



SPECIAL RELEASE

ILOCOS REGION'S AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION INCREASES IN THIRD QUARTER 2022

Date of Release : 19 February 2023

Reference No. 2023-014

Aquaculture production in Ilocos Region grew by 22.87 percent in third quarter 2022. From the 25,196.25 metric tons in third quarter 2021, the output increased to 30,958.20 metric tons in third quarter 2022. In Pangasinan, production in aquafarms increased by 24.83 percent or 5,946.03 metric tons more than the 2021 third quarter's output. Meanwhile, Ilocos Norte aquaculture production had a meager growth of 0.76 percent. On contrary, both Ilocos Sur and La Union registered decreases in production at 8.50 percent and 17.47 percent, respectively.

**Table 1. Volume of Aquaculture Production by Province
Ilocos Region: Third Quarter 2021 and 2022**

Item	Production (MT)		Growth Rate (%)
	Third Quarter 2022P	Third Quarter 2021	
Ilocos Region	30,958.20	25,196.25	22.87
Ilocos Norte	43.80	43.47	0.76
Ilocos Sur	270.72	295.88	(8.50)
La Union	752.31	911.55	(17.47)
Pangasinan	29,891.38	23,945.35	24.83

2022P – Preliminary

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

Pangasinan dominates the aquaculture production of the Ilocos Region covering 96.55 percent of the harvest. The other provinces in the region cumulatively contributed 3.45 percent.



Figure 1. Percentage Distribution of Aquaculture Production by Province, Ilocos Region Third Quarter 2022

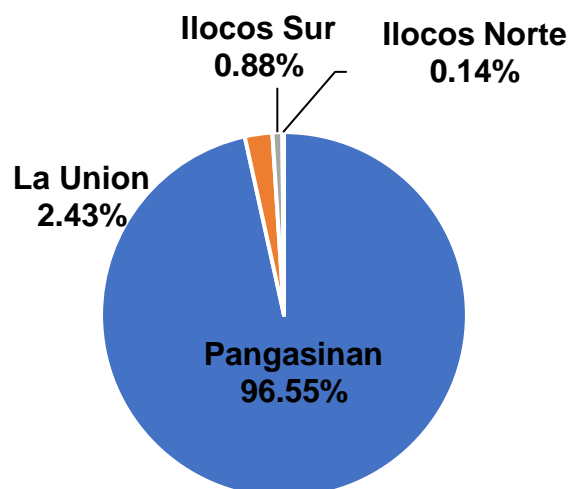
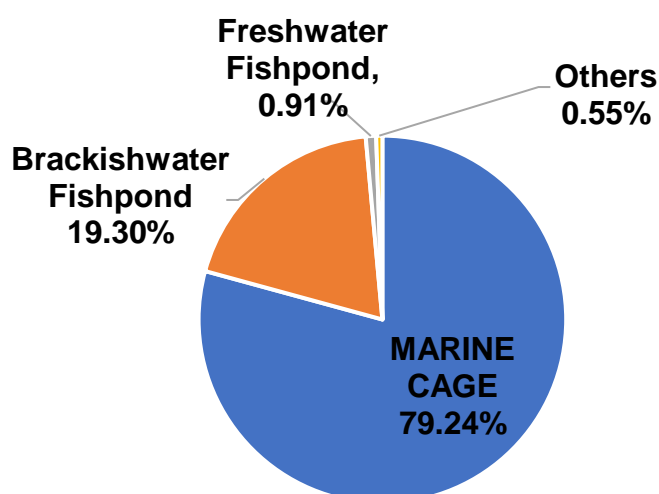


Figure 2. Percentage Distribution of Aquaculture Production by Aquafarm Type, Ilocos Region Third Quarter 2022



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

Marine cages all over the region were able to produce 24,532.39 metric tons of fish covering 79.24 percent of the region’s aquaculture production. Meanwhile, brackishwater fishponds’ production was at 5,975.37 metric tons covering 19.30 percent. The other aqua farm types covered 1.46 percent.

