



Mississippi Catfish Production

Released: July 19, 2023

Delta Region – Mississippi Field Office

121 North Jefferson Street, Suite 230, Jackson, MS 39201
(601) 359-1259 · (855) 270-2705 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Cooperating with the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

This report contains the results from the **2023 July Catfish Production Survey**. These data are also posted on our web site at <https://www.nass.usda.gov/ms> 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 Up 1 Percent

Commercial catfish operations in Mississippi had 70.2 million foodsize fish on hand on July 1, 2023. The breakouts of foodsize fish inventory numbers on July 1, 2023, with their respective percent change from the previous year were: large foodsize at 1.73 million fish, up 5 percent; medium foodsize at 26.9 million fish, up 1 percent; and small foodsize at 41.6 million fish, up 1 percent.

Mississippi was ranked first in the nation, ahead of Arkansas and Alabama, in total foodsize catfish inventory on July 1, 2023. Total stockers, at 166 million fish, were down 3 percent from a year ago.

Catfish Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size - Mississippi: January 1, 2023, July 1, 2022 and 2023

Size category	Fish			Total live weight			Average live weight	
	July 2022	January 2023	July 2023	July 2022	January 2023	July 2023	January 2023	July 2023
	(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	690	(D)	830	3,350	(D)	4,850	(D)	5.8
All foodsize	69,350	77,290	70,230	93,600	100,450	105,900	(X)	(X)
Large	1,650	1,290	1,730	5,600	4,550	6,100	3.5	3.5
Medium	26,700	23,600	26,900	47,200	42,200	53,000	1.8	2.0
Small	41,000	52,400	41,600	40,800	53,700	46,800	1.0	1.1

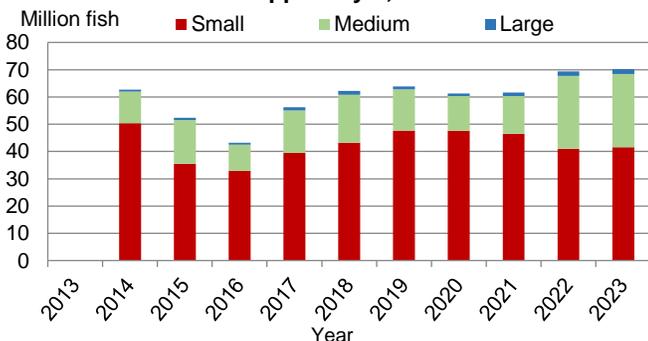
Size category	Fish			Total live weight			Average live weight	
	July 2022	January 2023	July 2023	July 2022	January 2023	July 2023	January 2023	July 2023
	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 fish)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(pounds per 1,000 fish)	(pounds per 1,000 fish)
All stockers	170,700	169,000	165,700	35,100	29,100	32,300	(X)	(X)
Large	60,700	52,000	62,700	23,700	16,800	23,200	323.0	370.0
Small	110,000	117,000	103,000	11,400	12,300	9,100	105.0	88.3
Fingerlings and fry	244,000	243,000	209,000	6,100	8,850	5,450	36.4	26.1

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

Definitions Used for Catfish Production

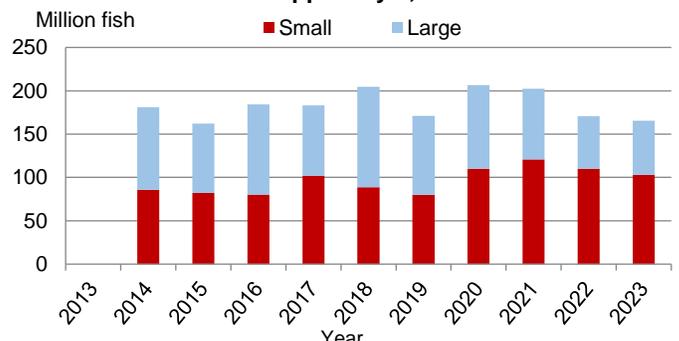
- Broodfish: Fish kept for egg production, including males, 3 to 10 lbs., or 4 to 6 years of age.
- Large foodsize: Over 3 lbs. per fish.
- Medium foodsize: 1 ½ to 3 lbs. per fish.
- Small foodsize: ¾ to 1 ½ lbs. per fish.
- Large stockers: 180 to 750 lbs. per 1,000 fish.
- Small stockers: 60 to 180 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
Mississippi: July 1, 2013 - 2023



* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

Catfish Stocker Inventory by Size Category
Mississippi: July 1, 2013 - 2023



* 2013 not published due to sequestration.

Mississippi Water Surface Area Set at 32,900 Acres

The water surface area to be used for catfish production in Mississippi during July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, totaled 32,900 acres. During July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, water surface acres intended for foodsize catfish production is expected to total 25,100 acres.

Water Surface Acres Used for Production - Major States: 2022 and 2023

State	Water surface acres used for production July 1 - December 31	
	2022	2023
	(acres)	(acres)
AL	14,900	14,000
AR	3,600	3,400
MS	33,300	32,900
Total	51,800	50,300

Catfish Water Surface Acres by Use – Major States: 2022 and 2023

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			
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
AL	14,400	13,900	(D)	(D)	20	(D)	(D)	300	125	(D)	(D)	(D)
AR	2,300	2,200	(D)	(D)	110	(D)	(D)	55	-	-	-	-
MS	24,200	25,100	5,500	5,000	1,700	1,800	1,500	1,100	380	(D)	(D)	(D)
Total	40,900	41,200	6,650	6,260	1,830	2,050	2,005	1,455	505	255	1,190	455

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

Water Surface Acres and Foodsize Acres Mississippi: July 1, 2013 - 2023

