

## Survey Training

# Catfish Production Survey-January 1 (CATFISH PDI)



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service**

Workforce Performance and Staff Development Section



# General Survey Information

- Project Code: **170** - Aquaculture Survey
- States:
  - AL, AR, CA, GA, LA, MO, MS, NC, TX
- Questionnaires:
  - Mail out around December 20
- Release:
  - *Catfish Production*
  - Around February 10, 3PM EST

# Who uses the Data?

- **Government agencies:** To determine sustainability, size, and structure of the industry for planning, policy-making, research and market analysis.
- **Growers:** Decisions about the future of their operations (expand/reduce production or compare production volumes/pricing points with state and U.S. averages).
- **Businesses/Suppliers:** Determine location of facilities for producers, plan for production/marketing of new products.
- **Extension/University:** Research needs and justify research funding and programs for new or improved production methods.

# Interviewer's Manual

- Chapter 1 – General Information
- Chapter 2 – Terms and Definitions
- Chapter 3 – Survey Procedures
- Chapter 4 – Screening
- Chapter 5 – Completing the Questionnaire
  - Some good clarifying information for questions
- Appendix 1 – Catfish Length/Weight Table

# Terminology

- **Broodfish:** Fish kept for egg production (also includes males), typically above 3 pounds.
- **Fry:** Fish under 2 inches in length weighing less than 2 pounds per 1,000 fish.
- **Fingerling:** Fish 2-6 inches in length weighing 2-60 pounds per 1,000 fish.
- **Stocker:** Fish over 6 inches in length weighing 60-750 pounds per 1,000 fish.
- **Foodsize:** Fish weighing over  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound (excluding broodfish).

# Survey Questions: Identification

- Any water area used to produce catfish?
  - YES: Survey
  - NO: next screening/identification question
- Any hatchery or foodsize production inventory on the operation?
  - YES: Survey
  - NO: next screening/identification question
- Any catfish sold?
  - YES: Survey
  - NO: next screening/identification question
- Any catfish on the operation in the future?
  - Has operation been sold, rented or turned over to someone else?
    - Leave notes on what happened/status of operation

# Survey Questions: Water Area

- Total water area used and to be used during period of January 1 – June 30? Of that:
  - How many acres are or will be renovated?
  - How many acres used for broodfish?
  - How many acres used for foodsize?
  - How many acres used for fingerlings?
- Water area of **new facilities** during period of January 1 – June 30?
- Water area **taken out of production** during period of July 1 – December 31?

# Recording Quantity and Weight Inventory

Catfish Inventory - size by category:

- Broodfish, Large/Med/Small Foodsize:
  - Report in Total Number OR Total Pounds and Average lb/fish
- Large/Small Stockers, Fingerlings:
  - Report in Total Number OR Total Pounds and Average lb/1,000 fish

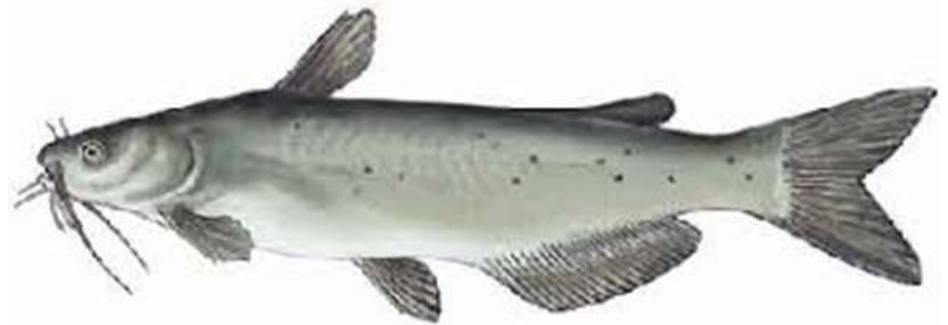


# Survey Questions: Total Sales

- **Broodfish:**
  - All used or to be used for breeding
  - All previously used for breeding
- **Foodsize:** All over  $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. per fish
- **Stockers:** Over 6 inches or 60 -750 lbs./1,000 fish
- **Fingerlings:** 2-6 inches or 2-60 lbs./1,000 fish
- **Fry:** Under 2 inches or less than 2 lbs./1,000 fish

# Survey Questions: Total Sales

- Report for each of the categories:
  - Total number sold
  - Total live weight lbs.
  - Total Sales in dollars
    - Exclude cleaning charges
- Point of First Sale Outlet. Report percent of Foodsize and Stocker sales to:
  - Live haulers/brokers
  - Recreational stocking
  - Wholesale to other producers
  - Government agencies
  - Direct to consumer
  - Processors
  - Retail Outlets
  - Export
  - Other



# Watch Out For:

- Weight per fish is more/less than expected for that size category
- Percentage of sales by outlet must equal 100%
- High or Low Price per pound
- Large changes in total water acreage

# In Conclusion

- Leave comments for any unusual circumstances. Especially important on these specialty livestock surveys.
  - If large losses reported, leave a comment
- Refer to your Interviewer's Manual
- Practice your exercises
- Have a good survey!

