



# MoAA News

Linking the Missouri Aquaculture Community

Volume 6

Issue 9

October 2006

## In This Issue

**2005 Aquaculture Census reports US industry worth \$1.1 billion**

**2005 Census shows decrease in Missouri aquaculture farms but increase in income**

**Application deadlines approach for NRCS programs**

**USDA delays Spring Viremia of Carp rule 30 days**

**Missouri Department of Conservation hatcheries producing endangered species**

**Upcoming Events**

## 2005 Aquaculture Census finds US industry worth \$1.1 billion

*The following is a complete USDA NASS press release.*

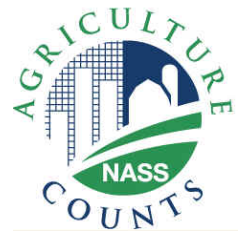
Aquaculture production is a billion-dollar industry, with sales of fish, shellfish and related products growing by 11.7 percent over the past seven years, according to results of the 2005 Census of Aquaculture.

The 2005 count was the second nationwide aquaculture census conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The first took place in 1998. Results show that between 1998 and 2005, U.S. sales of aquaculture products grew from \$978

million to nearly \$1.1 billion.

Census results show that food fish – including catfish, perch, salmon, hybrid striped bass, tilapia and trout – accounted for 62 percent of all aquaculture sales in 2005. Mollusks – including abalone, clams, mussels and oysters – comprised 19 percent of 2005 sales. Crustaceans, such as lobsters and shrimp, and ornamental fish, such as koi and tropical fish, each accounted for approximately 5 percent of sales. They were followed by baitfish at 4 percent and sport fish at 2 percent.

Mississippi led the nation in sales of aquaculture products, with \$250 million dollars in 2005. Arkansas, Alabama and Louisiana were the other states with sales topping \$100 million. Louisiana had the largest number of aquaculture farms. The state's 873 farms were more than double the number in any other state.



The 2005 Census of Aquaculture collected detailed information on issues including production methods, water sources, sales, distribution and farm labor. For the purpose of the census, an aquaculture farm was any commercial or non-commercial place from which \$1,000 or more of aquaculture products were raised and sold, or distributed for restoration, conservation or recreational purposes during the census year.

Complete results of the 2005 Census of Aquaculture are available online at:  
[www.nass.usda.gov/aquaculture/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/aquaculture/index.asp)

## Missouri producers doing well according to 2005 Census

The 35 Missouri producers counted in the 2005 Census of Aquaculture generated \$7,144,000 in sales. Compared to the 1998 Census, it appears the trend in Missouri is fewer, larger, and more profitable aquaculture businesses. In 1998, 49 producers reported sales of \$5,374,000. Even with 14 fewer farms reporting, the state had an increase in sales of \$1.77 million over the 7 year period. The foodfish sales increased from \$3,759,000 to \$4,581,000 while foodfish producers decreased from 44 to 29. The \$822,000 increase generated by fewer producers is even more impressive since the average price paid to catfish producers was lower in 2005 than 1998 (72.5 versus 74.3 cents per pound). Sportfish sales saw the largest percentage change. In 1998, 4 farms reported sales of \$57,000 while 5 farms sold \$427,000 in 2005. The number of acres in production increased from 2,440 in 1998 to 2,689 in 2005.

State	2005 Farms	2005 Sales (\$1,000)	1998 Farms	1998 Sales (\$1,000)
Minnesota	77	8,412	36	3,221
Missouri	35	7,144	49	5,374
Wisconsin	84	7,025	9	5,226
Ohio	55	3,185	18	1,788
Illinois	47	3,176	20	2,871
Michigan	34	2,398	47	2,028
Nebraska	26	1,750	15	2,154
Iowa	21	1,469	10	1,628
South Dakota	7	484	39	996
Kansas	12	342	20	(D)
Indiana	18	(D)	24	2,678
North Dakota	1	(D)	33	(D)
<b>United States</b>	<b>4,309</b>	<b>1,092,386</b>	<b>4,028</b>	<b>978,012</b>

The 12 states of the North Central Region listed in order of sales generated in each in 2005. "Farms" is the number of producers submitting data for the census year.

There has been some speculation whether or not Missouri would hold its position as the number one ranked state in the North Central Region. The 2005 Census shows Missouri slipped to second place behind Minnesota. Compared to other states, though, Missouri is doing well. The state is leading the Region with average sales per farm of \$204,000. This can be seen easily in the chart (left) which compares the 12 states in the Region. Sales in Missouri were comparable to Minnesota and Wisconsin which had over twice as many farms report and when Missouri's 35 producers are compared to Michigan's 34 the difference in sales is \$4,746,000.

## Application deadlines approaching for NRCS programs

Missouri landowners interested in participating in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) or the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) should apply by November 17 to be eligible for the next round of funding, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced. Missouri landowners interested in participating in the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) should apply by December 1 to be eligible for the next round of funding. Landowners can see the WRP rate cap map for Missouri's five WRP geographic regions at [www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp/wrp\\_eligibility.html](http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp/wrp_eligibility.html).

