CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1940

INTRODUCTION

History of Census of Agriculture.—The 1940 Census of Agriculture was a constituent part of the Sixteenth Decennial Census of the United States. The Federal Government first provided for a Census of Agriculture to be taken in 1840 in connection with the Sixth Decennial Census of Population. Since that time, a census of agriculture has always been taken in conjunction with the census of population in each decennial enumeration. Congress first provided for a mid-decennial farm enumeration to be taken in 1915, but owing to the war in Europe this census was not taken. Congress again provided for a mid-decennial agricultural census to be taken as of January 1, 1925, and such a census was taken. Another mid-decennial census was taken as of January 1, 1935, and the legislation which provided for it, which is still in effect, also provided that every ten years thereafter a census of agriculture should be taken. Thus, beginning with 1920, there has been a Federal Census of Agriculture every fifth year.

In 1840, the Census of Agriculture was rather limited in scope. It included such items as an inventory of the principal classes of domestic animals, the production of wool, the value of poultry, the value of products of the dairy, and the production of the principal crops. In 1880, the decennial census first included the number of farms and the acreage and value of farm land; in 1890, information was first secured as to the tenure under which the farms were operated; and in 1920 a more detailed classification of the farm land according to its use was introduced. No recent census has required information about silk cocoons which formed a part of the questionnaire for several of the earlier censuses. These are but a few of the additions, changes, and deletions which have been made in the 100-year span since the first Census of Agriculture.

Legal basis for the 1940 Census.—Provision for the 1940 Census was made in the Act providing for the Fifteenth Decennial Census which was approved on June 18, 1929. In part this Act provided: "That a census of population, agriculture, irrigation, drainage, distribution, unemployment, and mines shall be taken by the Director of the Census in the year 1930 and every ten years thereafter. The census herein provided for shall include each State, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and Porto Rico."

Method of canvass and tabulation.—In the 1940 Census of Agriculture, as for each census of agriculture beginning with 1900, a separate schedule was required for every farm in the United States. The data, therefore, are the results obtained from the tabulation of the information given by farm operators to census enumerators in a personal canvass of the individual farms.

After the schedules were received in Washington and examined for accuracy and completeness, the figures were transferred to punch cards. By means of other mechanical equipment, the totals for geographic areas were obtained.

Presentation of statistics.—The data in this volume were first published in two separate bulletins for each of the forty-eight States and the District of Columbia. These State bulletins comprise the first and second series of reports for the 1940 Census of Agriculture.

In the first series of bulletins the data relate, in the main, to the number, acreage, and value of farms; the value of buildings and of implements and machinery on farms; farm land according to its utilization; some of the foregoing items classified by the color of the farm operator, some by the tenure of the farm operator, and some by the type of the farm; farms reporting and numbers of specified classes of livestock and poultry with some of their products; and farms reporting with the acreage and production of specified crops harvested. In the second series of bulletins, the statistics are presented for the following items: mortgage debt for farms of operating owners (both full owners and part owners); taxes on farm property owned by full owners and part owners; work off their farms by farm operators for pay or income; age of operators; year of occupancy translated (except for 1940) into the number of years the operators had been working their present farms; whether the farm operators reside on their farms; cooperative selling and purchasing of goods and services; farm labor employed at specified times; expenditures for selected items; inventories of automobiles, motor trucks, and tractors, with the year of latest model for each general class; the availability, use, and source of electric current; whether the farm has a telephone; kind of road adjoining the farm; inventory of goats; mohair production; goats milked; farm slaughter, purchases, and sales of various classes of livestock; the individual annual legumes; clover and grass seeds; miscellaneous field crops; farm gardens; vegetables harvested for sale; horticultural specialties; small fruits; and tree fruits, nuts, and grapes.

The same general plan of presentation is followed for all States except that supplemental county table II with data by color and tenure of operator, is carried for the Southern States only, and county table XV is shown for only 19 States. This latter table carries the acreages and average yields of some of the principal crops which were harvested from irrigated land with comparative data for nonirrigated land. The 19 States for which county table XV is shown are: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

In a third series of bulletins to comprise volume II, county data are presented for amount of income received from sales of various livestock and livestock products, field crops, vegetables, fruits and nuts, horticultural specialties, and forest products, together with the value of farm products used by farm households. These data are also given by income groups and by the major source of income. In addition, data are shown for the value of livestock on farms, the value of livestock products, and the value of all crops harvested. These latter values, in general, are based on inventory or production multiplied by county unit prices.

In these three series of State reports, summary tables containing totals for the States only, are presented and are followed by tables in which county data, as well as totals for the States, are shown. For those items appearing in the State tables, all available comparative data are presented for each census beginning with 1910. In the county tables, in addition to the data from the Census of 1940, comparative figures are presented for some of the items from both the Census of 1935 and the Census of 1920 and in other cases for either or neither of these years depending, in part, upon whether the information was available. Information for inquiries carried in former census years, but not included in the questionnaire for 1940 is omitted from all the tables.

