
Appendix A. Definitions

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions and explanations provide detailed descriptions of the terms used in this publication. Items in the tables which carry the note "See text" are also explained. For exact wording of the questions on the 2005 Census of Aquaculture report form, see Appendix B.

Aquaculture. Aquaculture, for this census, is defined as the farming of fish, crustaceans, mollusks, and other aquaculture products. Farming implies some form of intervention in the rearing process, such as seeding, stocking, feeding, protection from predators, etc. Farming also implies individual or corporate ownership of the stock being cultivated, and harvesting is conducted in controlled environments, including ocean-raised fish (in pens, cages, etc.), and shellfish harvested from leased, owned, controlled, or managed beds.

Fish, shellfish, and other aquaculture products caught or harvested from non-controlled waters or beds by the public, are considered wild caught and were not included in this census. Also excluded were sales of aquatic plants and farms with less than \$1,000 of aquaculture sales.

Baitfish. These are fish used for bait, such as crawfish, fathead minnows, golden shiners, emerald or silver shiners, feeder and bait goldfish, and suckers. Examples of fish in the Other baitfish category include chubs, leeches, and other types of minnows.

Broodstock. These are fish kept for egg production, including males. Females produce the fertilized eggs which go to hatcheries.

Cages. Cage culture involves growing a culture species in floating cages or baskets. Cages are normally used in larger, open bodies of water, such as

lakes or rivers. The sides of the cages are rigid and are made of materials like plastic or plastic-covered wire.

Carp, other. Included in this category are bighead, black, common, and silver carp.

Clams, other softshell. This category includes Geoduck and other soft shell clams besides Manila.

Clams, total. Includes all clams raised and sold. This category consists primarily of hard and Manila clams. For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, data include sales of seed stock. For the 1998 Census of Aquaculture, sales of seed stock were published separately from clams. Data are not directly comparable.

Crustaceans. Invertebrate animals with a hard shelled segmented body, and jointed legs. Examples include crawfish, lobsters, prawns, shrimp, and soft shell crabs.

Direct to consumers. Included in this category are sales made directly to individuals for home consumption or placement in their ponds for personal use. Also included are operations that raise and market fish through their own fee fishing operation. Sales made to fee fishing operations are included under "Fee and recreational fishing."

Egg layers. Species of fish where the female lays eggs, which are externally fertilized by the male.

Eggs. These are embryos surrounded by nutrient material and a protective covering.

Fee and recreational fishing. Includes establishments involved in operations of fee-lakes, catch-out ponds, and pay-lakes.

Fingerlings. These are young fish, larger than a fry but not an adult.

Flow through raceways. Environment where fish are in a confined area, usually long and narrow, in which water enters one end and exits the other. Raceways can either be a natural flow system, using the natural flow of a river or stream, or a closed system where the water from the raceway flows through a series of ponds and then is pumped into a header pond that flows back into the raceway. The water area for a closed system would be the surface acres of the raceway and of all associated ponds. The area for a natural flow system would be the surface acres that the raceway occupies.

Food fish. Includes fish raised primarily for food. Examples include Arctic char, hybrid striped bass, carp, catfish, Pacific threadfin (Moi), yellow perch, red drum, salmon, sturgeon, tilapia, and trout. Examples of fish in the 'Other' food fish category include, barramundi, cobia, cod, flounder, and paddlefish.

In the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, the summary by value of aquaculture products sold is published for all food fish, including catfish and trout. In the 1998 Census of Aquaculture, the summary by value of aquaculture products sold was published for catfish, trout, and food fish other than catfish and trout. Data for food fish are not comparable for the size breakouts in table 3.

For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, eggs from food fish are included in the food fish totals. For the 1998 Census of Aquaculture, eggs from food fish were included as Other animal aquaculture and algae and sea vegetables.

Foodsize. Includes grown aquaculture products ready for market.

Freshwater. Water with less than 0.5 parts per thousand dissolved salts. May be found in lakes, rivers, bodies of groundwater, or obtained from wells or surface runoff.

Fry. Very young, post-larval fish.

Government agencies. Included in this category are sales made to Federal, State, or local government hatcheries or other groups involved in purchasing fish to stock Federal, publicly owned, or regulated waters and recreational areas.

Hybrid striped bass. A cross between a male white bass and a female striped bass.

Larvae. Newly hatched, an earliest stage of animals that undergo metamorphosis, differing markedly in form and appearance from the adult.

Live bearer. Species of fish which carry their developing offspring internally until giving birth to free-swimming fry.

Live weight. Weight of the whole fish or other aquaculture product.

Miscellaneous aquaculture. In 2005, this category represents the production of aquaculture products other than food fish, sport fish, baitfish, ornamental fish, crustaceans and mollusks. Examples include alligators, caviar, eels, frogs, sea urchins, snails, tadpoles, turtles, and live rock. Examples of Other miscellaneous aquaculture include gambusia and bioassay fish (fish used for toxic testing).

For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, aquatic plant information was not collected and fish egg data were included in the food fish and sport fish totals. The 1998 published values included algae, sea vegetables, and fish eggs. Data are not directly comparable.

