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.