In some cases the summary tables for the States show more information than is carried in the county tables. In other cases, especially where information is available for 1940 only, more information is carried in the county tables than in the State summary tables. The reader is cautioned to observe both the State and county tables in order to obtain all the information which is contained in these volumes.

In the general report, Volume III, will carry United States and State totals for various subjects or items. This latter publication will also present comparative data, when available, for all earlier census years.
CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1940

Comparability of data.—The 1940 Census of Agriculture, in accordance with the law, was taken as of April 1, 1940. Consequently, all inventory items relate to that date. Crop and livestock production, with the exception of citrus fruits, is for the calendar year 1939. Production of citrus fruits in Arizona and California was reported for the bloom of 1939, while in all other citrus-producing areas it was given for the bloom of 1938.

For other years the inventory items relate to the date of the census and the production items to the preceding calendar year. When the date of the census has varied, affecting the comparability of the data for some items more than for others, the date of the enumeration or the year of production is usually indicated in the tables. The use of the statistics must be on guard when comparing the figures for one year with those for another.

The difference in the time of the year when the enumeration was made does not, alone, account for all of the changes which have occurred from one census year to another. Various factors, some conflicting in their tendencies, have been at work. For example, the advance of mechanized farming tends to reduce the number of landless sharecroppers under the control of an operator; the utilization of the acreage has been affected by commodity prices, by weather conditions, and by government programs; and internal employment has had its effect upon migration from farms. Studies of the returns and comparisons with previous censuses are contemplated. These studies should assist in evaluating the data and explaining the changes which have occurred.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Only those items which need clarification, or for which explanatory remarks are deemed necessary as to their comparability are discussed.

A farm.—The schedule form for 1940 was entitled "Farm and Ranch Schedule." This title was followed by a subtitle "Including Special Agricultural Operations." The following definition appeared on each schedule:

A farm, for Census purposes, is all land on which some agricultural operations are performed by one person, either by his own labor alone or with the assistance of members of his household, or hired employees. The land operated by a partnership is likewise considered a farm. A "farm" may consist of a single tract of land, or a number of separate tracts, and the several tracts may be held under different tenures, as when one tract is owned by the farmer and another tract is rented by him. When a landlord has one or more tenants, renters, croppers, or managers, the land operated by each is considered a farm. Thus, on a plantation the land operated by each tenant, cropper, or manager should be reported as a separate farm. In the same way, the land operated by the owner or manager by means of wage labor should likewise be reported as a separate farm.

Excludes dairy or dairy farm, beekeeping, fruit, flowers, potato farms, or farms producing seed, hay, or livestock; and does not report as a farm any tract of land of less than 5 acres, unless its agricultural produce in 1939 was valued at $250 or more.

The enumerators' handbook following this instruction was given:

The definition of a farm found on the face of the schedule must be interpreted by the enumerator. Note that for tracts of land of 5 acres or more but $250 limitation for value of agricultural produce does not apply. Such tracts, however, must have had some agricultural operations performed in 1939, or contemplated in 1940. A schedule must be prepared for each farm, ranch, or other establishment which meets the requirements set up in the definition. A schedule must be filled out for all tracts of land on which some agricultural operations were performed in 1939, or are contemplated in 1940, which might possibly meet the minimum requirements of a farm. When in doubt, always make out a schedule.

Farming, or agricultural operations, consists of the production of crops or plants, vines, and trees (excluding forestry operations) or of the keeping, grazing, or feeding of livestock for animal production or for hunting and sport, animal increases, or value enhancement. Livestock, for sale, and the raising of livestock for food in 1939 were an attempt at the single tract of land, or a number of separate tracts, and the several tracts may be held under different tenures, as when one tract is owned by the farmer and another tract is rented by him. When a landlord has one or more tenants, renters, croppers, or managers, the land operated by each is considered a farm. Thus, on a plantation the land operated by each tenant, cropper, or manager should be reported as a separate farm. In the same way, the land operated by the owner or manager by means of wage labor should likewise be reported as a separate farm.

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Excludes dairy or dairy farm, beekeeping, fruit, flowers, potato farms, or farms producing seed, hay, or livestock; and does not report as a farm any tract of land of less than 5 acres, unless its agricultural produce in 1939 was valued at $250 or more.
Farm values.—The enumerators were instructed to obtain from each farm operator the total value of the farm (land and buildings). This total value was to be reported in accordance with the market value. In deriving the average value per farm, it has always been assumed that the total value should be divided by the number of farms. This has been done for all years even though in 1940 operations with the same farm owned or leased were tabulated as having "0 acres" and "0" value. For part-owner operators, for the first time, the value of the owned portion of the farm was requested. These data appear in county table II.

