



# SPECIAL RELEASE

## ILOCOS REGION'S AQUACULTURE FISHERIES PRODUCTION GROWS IN 2020

(Results from the Fisheries Production Survey, 2020)

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Aquaculture production of the Ilocos Region posted a production of 146,396 metric tons in 2020. This is 6.24 percent higher than the production in 2019 of 137,800 metric tons. The provinces of Ilocos Sur and Pangasinan contributed to the overall increment of the volume of production in the aquaculture subsector.

**Table 1. Volume of Aquaculture Fisheries Production by Province Ilocos Region: 2020 and 2019**

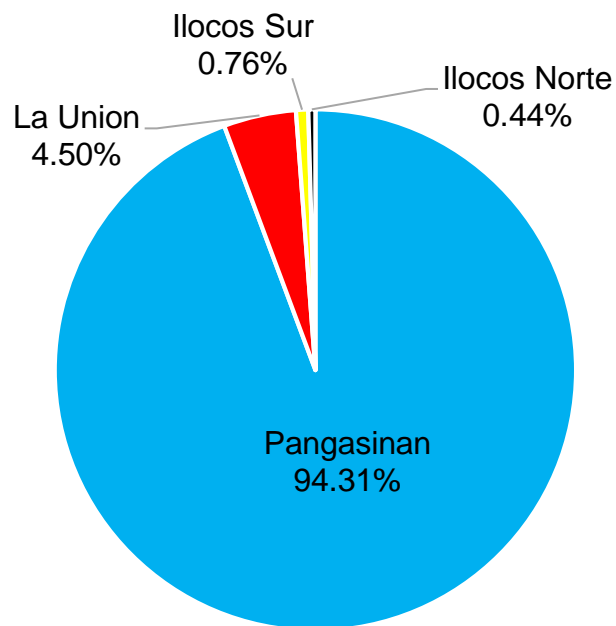
Item	Production (MT)		Growth Rate (%)
	2020	2019	
<b>ILOCOS REGION</b>	<b>146,396</b>	<b>137,800</b>	<b>6.24</b>
Ilocos Norte	641	646	(0.85)
Ilocos Sur	1,109	1,063	4.29
La Union	6,581	7,459	(11.78)
Pangasinan	138,066	128,631	7.33

*Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Fisheries Production Survey*

The province of Pangasinan contributed 94.31 percent to the region's aquaculture output in 2020. The province recorded 138,066 metric tons, higher than the output in 2019 of 128,631 metric tons. High survival rate and bigger sizes of produce due to good water parameters and lesser destructive typhoons resulted to positive growth in output.

La Union shared 4.50 percent to the total aquaculture fisheries production in 2020, that is 6,581 metric tons lower than the output a year ago of 7,459 metric tons. Lower survival rate and smaller sizes of produce were observed due to high water salinity.

**Figure 1. Percentage Distribution of Aquaculture Production by Province, Ilocos Region: 2020**



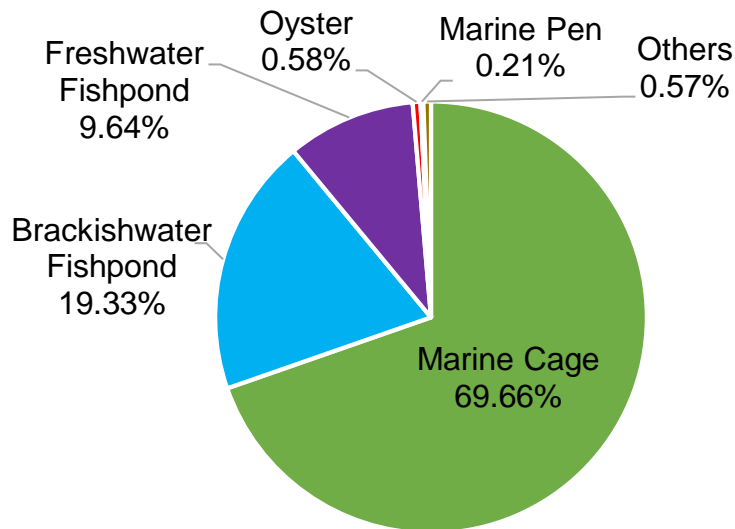
Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Fisheries Production Survey

Ilocos Sur which shared 0.76 percent to the total aquaculture fish catch of the region in 2020 posted increment in output. From the 1,063 metric tons record in 2019, it went up to 1,109 metric tons due to good water parameters, continues dispersal of free fingerlings and fishnet from Local Government Units, and lesser destructive typhoons.

The province of Ilocos Norte contributed 0.44 percent to the total aquaculture fisheries volume of production in 2020. Its production during the period went down by 0.85 percent from the 646 metric tons output a year ago to 641 metric tons in 2020. Lower survival rate and smaller sizes of produce caused lower output in 2020.

