



Arkansas Catfish Production

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Delta Region – Arkansas Field Office

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Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture

This report contains the results from the **2022 July Catfish Production Survey**. These data are also posted on our web site at <https://www.nass.usda.gov/ar> and in a more detailed report at <https://www.nass.usda.gov>. Thanks to all who responded to this survey.

July 1 All Foodsize Inventory Down 12 Percent

Commercial catfish operations in Arkansas had 5.47 million foodsize fish on hand on July 1, 2022. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2022, with their respective percent change from the previous year were: large foodsize at 185,000 fish, down 20 percent; medium foodsize at 1.92 million fish, down 19 percent; and small foodsize at 3.36 million fish, down 8 percent.

Arkansas was ranked third in the nation, behind Mississippi and Alabama, in total foodsize catfish inventory on July 1, 2022. Total stockers, at 11.7 million fish, were down 3 percent from a year ago.

Catfish Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size - Arkansas: January 1, 2022, July 1, 2021 and 2022

Size category	Fish			Total live weight			Average live weight	
	July 2021	January 2022	July 2022	July 2021	January 2022	July 2022	January 2022	July 2022
	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds per fish)	(pounds per fish)
Broodfish	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
All foodsize	6,240	9,590	5,465	9,166	13,374	7,753	(X)	(X)
Large	230	260	185	816	874	653	3.4	3.5
Medium	2,360	3,560	1,920	4,450	6,900	3,700	1.9	1.9
Small	3,650	5,770	3,360	3,900	5,600	3,400	1.0	1.0

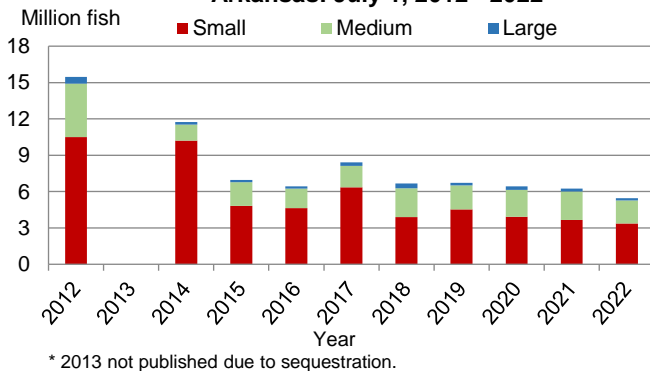
Size category	Fish			Total live weight			Average live weight	
	July 2021	January 2022	July 2022	July 2021	January 2022	July 2022	January 2022	July 2022
	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds per 1,000 fish)	(pounds per 1,000 fish)
All stockers	12,100	(D)	11,700	3,351	(D)	3,365	(X)	(X)
Large	8,000	(D)	(D)	2,950	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Small	4,100	(D)	(D)	401	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
Fingerlings and fry	(D)	23,200	(D)	(D)	934	(D)	40.3	(D)

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
(X) Not applicable.

Definitions Used for Catfish Production

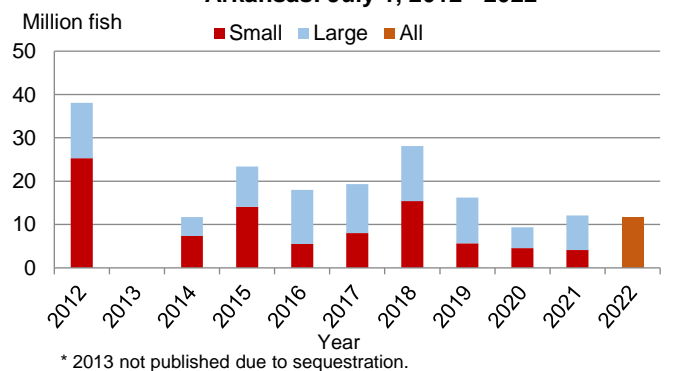
- Broodfish: Fish kept for egg production, including males, 3 to 10 lbs., or 4 to 6 years of age.
- Large foodsize: Over 3 lbs. per fish.
- Medium foodsize: 1 ½ to 3 lbs. per fish.
- Small foodsize: ¾ to 1 ½ lbs. per fish.
- Large stockers: 180 to 750 lbs. per 1,000 fish.
- Small stockers: 60 to 180 lbs. per 1,000 fish or over 6" in length.
- Fingerlings: 2 to 60 lbs. per 1,000 fish or 2" to 6" in length.

Catfish Foodsize Inventory by Size Category
Arkansas: July 1, 2012 - 2022



* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

Catfish Stocker Inventory by Size Category
Arkansas: July 1, 2012 - 2022



* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

Arkansas Water Surface Area Set at 3,600 Acres

The water surface area to be used for catfish production in Arkansas during July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, totaled 3,600 acres. During July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, water surface acres intended for foodsize catfish production is expected to total 2,300 acres.

Water Surface Acres Used for Production - Major States: 2021 and 2022

State	Water surface acres used for production July 1 - December 31	
	2021	2022
	(acres)	(acres)
AL	15,600	14,900
AR	3,700	3,600
MS	33,900	33,300
Total	53,200	51,800

Catfish Water Surface Acres by Use – Major States: 2021 and 2022

State	Acres intended for utilization during July 1 - December 31 for										Acres taken out of production January 1 - June 30	
	Foodsize		Fingerlings		Broodfish		Currently under or scheduled for					
							Renovation		New construction			
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
AL	15,200	14,400	340	(D)	10	20	(D)	(D)	160	125	105	(D)
AR	2,500	2,300	1,000	(D)	95	110	(D)	(D)	-	-	-	-
MS	24,000	24,200	5,500	6,000	1,500	1,700	2,000	1,500	270	380	580	(D)
Total	41,700	40,900	6,840	7,150	1,605	1,830	2,705	2,005	430	505	685	1,190

- Represents zero.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

Water Surface Acres and Foodsize Acres Arkansas: July 1, 2012 - 2022

