



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Field Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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USDA Surveying Catfish Operations

Jackson, Mississippi – In January, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey catfish operations nationwide to provide an up-to-date measure of U.S. catfish inventories, sales, and water acreage used for production. In Mississippi, NASS will survey approximately 150 catfish farmers, asking them to provide 2024 sales data as well as current total water area and inventory breakdown of its usage into subcategories (broodfish, foodsize, and fingerlings).

“NASS surveys catfish producers in January to create an accurate estimate of catfish inventories and sales in Mississippi and the Nation,” said Esmerelda Dickson, NASS Mississippi State Statistician. “With the number of Mississippi catfish farmers being surveyed, it is critical that we get responses from everyone to ensure a true measure of the industry’s footprint in the state.”

Producers are asked to use their unique survey code to complete the catfish survey online via the NASS secure website at agcounts.usda.gov. The online questionnaire is user friendly, accessible on most electronic devices, and saves producers valuable time by calculating totals and automatically skipping questions that do not apply to their operations. NASS also offers the option of responding via mail or by telephone or face-to-face interview with a local National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) representative.

The *Catfish Production* report will be released on February 10, 2025, at 3:00 pm ET. This and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications. For more information, call the NASS Delta Regional Field Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.

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