Table 2. Distribution of Province per Aquafarm Type, by Province Ilocos Region: Third Quarter 2022 (in metric tons)

Aqua Farm type	Ilocos Region	Ilocos Norte	Ilocos Sur	La Union	Pangasinan
Marine Cage	24,532.39	-	0.98	297.67	24,233.75
Brackishwater Fishpond	5,975.37	3.93	171.35	333.8	5,466.29
Freshwater Fishpond	282.28	15.48	94.68	14.32	157.8
Brackishwater Pen	90.77	-	0.08	82.46	8.23
Brackishwater Cage	25.25	16.27	0.85	2.4	5.73
Oyster	24.12	-	0.27	21.62	2.23
Mussel	15.77	-	-	-	15.77
Small Farm Reservoir	6.97	6.84	0.13	-	-
Freshwater Cage	3.7	1.28	2.31	-	0.11
Seaweed	1.47	-	-	-	1.47
Freshwater Pen	0.07	-	0.07	-	-
Marine Pen	0.04	-	-	0.04	-
Rice Fish	-	-	-	-	-

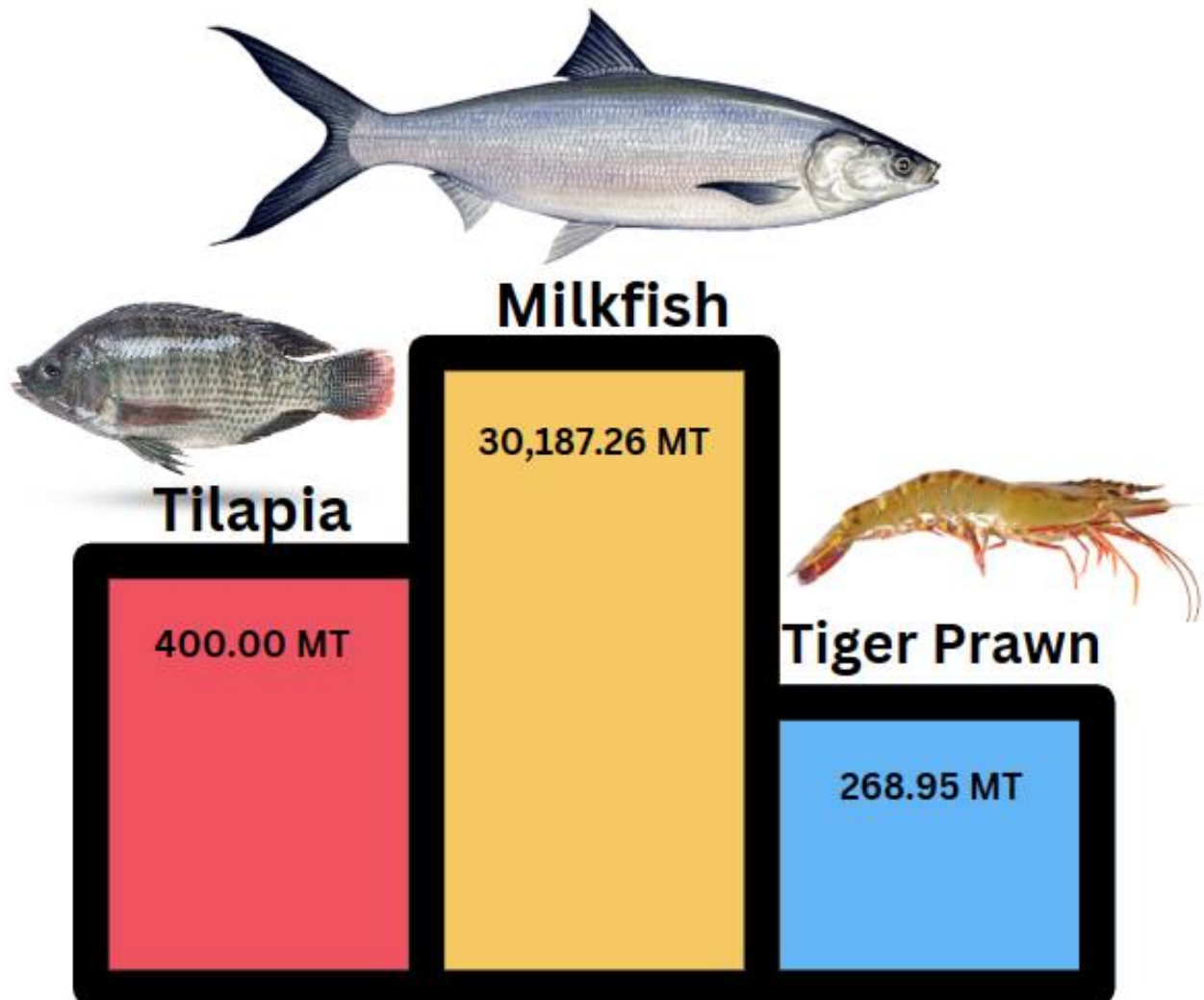
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

