



AG ECONOMIC SERIES

TIMELY INFORMATION

Agriculture & Natural Resources

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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 **142** million pounds of catfish were produced in 2005.
- ✓ Overall, the last twenty-three (23) 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 an industry **10 times** its current size.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- ✓ Alabama aquaculture is worth **\$105 million** to producers.
- ✓ **Catfish** farming alone is worth over **\$98+ million** to Alabama producers.
- ✓ Approximately **3,000** (job) Alabamians are directly engaged in catfish production/processing.
- ✓ Alabama large-scale **processors** sell approximately **\$170 million** worth of catfish to all 50 states and internationally.
- ✓ Annual sales to catfish farmers by **allied industries** is approximately **\$80 million** for feed, utilities, equipment, services, etc.

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