Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter

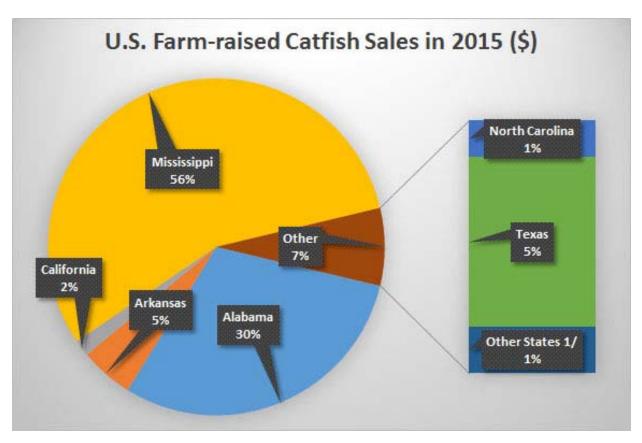


Know Your Local Farm-Raised Catfish Growers!

Posadas, Benedict C. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 6, Issue 5, Mar. 15, 2016.

U.S. Farm-raised Catfish Production

USDA-NASS (2016) reported that "catfish growers in the U.S had gross sales of \$361 M in 2015, higher by 3% from \$352 M in 2014. The top four States (MS, AL, AR, and TX) accounted for 96% of the U.S. total sales. The water surface acres used for catfish production as of Jan. 1, 2016, totaled 62,540 acres, down 11% from the 69,9910 acres the previous year."



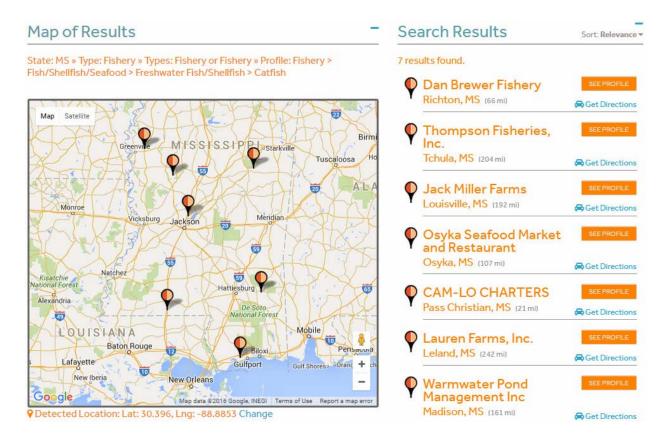
Mississippi catfish growers' pond bank sales reached \$201.5 M in 2015 which was about 6% higher than the previous year's sales. Water acreage devoted to catfish production in 2016 fell to 36,100 acres, about 12% less than the previous year's acreage.

Register your food business and school district and search for local foods at ms.foodmarketmaker.com.

According to Seafood Health Facts (2016), "farm-raised domestic catfish has been one of the top ten most frequently consumed seafood products in the U.S. for almost 20 years. Consumption levels over the past decade have been around 1 pound per person each year."

Catfish Growers Which Are Registered In MarketMaker

There are **112 farms** registered in the National Food MarketMaker program which indicated that they were growing catfish. When the search was narrowed to Mississippi, the number of farms growing catfish was **7**, as shown in the MarketMaker map below.



MarketMaker Training Workshops

This training workshop is available upon request by a group of 6-12 for farmers, fishermen, fishfarmers, charter boat captains, food processors, food wholesalers, food retailers, land and sea grant extension faculty and staff, state regulators and school teachers and youth. Each workshop will be tailored according to the needs of the participants. More details about the training workshop are available at http://www.coastal.msstate.edu/marketmaker-workshops. Please email Dr. Posadas at ben.posadas@msstate.edu if you are interested in setting up a training workshop in your business, office, agency or organization.

Where can you find Mississippi MarketMaker?

MarketMaker can be viewed at http://ms.foodmarketmaker.com/.

Ak Siri or Cortana to search for "Mississippi MarketMaker" on your smart phone.

Register your food business and school district and search for local foods at ms.foodmarketmaker.com.