



AG ECONOMIC SERIES

TIMELY INFORMATION

Agriculture & Natural Resources

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U.S. CATFISH INDUSTRY Situation in 2006 and Outlook for 2007

Highlights

- ◆ U.S. farm-raised catfish remained fifth in the “Top 5” seafoods Americans eat.
- ◆ The growth in the United States farm-raised catfish industry is expected to continue but not at as rapid a pace seen in the 1980’s, 1990’s and 2000’s.
- ◆ Catfish acreage decreased in 2006-2007, down by 7,670 acres or 0.95%.
- ◆ Catfish processed in 2004 was 630 million pounds - down 4.7% from 2003’s record 661 million pounds.
- ◆ Catfish processed in 2006 - has declined to 565 million pounds down 16% 2003.
- ◆ Catfish processed in 2007 is up 5% to date, and if trend continues approximately 600 million pounds will be processed.
- ◆ 2005 price averaged 72.53 cents/lb, up 2.87 cents/lb from the 2004 price.
- ◆ 2006 average price was is 79.46 cents/lb, up 6.93 cents/lb from 2005.
- ◆ 2007 approximate price is currently 82.00 cents/lb, up 2.54 cents/lb from 2006.
- ◆ Producer’s income in 2005 was about \$436 million - down 1% from 2004.
- ◆ Producer’s income in 2006 was \$449 million – up 3 % from 2005.
- ◆ Producer’s income in 2007 is projected at \$475 million – up 5 % from 2006.
- ◆ Overall U. S. catfish farm sales volume has declined by 17 % from 2003 to 2006.