To sign up or to get more information about these and other NRCS programs, contact the NRCS office serving your county. They can be found in the phone book under "U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture" or on the web at <http://offices.usda.gov>. Information on all NRCS programs is available at [www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/](http://www.mo.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/).

## USDA delays SVC regulation 30 days

USDA APHIS proposed regulations August 30, 2006 with the intent to restrict the importation into the United States of fish species susceptible to spring viremia of carp (SVC). The rule was to become effective September 29; however, APHIS has received requests from U.S. importers and foreign exporters as well as from a number of foreign government authorities seeking an additional period of time in which to prepare to meet these requirements. In response, APHIS is delaying the effective date from September 29, 2006 until October 30, 2006.

Under the rule, importers of SVC-susceptible species (common carp, koi, goldfish, and Asian carp) must obtain an import permit and a health certificate from the shipment's region of origin certifying that the live fish, fertilized eggs, or gametes originated in an SVC-free region. This certification must be supported by ongoing SVC surveillance for 2 years conducted under specific conditions. In addition, shipments of SVC-susceptible species will be subject to other restrictions that they have not been in the past, such as having to be imported through designated ports of entry and meeting containment requirements for shipments that are in transit through the United States. Importers will also be subject to user fees for obtaining import permits and port of entry inspections.

This action is targeted at international shipments only. The complete details are available online by searching for keyword "APHIS-2006-0107" at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). For further information contact Dr. Peter L. Merrill, Aquaculture Specialist, National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 39, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-0649; or Dr. Jill B. Rolland, Fishery Biologist, National Center for Animal Health Programs, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 46, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; (301) 734-7727.

*Please see the September and October MoAA newsletters for background on the change to proposed regulation or contact Bart Hawcroft at 866.466.8283 or [bart.hawcroft@mda.mo.gov](mailto:bart.hawcroft@mda.mo.gov).*

## MDC hatcheries producing endangered species

This is a portion of an article in the October *Missouri Conservationist* which is at [www.mdc.mo.gov/conmag/2006/10/30.htm](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/conmag/2006/10/30.htm).

Of the 12 federally endangered animal species found in the state, nine live in rivers. These include three fish and six species of native mussels. The endangered species raised in Missouri's fish hatcheries include Topeka shiners and pallid and lake sturgeon. Endangered native mussels, such as pink mucket, fat pocketbook and scaleshell, are also raised.

Topeka shiners are federally endangered and are being produced at the Lost Valley Fish Hatchery. They are a small shiner that reaches a maximum length of 3 inches. They can only be found in two watersheds in Missouri. The first shiners were taken to Lost Valley in 2000 to begin work on propagation. The fourth year was the turning point and 100 adult shiners produced more than 22,000 young.

The Department's Blind Pony Hatchery, located at Sweet Springs, is one of only six hatcheries in the U.S. that raises pallid sturgeon. In 1991, staff used techniques developed for spawning white sturgeon on shovelnose sturgeon. After success with the shovelnose sturgeon, Blind Pony started with pallid sturgeon in 1992. Blind Pony also raises the state-endangered lake sturgeon. However, the lake sturgeon are not spawned at the facility. Instead, the hatchery receives fertilized eggs from the state of Wisconsin. After the eggs are hatched, they are raised with the same techniques used for the pallid sturgeon.



An MDC employee holding a pallid sturgeon during broodstock collection.

Since 1999, several mussel species have been raised through a combined effort between the state's hatcheries, including Lost Valley and Chesapeake Hatcheries, and Missouri State University. The federally listed pink mucket, fat pocketbook and scaleshell are among several species being propagated and released. So far, over two million juvenile mussels have been released.

## Upcoming Events

### **October 24**

NCRAC Board of Directors Semi-Annual Meeting  
Chicago, IL

### **November 1**

MACC meeting  
Runge Nature Center  
Jefferson City, MO

### **December 1-2**

Livestock Symposium  
Kirksville Middle School  
Kirksville, MO  
<http://missourilivestock.com/>

### **December 8-9**

US Freshwater Prawn & Shrimp Growers  
Association  
Radisson Hotel at Opryland  
Nashville, TN  
[usprawn growers@yahoo.com](mailto:usprawn growers@yahoo.com) or  
662-390-3528

### **December 10-12**

Governor's Conference on Agriculture  
Tan-Tar-A Resort  
Osage Beach, MO

### **January 19-20**

American Heartland Aquaculture Conference  
Whittington, IL  
[www.moaa.pond.org](http://www.moaa.pond.org)

### **January 26-28**

Arkansas Aquaculture 2006  
Hot Springs, AR  
501-673-4059

### **January 31 – February 2**

2007 Missouri Natural Resources Conference  
Tan-Tar-A Resort  
Osage Beach, MO  
[www.mnrc.org/index.html](http://www.mnrc.org/index.html)