When the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1941 was under consideration by Congress, a request was made that the Census Reports include the average value of farms of 30 acres and over. This information was needed in connection with the Farm Tenant Land Purchase Program. Consequently, such data are included in county tables.

The operator was also asked to give the value of all farm buildings on the farm. These values were necessary for the nearest approach the farm operator could give, and the figures obtained are probably somewhat less satisfactory than the figures for the land of the farm, both because of the nature of the building and which of the buildings should not be subtracted from the total value of the farm and the difference assumed to represent accurately the market value of the land alone.

Finally, the operator was asked to place a value on the farm improvements and machinery used in each of the farms. This was to represent the present market value and was to include not only the farm implements but also the tools; automobiles; tractors; motor trucks; trailer; wagons; harnesses; dairy equipment; crop dusting machine; combine; apples for making cider; and all other farm machinery. However, the values of commercial mills and factories, also permanently installed irrigation and drainage equipment, were mentioned specifically to be omitted.

Farm mortgage debt.—The farm mortgage inquiries on the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule, as heretofore, were to be answered by operating owners only. Tenants and managers, in many cases, would not know whether the farms they were operating were mortgaged and would be even less likely to know the amount of the mortgage and the contract rate of interest. The inquiries for the latest census read as follows:

If you own all or part of this farm—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you own any mortgage debt on the land and buildings—</th>
<th>Yes or No</th>
<th>Total amount of outstanding mortgage debt on land and buildings—</th>
<th>(in dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What was the annual rate (contract rate) of interest on the first mortgage debt—</td>
<td>(percent)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In many cases not all the land and buildings of a mortgaged farm are covered by mortgage. The above inquiries were not intended to ascertain the actual acreage under mortgage. The mortgage information given herein for part owners (operating owners who rented some land from others) relates only to the portion of the farm owned by them, for as with tenants, no attempt was made to secure the facts as to debt on the rented land. In the Census of 1940 a separate value of the mortgage on the entire farm, or of such farms still owned by others with whom the owner owns part of the farm, was secured for the first time. This separate value has made possible computations for the owner's equity as well as for his encumbrance.
X

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In county table VIII figures are given for an item labeled "Average of the rates of interest." These figures should be used with caution, as they represent an addition of the rates reported, divided by the number of reports. They do not necessarily represent average rates. For example, if interest rates were reported, as 5 percent on $20,000, 6-1/2 percent on $10,000, 6-1/2 percent on $8,000, and 8 percent on $2,000, the average of these rates would be obtained by dividing their sum by 24 (the number of reports). The result would be 6 percent, whereas, if extensions were made and a weighted rate secured, the average interest rate would be 5-3/5 percent.

As noted in the questions above, the annual interest rate should represent the contract rate on the first mortgage debt. Instructions are given to the enumerator that the rate should be the one specified in the first mortgage, even though a lower rate was temporarily in effect, as was true of many of the Federal Land Bank loans. A tabulation of farm mortgage indebtedness by interest rates has been made and will be presented by geographic divisions and States in chapter IV of volume III. This tabulation will afford some opportunity to judge the frequency of reports of temporary rates instead of contract rates.

Farm taxes. — The two tax questions on the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule read as follows:

If you own all or part of this farm—
Give amount of taxes levied in 1939 on the REAL ESTATE of this farm owned by you on April 1, 1940, including building and other improvements, but do not include taxes levied by drainage or irrigation districts.—

Give amount of taxes levied in 1939 on personal property owned by you on this farm (include livestock, machinery, etc., but do not include automobiles, trucks, or licenses).—

As with farm mortgages, the tax inquiries were restricted to ownership and were included in both loan and valuation tabulations. Taxes on farmland rented to others were to be excluded. Here, again, the tabulations were made in such manner that reports for operators who stated they did not own additional land were grouped together.

In many cases answers were supplied for the first question and none appeared for the second. In such instances, it may be that the operator did not pay any personal-property tax of the type specified or that the operator reported the total amount of his tax bill in the first question and could not or did not make a separate report for his personal taxes.

Cash-rented land. — In addition to cash tenants, another group of farm operators, namely, part owners, may be renting land on a cash basis. A presentation is made separately in State table 9 or of data reported for cash tenants and for part owners whose rented land was operated on a cash basis. In this table the information pertains, in part, to those operators who reported the amount of cash rent paid. The cash rent, the value of the farms, the value of the buildings, and the amount of cash rent paid are given so that derived figures are available for the amount of rent per acre and the amount of rent per $100 of value.

