



KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA
Nation Religion King

Cambodia Agriculture Survey 2022

Report 4:

Aquaculture & Capture Fishing



National Institute of Statistics, Ministry of Planning
in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture,
Forestry and Fisheries.



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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Aquaculture and Capture Fishing

Aquaculture and capture fishing activity constitute an alternate or additional economic activity for household agricultural holdings in Cambodia. From the CAS 2022, it is estimated that 76,910 agricultural household holdings are involved in aquaculture activity while 454,630 agricultural household holdings are involved in capture fishing activity, and 25,480 agricultural household holdings were involved in both aquaculture and capture fishing activity. The zone with the largest number of households involved in aquaculture was the Plain Zone, with 58,610 household agricultural holdings reporting aquaculture activity. The zone with the largest number of households involved in capture fishing activity was the Tonle Sap Lake Zone, with 209,700 holdings reporting capture fishing activity.

Aquaculture

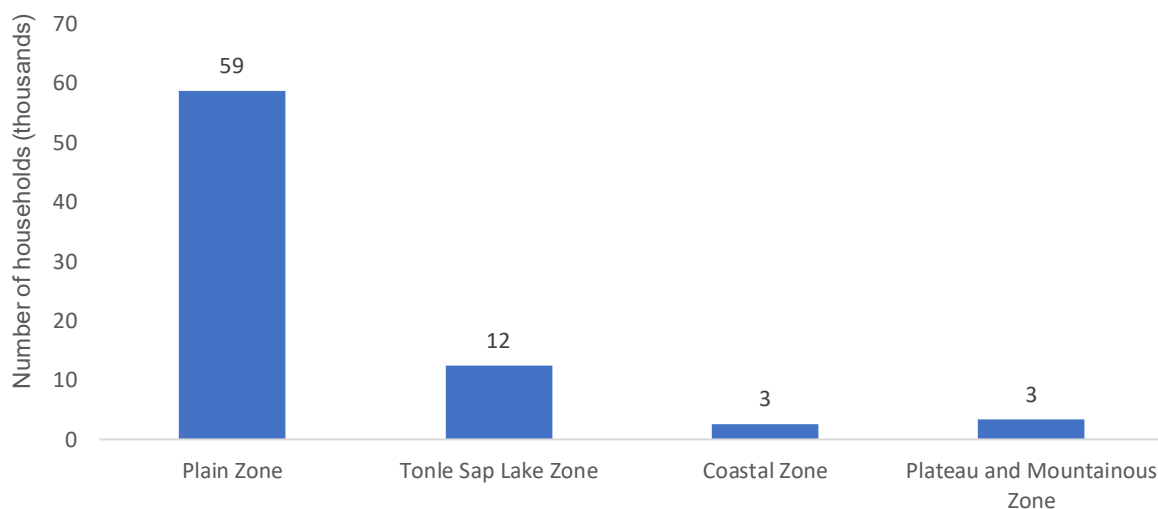


Fish farming and aquaculture. Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 2022.

Aquaculture refers to the cultivation, under controlled conditions, of aquatic products in seas, lakes, rivers, swamps, ponds, paddy fields or other bodies of water. Of the different categories

of aquaculture activity covered in the CAS, including pond, pen, cage, paddy field, culvert/tank/drum/aquariums, hatchery/nursery, or other aquaculture activity, the most prevalent activity was pond aquaculture with 62,960 agricultural holdings reporting it. An estimated 9,210 holdings were involved in aquaculture involving culvert/tank/drum/aquarium and approximately 3,840 agricultural holdings used a cage for their aquaculture activity. The total area devoted to aquaculture in household agricultural holdings was estimated to be 1,934 hectares. The Plain Zone reported the largest area devoted to aquaculture activities, with 1,193 hectares devoted to it.