Mollusks. These are marine invertebrates (no backbone). In general, mollusks have three body regions: a head, a visceral mass, and a "foot." Mollusks usually have a shell, although some do not. This category includes abalone, clams, mussels, and oysters. Examples of mollusks in the Other mollusk category include scallops and scallop seed.

Mollusks off bottom. The use of water column suspension techniques, including enclosures and lines for the production of bottom-dwelling shellfish. These techniques are designed to minimize bottom predators and maximize the use of a three-dimensional space for cultivation.

Mollusks on bottom. The practice of raising shellfish on the bottom of tidal waters that has had oyster shell, clam shell, or other material added to improve the habitat for shellfish growth and survival.

Muskie. Includes both muskellunge and tiger muskie.

Non-recirculating systems. Process of rearing aquatic organisms and discharging the water after its intended use.

Off farm water. Water that comes from a Federal supplier; irrigation district; mutual, private, or cooperative ditches; commercial company; or municipal or community water system.

On farm surface water. Surface supply not controlled by a water supply organization. Examples include, streams, drainage ditches, lakes, ponds, springs, and reservoirs.

Operator. A person who operates the farm doing either the work or making day-to-day decisions for the farm.

Ornamental fish. Fish raised for water gardens, aquariums, etc. Examples include koi, ornamental goldfish, and tropical fish. Examples of fish in the Other ornamental fish category include ornamental catfish and sunfish.

Other aquaculture products. This category includes all aquaculture products that were distributed for conservation, recreation, or restoration purposes. Items in this category are not published separately in tables 20 or 21.

Other producers. Included in this category are sales made to other farmers who buy live fish to raise for a later sale.

Oysters, other. This category includes Kumamoto and other oysters besides Eastern and Pacific.

Oysters, total. Includes all oysters raised and sold. This category consists primarily of Eastern and Pacific oysters. For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, data include sales of seed stock. For the 1998 Census of Aquaculture, sales of seed stock were published separately from oysters. Data are not directly comparable.

Pens. Large enclosures usually placed in rivers or ocean bays. Pens are usually floated in the water, but

may also be secured to the bottom. Pens are supported in some way, with the sides being flexible. In 1998 this category was referred to as net pens. This is only a wording change; all data are comparable.

Point of first sale. The first point at which money is exchanged for aquaculture products. For example, delivery of aquaculture products from the farm to the processing plant is considered to be the point of first sale.

Ponds. The most common type of water facility for raising fish. Most ponds are man-made and fish usually have access to the entire pond.

Prawn, freshwater. *Machrobrachium rosenbergii*. For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, saltwater shrimp and freshwater prawns were preprinted on the report form. In 1998, only shrimp was preprinted. Therefore, some prawns may have been reported as shrimp in 1998.

Processors. Companies that convert live fish to a product ready to cook and distribute, such as fish fillets. Usually, the purchasing plant has no ties to the producer. However, in some cases, the plant may be a cooperative that is jointly owned by the producer and other producers. Also included in this category are the sales of aquaculture products by vertically integrated operations through their own processing and marketing operations.

Recirculating systems. Metal, plastic, or fiberglass tanks normally above ground and usually under cover used for the rearing of aquatic organisms where 90 percent or more of the system water is recycled. Some tanks may consist of frames with liners. In 1998 this category was referred to as Closed re-circulation tanks. This is only a wording change; all data are comparable.

Saltwater. Water from a sea or ocean, including brackish water. Freshwater converted to saltwater by adding chemicals was tabulated as saltwater acres used in production. The source of water was tabulated as freshwater.

Seed stock. Young animals, generally oysters, clams, or mussels, used for stocking.

Shellfish. An aquatic invertebrate animal with a shell. Particularly, an edible mollusk or crustacean.

Shrimp, saltwater (marine). Cultured penaeid shrimp. For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, saltwater shrimp and freshwater prawns were preprinted on the report form. In 1998, only shrimp was preprinted. Therefore, some prawns may have been reported as shrimp in 1998.

Sport fish. Fish raised primarily to be released into lakes and streams to be caught by sport fishermen. Fish may also be sold to fee fishing operations. Examples include largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappie, Muskie, northern pike, sunfish, and walleye.

Stockers. Fingerlings that are large enough to be placed in the final grow-out pond, net, pen, or tank.

Sunfish. For the 2005 Census of Aquaculture, this category includes bluegill data. For the 1998 Census of Aquaculture, bluegills and sunfish were published separately. Bluegill and sunfish sales data from 1998 were summarized as sunfish for the 2005 Census of Aquaculture. Farm count data could not be summarized for 1998, as a producer could have sold both bluegills and sunfish. Farm count data are not directly comparable.

Surface water acres. A measure of the number of acres needed to cover the surface of ponds, tanks, raceways, etc.

Total sales. The gross value of all aquaculture products sold in 2005 before production, processing, or marketing costs were deducted. Sales of algae and sea vegetables were included in 1998 but were excluded in 2005. Data are not directly comparable.

Unpaid workers. Someone who performs work for the aquaculture operation and does not receive monetary gain.

Wholesale distributors, live haulers, brokers, etc. Individuals or companies that purchase aquaculture products from a producer for immediate resale. They may or may not take possession of the product. Live haulers transport aquaculture products in oxygenated tank trucks to other outlets, including processing plants, pay lakes, recreational lakes, and retail outlets.