

6/ January price based on quantity processed rather than quantity sold.

Table H—Prices received by processors for ice-pack catfish, 1974-1982 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
						Cents per pound							
1974	105.9	107.7	106.0	105.7	106.0	105.2	104.6	103.3	104.7	105.3	103.5	103.7	105.2
1975	103.7	105.2	107.5	108.9	113.4	114.7	115.9	116.4	115.1	110.3	114.4	113.3	110.7
1976	113.2	113.0	113.7	115.9	119.8	121.1	122.7	122.7	123.3	119.5	119.7	119.2	118.4
1977	118.3	122.9	128.7	131.8	132.6	132.7	131.6	130.6	131.3	130.2	130.1	129.5	129.1
1978	128.8	128.9	128.9	129.4	129.7	129.0	128.6	127.8	129.1	126.2	127.2	127.0	128.3
1979	127.4	130.5	134.0	141.2	146.7	148.4	150.6	151.4	147.6	147.2	150.0	150.3	143.0
1980	153	156	161	161	163	162	163	162	158	162	162	163	160.3
1981	161	160	163	166	165	167	167	165	158	154	149	148	159.8
1982	147	149											

1/ F.O.B. plant.

2/ Weighted average prices.

Table I—Prices received by processors for frozen catfish, 1974-1982 1/ 2/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
						Cents per pound							
1974	108.8	109.3	110.2	110.2	109.7	110.4	109.9	108.2	109.8	110.1	112.2	109.6	109.8
1975	110.9	110.5	113.8	115.3	120.8	119.9	120.3	122.7	118.2	120.1	122.1	123.0	117.4
1976	119.9	119.5	117.4	120.2	124.6	127.0	130.8	129.6	129.8	129.1	128.5	127.4	125.4
1977	124.9	127.6	133.1	138.1	134.7	136.9	138.4	137.4	136.2	135.0	134.5	134.6	134.5
1978	133.9	133.8	135.5	133.9	134.9	134.1	133.8	134.0	135.5	134.1	133.8	132.6	134.2
1979	133.2	139.0	144.0	149.2	150.0	156.9	162.5	163.2	159.3	158.8	159.8	159.9	152.9
1980	161	169	173	174	176	175	176	175	171	172	175	175	172.7
1981	176	176	185	178	183	175	182	179	172	169	168	165	175.9
1982	163	162											

1/ F.O.B. plant.

2/ Weighted average.

Table J—Imports of catfish, 1969-1982 1/

Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total 2/
						Thousand pounds							
1969	—	285.0	367.0	200.0	344.0	364.0	255.0	344.0	518.0	274.0	531.0	280.0	3,762.0
1970	420.0	341.0	413.0	277.0	584.0	208.0	475.0	423.0	358.0	437.0	644.0	221.0	4,801.0
1971	377.8	84.9	190.3	58.1	184.2	122.9	209.4	338.1	321.3	120.6	264.2	932.1	3,203.8
1972	231.8	743.6	289.9	349.1	216.1	256.7	357.6	677.9	361.4	502.6	449.7	369.8	4,826.2
1973	542.5	307.0	632.1	737.4	434.2	522.6	335.1	472.8	593.2	1,067.9	395.7	572.2	6,612.9
1974	947.4	289.6	453.9	669.8	560.7	1,670.6	486.2	794.8	186.6	937.3	789.3	657.2	8,443.4
1975	1,495.6	641.2	663.0	1,421.1	749.1	782.5	996.5	1,089.6	331.9	978.5	606.5	1,150.7	10,906.2
1976	661.2	398.4	1,313.0	778.1	1,168.7	595.3	270.8	1,137.1	935.6	812.4	1,092.3	1,048.7	10,261.5
1977	796.6	2,626.0	1,318.8	1,750.8	1,715.7	1,380.3	1,205.7	1,471.6	1,253.7	1,594.2	1,193.8	1,676.2	17,983.3
1978	1,845.0	752.1	1,936.0	2,188.1	2,533.7	1,045.5	862.9	968.1	1,524.2	814.8	2,728.4	1,173.1	18,371.9
1979	995.3	1,683.4	638.6	2,521.9	2,013.7	945.7	2,272.6	759.3	889.2	1,298.2	1,3610.0	1,610.4	16,988.9
1980	1,308.5	1,511.1	1,170.0	1,045.3	1,108.4	2,224.7	1,109.9	2,429.6	1,424.5	283.7	863.2	443.4	14,922.3
1981	1,003.3	1,119.4	1,044.1	1,433.7	981.8	521.3	629.5	1,011.1	569.5	597.0	470.9	239.4	9,620.9
1982	564.5												

1/ Catfish: filleted, fresh, chilled, or frozen; TSUSA code 110.7024.

2/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

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