

Subject: Kentucky Farmers Try Catfish

Story Summary: The search for alternative income opportunities is leading some Kentucky farmers to the water's edge. Every day new ponds are being dug to raise catfish.

TRT: 1:51

Suggested Lead: The search for profitable agriculture enterprises has increased "net" income for some farmers. Tom Steever reports.

Suggested Supers: Calloway County, KY
@ :02

John Murdock
Kentucky farmer
@ :09

Jessie Lopez
Cooperative Manager
@ :33

Tom Steever
Reporting
@ 1:36

Kentucky Farmers Try Catfish
Tom Steever Reporting
June 21, 2001

<p>Working nets in pond Calloway County, Kentucky C/u catfish in net</p>	<p>VO/ ALTHOUGH NOT PART OF KENTUCKY'S TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE, CATFISH FARMING IS BECOMING A MORE FREQUENT SOURCE OF INCOME FOR FARMERS THERE.</p>
<p>John Murdock Kentucky Farmer</p>	<p>SOT/ WE FELT THAT WE HAD THE NATURAL RESOURCE BASE AND CERTAINLY WE HAVE A NEED BECAUSE FARM INCOME NEEDS TO BE INCREASED AND WE FEEL THAT CATFISH IS ONE OF THE WAYS TO DO THAT.</p>
<p>L/s of earth moving W/s of earth moving Z-in of processing plant Dumping catfish</p>	<p>VO/ A COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT GAVE ADVICE WHILE A STATE GRANT PROVIDED START-UP MONEY FOR PRODUCTION AND FOR A PROCESSING AND MARKETING COOPERATIVE. IT INVOLVES MORE THAN FORTY GROWERS WITH A SIMILAR DREAM.</p>
<p>Jessie Lopez Aquaculture Cooperative Manager</p>	<p>SOT/ AND THEIR DREAM, BASICALLY WAS TO DEVELOP A PRODUCT IN THIS AREA THAT WOULD SUPPORT GROWERS, PROCESS THIS PRODUCT AND ALSO MARKET THE PRODUCT.</p>
<p>Cornfield Wheat field Pan of tobacco field C/u of tobacco Chute opening</p>	<p>VO/ THE AGRICULTURAL BASE OF THE REGION IS ROW CROPS, POULTRY, GRAIN AND TOBACCO. THE PER ACRE PROFITABILITY OF TOBACCO IS HIGHER BUT PRODUCERS SEE GOOD POTENTIAL IN CATFISH.</p>
<p>Murdock sot Catfish down chute W/s filleting fish</p>	<p>SOT/ WE BELIEVE THAT WITH THE SALE OF THE LIVE FISH TO THE COOPERATIVE AND THEN THE</p>

C/u filleting fish	VALUE-ADDED INCOME FROM HAVING OUR PRODUCT PROCESSED AND MARKETED, ALL OF THE RETURNS GO BACK TO THE PRODUCERS BECAUSE WE OWN THE CO-OP.
Interior of rotating chiller C/u of fish in chiller Fish falling from chiller Fish in scale net	VO/ TO THE COMMUNITY THE COOPERATIVE MEANS ECONOMIC BENEFITS, TO LOCAL RESTAURANTS IT MEANS THAT THE CATFISH ON THIS EVENING'S MENU CAME FROM THE POND THIS MORNING, TO FARMERS IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY.
Z-out of Tobacco field Murdock sot	SOT/ WE'RE NOT IN THE PROCESS OF REPLACING TOBACCO, THAT'S NOT OUR JOB. WE'RE NOT GETTING ON OUR SOAPBOX ABOUT THIS, WE'RE SIMPLY SAYING HERE IS SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE GOOD USE OF WESTERN KENTUCKY'S RESOURCES.
Catfish feeding truck pan to pond	VO/ THE FACT THAT CATFISH ARE ANOTHER PRODUCT OF KENTUCKY IS ALSO A SOURCE OF PRIDE FOR THOSE WHO PRODUCE IT.
Murdock sot	SOT/ AFTER ALL, KENTUCKY IS WHERE QUALITY GROWS. (LAUGHS)
Dumping fish from net	VO/ IN CALDWELL COUNTY, KENTUCKY, I'M TOM STEEVER.