



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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1941 FISHERY PRODUCTS FIGURES FOR NEW ORLEANS

Totals of approximately 100,105,000 pounds of fishery products exclusive of 2,931,000 (U. S. Standard) bushels of oysters, were reported for the Gulf States during 1941, in the second annual summary released today by the New Orleans Market News Service office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, of the United States Department of the Interior.

Although complete figures for oyster production are not available for comparison, total poundage of other varieties of seafoods went up about 2 percent over 1940, when 97,830,000 pounds were produced.

"Actually, however," according to the report, "the production during 1941 was probably slightly less than in 1940, since more complete reports were obtained during the past year. It should be remembered, though, that even our 1941 figures do not cover completely the production of the coastal areas of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. Since complete coverage is not practicable, the statistics are only for the more important production points and cannot be considered as totals for all the States listed."

Production was reported in 47 classifications during 1941, 5 being fresh-water fish, 29 salt-water fish, and 13 shellfish and miscellaneous items. Shrimp was the most important species, accounting for 79 percent of the total production exclusive of oysters. Hard crab landings accounted for an additional 15 percent of this total. The most important salt-water fish were red snapper, mullet, grouper and spotted sea trout. The more important fresh-water varieties were catfish, buffalofish, and gaspergou.

The reported landings of shrimp were slightly less than during 1940. Production of hard crabs increased about 15 percent and that of salt-water fish 27 percent. The largest gains in salt-water fish were in catches of red snapper, mullet, grouper, white sea trout, and king whiting (ground mullet). Landings of fresh-water fish declined 40 percent.

As a ready means of determining the seasonal variations in the landings along the Gulf Coast throughout 1941, the report also includes monthly indexes of abundance prepared from the tabulated information.

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