Pangasinan topped in brackish fishpond, freshwater fishpond, marine cage and seaweed farm production, while La Union was number one producer in brackishwater pen, marine pen and oyster farm. Meanwhile, most of the freshwater pen and freshwater cage production were from



Ilocos Sur while brackishwater cage and small farm reservoir were from Ilocos Norte. There were no harvest from rice fish during the third quarter 2022.

Figure 3. Contribution of Top Species to the Total Aquaculture Production Ilocos Region: Third Quarter 2022

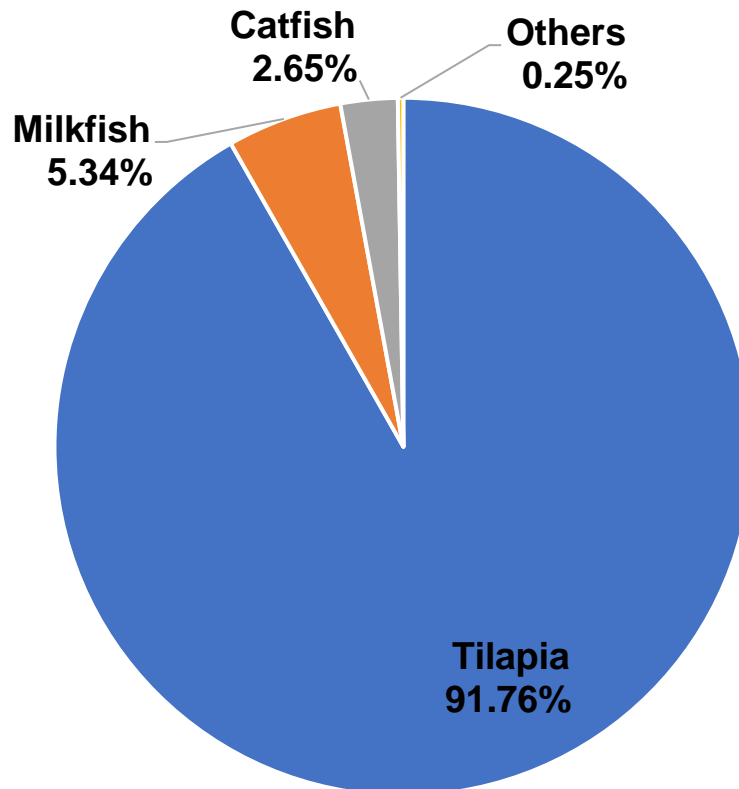


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

The top species produced in aquaculture farms in the region were milkfish, tilapia, and tiger prawn contributing 97.51 percent, 1.29 percent, and 0.87 percent to the total production, respectively. Other species contributed 0.33 percent.