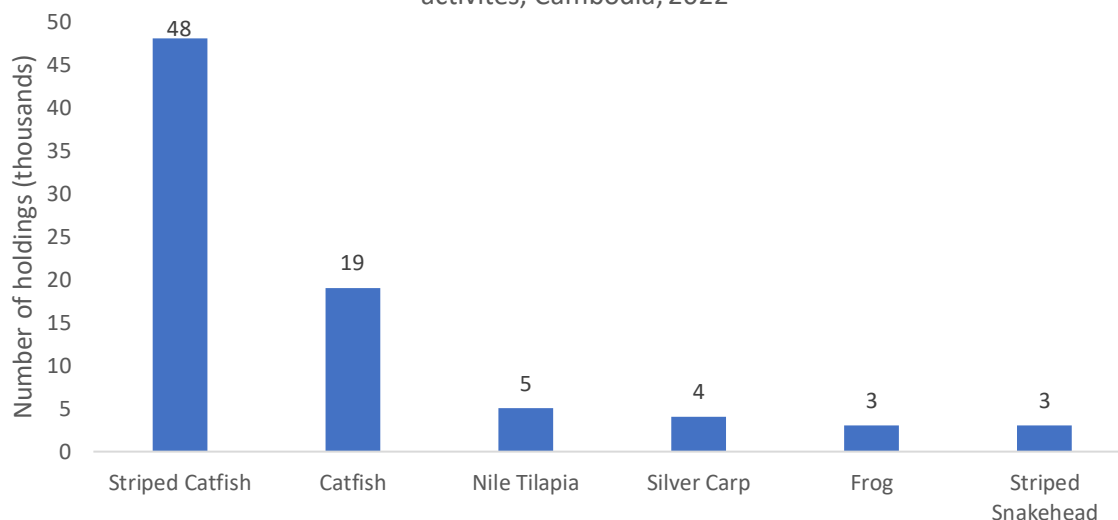
Figure 4.1: Number of Agricultural Households Reporting Aquaculture Activity, by zone, 2022



Source: CAS 2022

Agricultural households raise a variety of species in their aquaculture, the most common species are Striped Catfish (raised by an estimated 47,700 households and Catfish (raised by an estimated 18,700 households. Striped Snakehead, Nile Tilapia, Silver Carp, Frogs and Giant Snakehead are other species commonly raised by household holdings.

Figure 4.2: Number of agricultural households reporting species in aquaculture activities, Cambodia, 2022



Source: CAS 2022

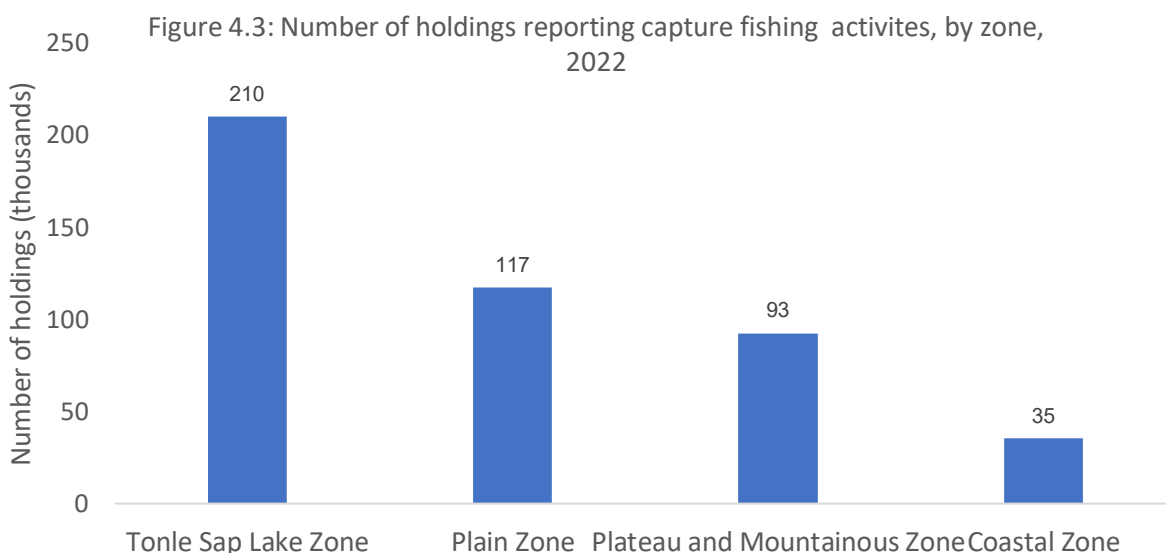
Capture Fishing



A fisherman in Svay Chrum district, Svay Rieng province. Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries photograph, 2022.