By ecosystem, marine cage shared 69.66 percent share to the overall aquaculture production in 2020. It was followed by Brackishwater Fishpond with 19.33 percent share and Freshwater Fishpond with 9.64 percent share.

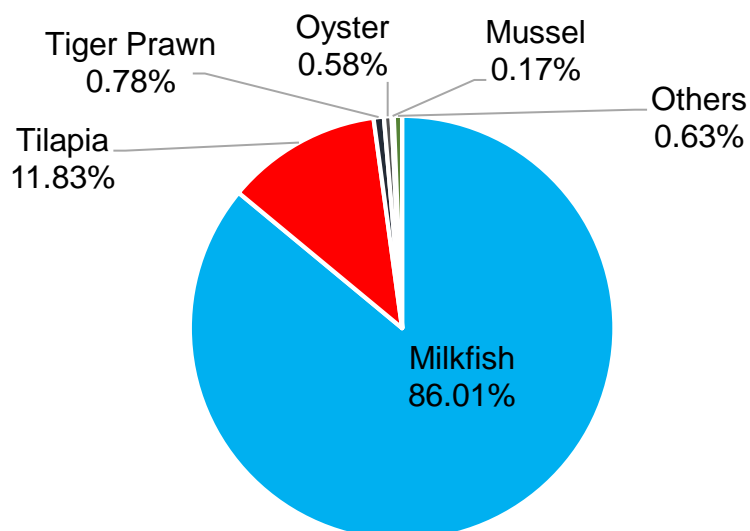
**Figure 2. Percentage Distribution of Aquaculture Production by Ecosystem, Ilocos Region: 2020**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Fisheries Production Survey

The dominant species in aquaculture subsector of the Ilocos Region during the period were Milkfish, Tilapia, Tiger prawn, Oyster, and Mussel.

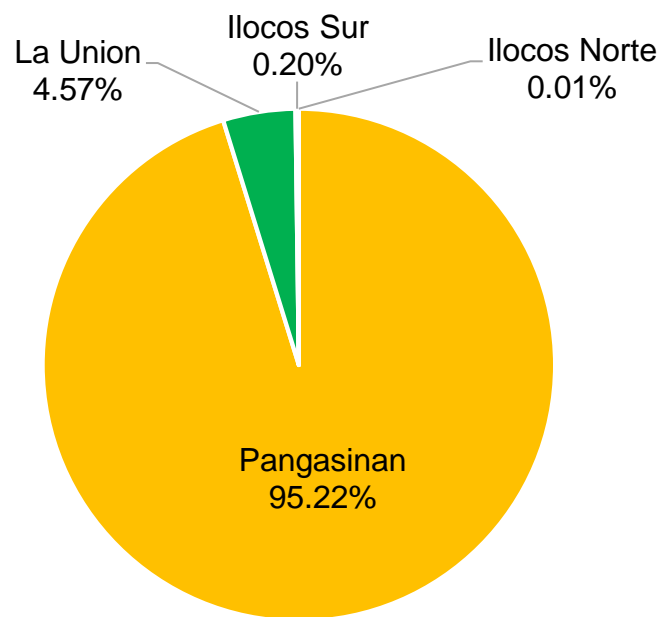
**Figure 3. Percentage Contribution of Top Species to the Total Aquaculture Production, Ilocos Region: 2020**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Fisheries Production Survey

Milkfish production of the region in 2020 registered at 125,913 metric tons, higher by 7.81 percent than its output in 2019 of 116,796 metric tons. Higher survival rate, bigger sizes of produce and more units harvested were the factors that contributed to the positive growth in output. Bulk of milkfish production came from the province of Pangasinan.

**Figure 4. Percentage Distribution of Milkfish Production by Province, Ilocos Region: 2020**



Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020 Fisheries Production Survey

## 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 commercial and municipal fisheries surveys aim to provide quarterly data on volume and value of fish production by species, by region, and by province. The aquaculture survey is intended to generate quarterly data on 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 environment. Examples are fishponds, fish pens, fish cages, mussel, oyster, 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** – mixture of seawater and freshwater with salinity that varies with the tide. Example 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** – stationary or floating fish enclosure made of synthetic net wire/bamboo screen or other materials set in the form of an inverted mosquito net (“hapa” type) with or without cover with all sides either tied to poles staked to the water bottom or with anchored floats for aquaculture purposes.

**Fish Pen** – an artificial enclosure constructed within a body of water for culturing fish and fishery/ aquatic resources made up of bamboo poles closely arranged in an enclosure with wooden materials, screen or nylon netting to prevent an escape of fish.

**Fishpond** – 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. Note that the setting-up of fish cages in ponds does not make the operation of a fish cage and at the same time a fishpond.

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

  
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