



AG ECONOMIC SERIES

# TIMELY INFORMATION

## Agriculture & Natural Resources

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Agricultural Economics And Rural Sociology, Auburn University, AL 36849-5639

*Jerry R. Crews – Professor Emeritus*

*Jesse A. Chappell – Aquaculture Specialist*

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### U.S. CATFISH INDUSTRY

#### Situation in 2005 and Outlook for 2006

#### 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 the rapid pace seen in the 1980’s and 1990’s.
- Catfish acreage decreased in 2005-2006, down by 3,220 acres or 1.85%.
- Catfish processed in 2004 was 630 million pounds - down 4.7% from 2003’s record 661 million pounds.
- Catfish processed in 2005 is down 5% to date, if trend 600 million pounds will be processed.
- Catfish processed in 2006 is down 3% to date, and if trend continues approximately 582 million pounds will be processed.
- 2004 average price was 69.66 cents/lb, up 11.5 cents from the 2003 price.
- 2005 price is 72.53 cents/lb, up 2.8 cents/lb from 2004.
- 2006 approximate price is 70.00 cents/lb, down 2.53 cents/lb from 2005
- Producer’s income in 2004 (\$439 million) was up \$54 million from 2003.
- Producer’s income in 2005 is \$435 million - down 1% from 2004.
- Producer’s income in 2006 is approximately \$408 million - down 6% from 2005.