For the CAS, capture fishing activity was categorized as river or lake (freshwater), rice field (freshwater), sea (marine water) or estuary (brackish water). Capture fishing included catching fish and other sea or river species with or without the use of boats or specialized equipment.

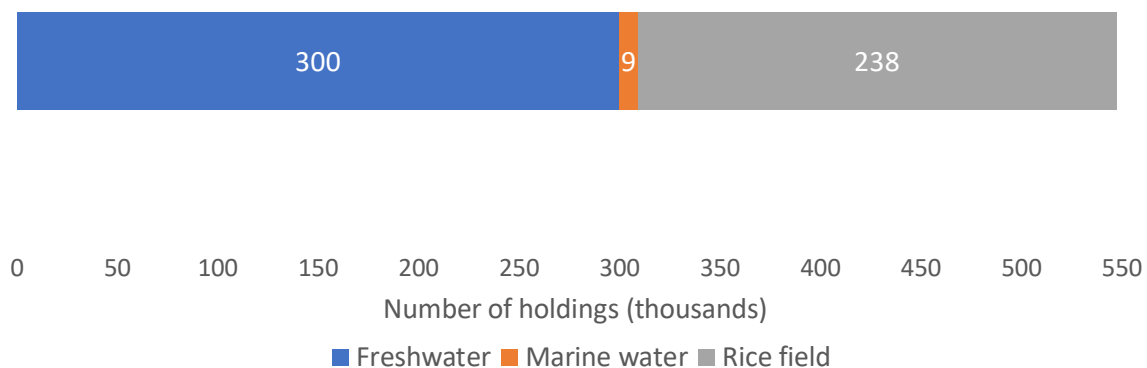
In the 2022 reference period (from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022), the Tonle Sap Lake zone had the highest number of household agricultural holdings reporting capture fishing activities with an estimated 210,000 households involved in the activity. The Plain zone had an estimated 117,000 household holdings reporting capture fishing and the Plateau and Mountains region and Coastal zones had an estimated 93,000 and 35,000 household holdings involved respectively.



Source: CAS 2022

Capture fishing activities were reported by household holdings to occur mostly within rivers or lakes (300,000 household holdings) and in rice fields (238,000 household holdings). Comparatively few household holdings report capture fishing within marine water (9,300 household holdings).

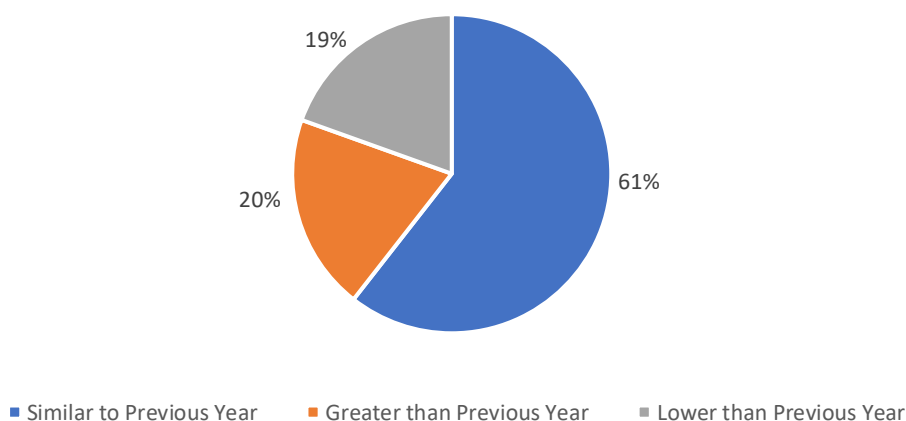
Figure 4.4: Capture Fishing, number of household agricultural holdings involved by activity, Cambodia, 2022



Source: CAS 2022

The total catch reported for fish totalled 441 million kilograms in Cambodia in 2022. Respondents reporting capture fishing within the survey were asked to compare their holdings catch in 2022 to their catch in the previous reference period. More than half of the respondents (61%) reported a similar catch to the previous year. However, 20% reported a catch greater than that of the previous year and whilst an almost equal amount (19%) reported a lower catch when compared to the previous year.

