2006 ALABAMA AQUACULTURE FACTSHEET

PRODUCTION

✓ There are over 25,000 water acres of fish farms in Alabama and approximately 250 producers, with 200 considered as “large-scale”.

✓ All Alabama counties are engaged in commercial aquaculture.

✓ Alabama commercially produces approximately 20 aquatic species.

✓ Over 131 million pounds of catfish were produced in 2006.

✓ Overall, the last twenty-four (24) years, the industry has grown by a 13x factor.

✓ Alabama catfish production is second only to Mississippi with Hale county ranked 6th nationally.

✓ Alabama has the land/water resources to support a traditional pond industry 10 times its current size.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

✓ Alabama aquaculture is worth $115 million to producers.

✓ Catfish farming alone is worth over $105+ million to Alabama producers.

✓ Approximately 2,700 (jobs) Alabamians are directly engaged in catfish production/processing.

✓ Alabama large-scale processors sell approximately $200 million of catfish products in all 50 states and internationally.

✓ Annual sales to catfish farmers by allied support industries is valued at approximately $90 million for feed, utilities, equipment, services, etc.