Aquaculture by Province

Figure 4. Contribution of Top Species to the Total Aquaculture Production Ilocos Norte: Third Quarter 2022

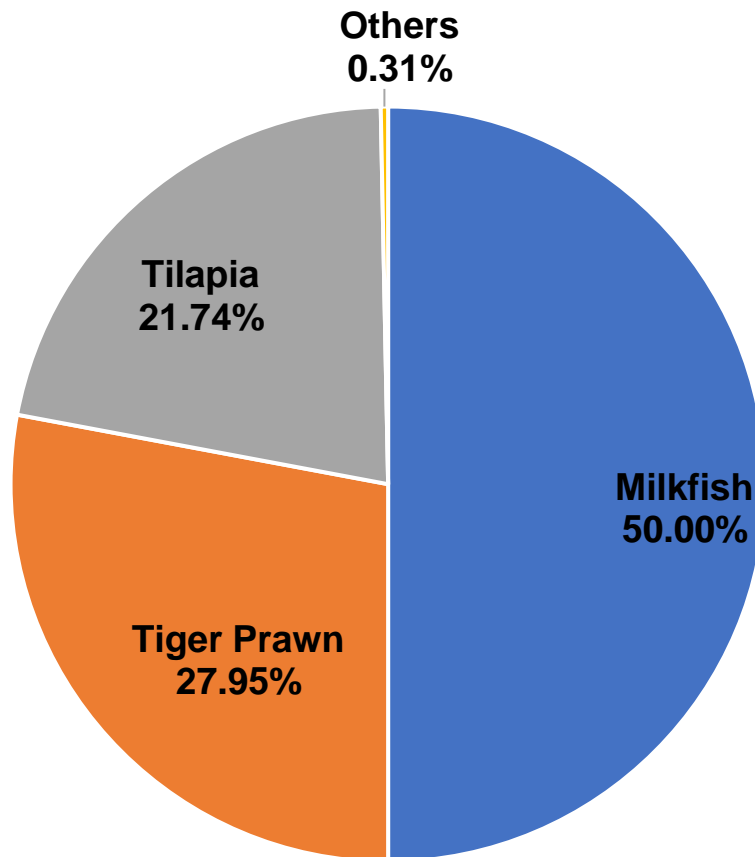


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

In Ilocos Norte, most of their aquaculture production was from brackishwater cages which composed 37.14 percent of their overall aquaculture production. This was followed by freshwater fishponds and small farm reservoirs at 35.34 percent and 15.62 percent, respectively. Other aquafarms contributed 11.90 percent. (Refer to Table 2)

Ilocos Norte was the sole province in the Ilocos Region to have tilapia as its top fish species produced in third quarter 2022. Tilapia contributed 91.76 percent of the province's aquaculture production. Milkfish ranked second at 5.34 percent followed by catfish at 2.65 percent. Other fish species contributed 0.25 percent.

Figure 5. Contribution of Top Species to the Total Aquaculture Production Ilocos Sur: Third Quarter 2022