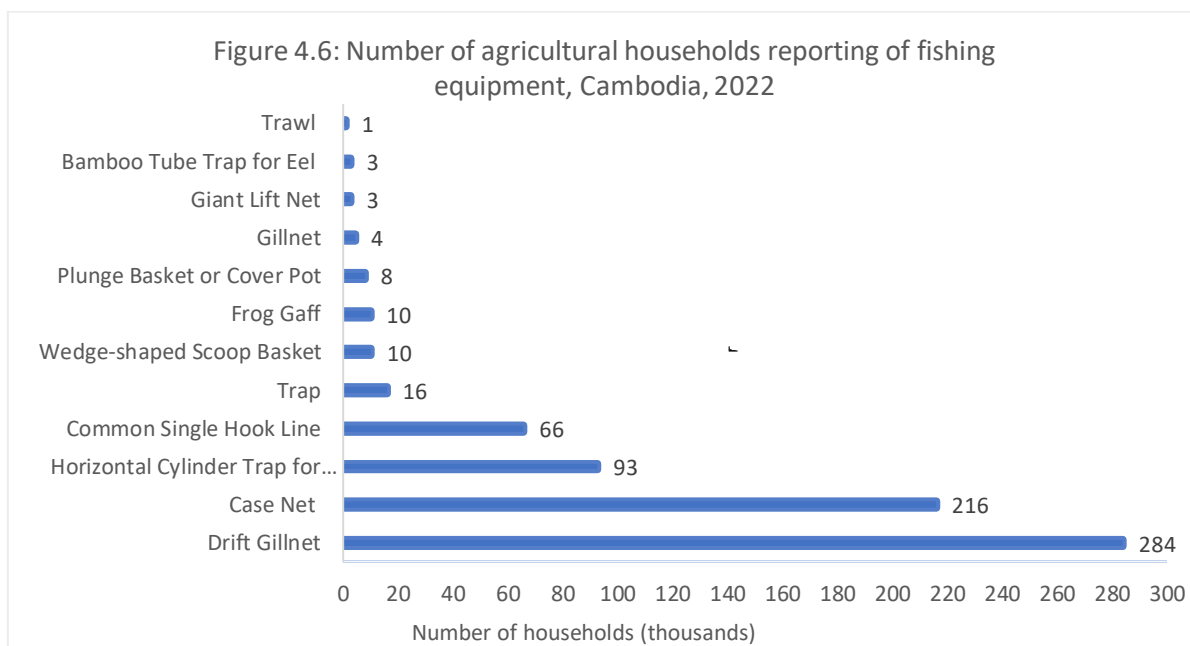
Figure 4.5 : Comparison of current year fish catch to previous year fish catch, household agricultural holdings, Cambodia, 2022



Source: CAS 2022

The CAS collected data on multiple species caught including fish, crabs, snails and eel. Ninety-seven percent of the holdings who reported capture fishing activity captured fish (441,000 household holdings), 16% captured crabs (73,000 household holdings), 5% captured snails (23,000 household holdings) and 3% captured eels (13,000 household holdings).

Various types of fishing equipment are used in Cambodia. The CAS estimates how many households use each type of equipment in their fishing activities. The equipment used most by holdings was a drift gillnet reported to be used by an estimated 255,000 household holdings. Cast nets (195,000 holdings), horizontal cylinder traps for rice fields (83,000 holdings) and common single hook lines (58,000 holdings) were other commonly used equipment.



Source: CAS 2022