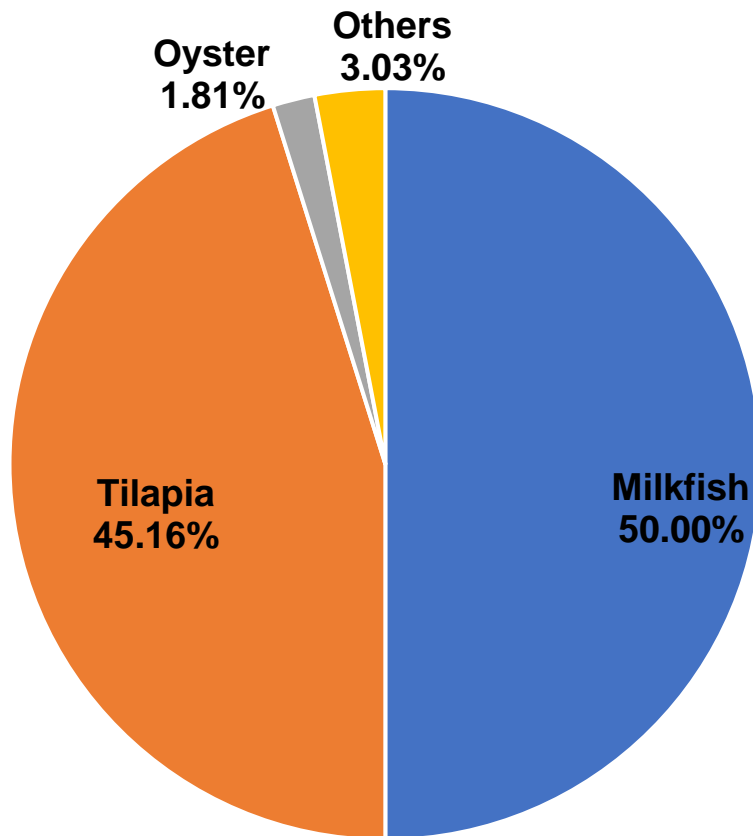


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

Ilocos Sur, the province with the most variety of aquafarms in the region, had most of their production from brackishwater fishponds sharing 63.30 percent of the province’s output. Freshwater fishpond was the second contributor to the province’s aquaculture production composing 34.98 percent. Meanwhile, the other eight aquafarm types contributed 1.72 percent of the production. (Refer to Table 2)

Ilocos Sur’s aquaculture production was comprised of milkfish of about 50.00 percent, tiger prawn by 27.95 percent, tilapia by 21.74, and other species at 0.31percent.

Figure 6. Contribution of Top Species to the Total Aquaculture Production La Union Third Quarter 2022

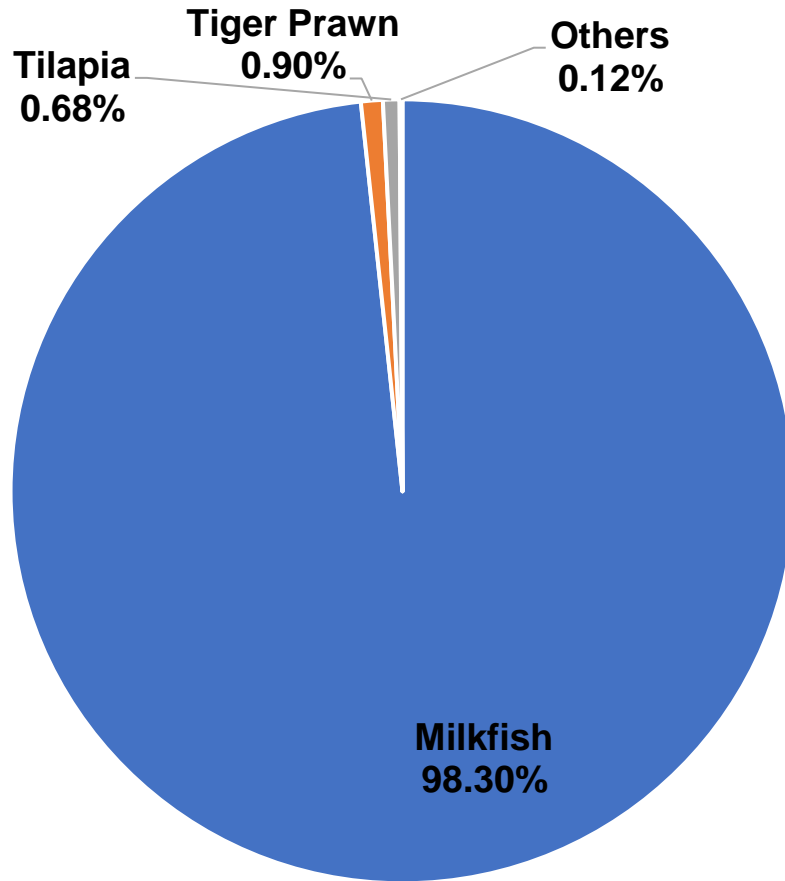


Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

Bulk of the aquaculture production of La Union in third quarter 2022 was brackishwater fishpond at 44.37 percent share. Other top contributory aquafarm types were marine cages and brackishwater pens. Cumulatively, other aquafarm types contributed 5.1 percent of the province's overall aquaculture production. (Refer to Table 2)

Like Ilocos Sur, about 50.00 percent of aquafarms in La Union was milkfish. Sharing 45.16 percent of the province's aquaculture production was tilapia. Meanwhile, oysters contributed 1.81 percent and other fish species shared 3.03 percent of the output.

Figure 7. Contribution of Top Species to the Total Aquaculture Production Pangasinan Third Quarter 2022



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, Third Quarter 2022 Fisheries Production Survey

The majority of the aquaculture production of Pangasinan was from marine cages at 81.07 percent share, followed by brackishwater fishpond which contributed 18.29 percent of the province's output. Other aquafarm contributed 0.64 percent. (Refer to Table 2)

Pangasinan, living out their famous Bangus Festival, had a milkfish share of 98.30 percent of the province's aquaculture production. All other fish species shared 1.7 percent of the output.

TECHNICAL NOTES

The Fisheries Production Survey of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) is divided into four major fisheries surveys. These are the Quarterly Commercial Fisheries Survey (QCFS), Quarterly Municipal Fisheries Survey (QMFS), Quarterly Inland Fisheries Survey (QIFS), and Quarterly Aquaculture Survey (QAqS). The fisheries sector is composed of three (3) subsectors, namely commercial, municipal fisheries, and aquaculture. The commercial and municipal fisheries surveys aim to provide quarterly data on volume and value of fish production by species, region, and province. The aquaculture survey is intended to generate quarterly data on the volume and value of cultured species by environment, by type of aquafarm, by region, and by province.

Concepts and Definitions:

Aquaculture – fishery operation involving all forms of raising and culturing of fish and other fishery species in marine, brackish and freshwater environments. Examples are fishponds, fish pens, fish cages, mussels, oysters, seaweed farms, and hatcheries.

Aquafarm – the farming facilities used in the culture or propagation of aquatic species including fish, mollusk, crustaceans, and aquatic plants for purposes of rearing to enhance production.

Brackishwater – a mixture of seawater and freshwater with salinity that varies with the tide. Examples are estuaries, mangroves, and mouths of rivers where seawater enters during high tide.

Fisheries – all activities relating to the act or business of fishing, culturing, preserving, processing, marketing, developing, conserving, and managing aquatic resources and the fishery areas including the privilege to fish or take aquatic resources thereof (RA 8550).

Fisheries Sector – the sector engaged in the production, growing, harvesting, processing, marketing, developing, conserving, and managing aquatic resources and fishing areas.



Fish Cage – refers to a stationary or floating fish enclosure made of synthetic net wire/bamboo screen or other materials set in the form of inverted mosquito net (hapa type) with or without cover with all sides either tied to poles staked to the bottom of the water or with anchored floats for aquaculture purposes.

Fish Pen – refers to a fish enclosure made of closely-woven bamboo screens, nylon screens or nets or other materials attached to poles staked at the bottom up to the surface of the lake, river or other shallow bodies of water for the purpose of growing and/or culturing of fish to various sizes in fresh, brackish and marine waters. A fish pen varies in shapes. Its enclosure covers the entire water depth from the water surface down to the bottom.

Fishpond – refers to a body of water (artificial or natural) where fish and other aquatic products are cultured, raised or cultivated under controlled conditions. This is a land-based type of aquafarm.

Freshwater – water without salt or marine origins, such as generally found in lakes, rivers, canals, dams, reservoirs, paddy fields, and swamps.


ATTY. SHEILA O. DE GUZMAN, CPA
Regional Director


JYY/TBO/DAI/CJBP