Work off farm. — Many operators of farms obtain additional income from personal services performed off their farms. In some cases the operator supplements his farm income with odd or spare time jobs: in many other cases his farming activities are only secondary, his off-farm job being his principal source of income. The inquiry carried on the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule ascertained the number of days the operator worked off his farm for pay or income and, of these days, the number spent (a) on another farm (or farms) where he was employed by someone else and (b) at jobs or businesses not connected with any farm. Instructions were given to the enumerators that this question was intended to secure a record of all time spent off the farm in 1939 for pay, income, or profit. Work of the operator in connection with a filling station, garage, tourist camp, or other nonfarm business conducted at the farm was considered as work off the farm and should have been reported under section "f" of the question. An operator who, on the census date, was running a different farm from the one he operated, is supposed to report the time spent on the former as work off his farm. This is indicated by the wording of the main part of the inquiry, which read:

How many days in 1939 did you work for pay or income off the farm you operated? — Days. (If no days, write "None").

An effort was made to get a positive report as to off-farm work from every operator. If there were no off-farm work, an answer of "None" was to be supplied. Instructions could not always supply an answer to this question.

Age of operator. — Farm operators have been classified by age for several censuses and the absolute figures for six age groups are shown, by tenure of operator, in State table 10. Age data are also shown in this table by tenure for both white and nonwhite operators for 1940, the only year for which data are available. Age data in County table IX are restricted to the average age for operators classified by color and for operators classified by tenure, disregarding color.

Year of occupancy. — The question on the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule, "Year when you began to operate this farm—(Year)," reflects, in part, the stability or instability of operators on a particular farm. No account was taken as to whether the operator had ever had previous farm experience; for example, if an operator began operating his farm in 1940, it may have been the first time he was ever gainfully employed and not that he was unstable in his term of occupancy and had just moved from another farm. In making comparisons between the tenure classes as to the length of time the operators had been on their farms, it is well to consider the average age of the operators in the identical tenure classes.

In both 1940 and 1935, only the year in which the operator began to operate his farm was secured. Since the Census of 1920 was taken as of April 1 and that of 1930 as of January 1, it is impossible to classify the data so as to make exact comparisons between the two years. This lack of complete comparability also prevails in regard to the data obtained in 1940 with those obtained in 1930 and earlier years when the monthly, as well as the yearly, of the initial operation was secured and used in tabulating the reports. Hence, in State table 10 the year of occupancy is given for the 1940 Census, while for earlier census years the data have been translated into the number of years the operators had been operating their farms. In State table 10 averages are presented for operators, classified by color and tenure and in County table IX averages are presented for operators, classified by color, and a second group of averages for operators, classified by tenure. These averages were obtained by making a summation of all years reported for a given class and dividing the total by the total number of operators reporting for that class. The resulting quotient was shown as a whole number; for example, when the average came to something in excess of 1929 but not as much as 1930, the average year shown in the table is 1929.

Residence of farm operator. — Information was secured in 1940 as to whether the operator of the farm resided on the farm he was operating. The question read on this farm? — (Year). The information obtained as a result of this inquiry, since it is available for the one year only, is carried in county table IX only and does not appear in any State table.

Cooperative marketing. — Since a clear-cut distinction is not easily made as to what types of transactions constitute cooperative selling and purchasing, and since inquiries carried in former censuses as to dollar volume of business were not fully satisfactory, the inquiries in 1940 were designed to get only positive or negative answers as to whether such transactions were made by the farm operator in the prior year. Three questions were designed, one relating to cooperative selling, the second to cooperative buying, and the third to business done through a cooperative service organization. Instructions were given to the enumerators that service cooperative included mutual fire insurance companies, mutual telephone companies, cooperative truck routes, spray rings, rural electrification associations, etc.

Farm labor. — Many and insistent demands produced the labor inquiry which comprised a part of the agricultural schedule for 1940. Several types of information were obtained. Some persons wished to secure data which would show the varying supply and demand for labor at various seasons of the year. Others wished to obtain similar information by the type of labor hired, that is, whether hired or available for hire by the month, day, or on a piece work or contract basis. The amount paid for various classes of labor was also wanted.
After many conferences by representatives of interested agencies and private individuals, the following question, somewhat complex in nature, was formulated:

### X.—FARM LABOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS OF LABOR</th>
<th>Number of workers 14 years old and over and wages paid for farm work on this farm (do not include housework or contract construction work):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Operator and unpaid members of his family</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Labor hired by month</td>
<td>(Est. 30–30, last year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Labor hired by day or week</td>
<td>(Est. 30–30, last year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) Others (include piece work and contract labor)</td>
<td>(Est. 30–30, last year)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is to be noted that adequate corrections for labor data, especially for type and numbers, cannot be made where reports were improperly recorded or where no reports were given.

In presenting the data, the cash expenditures for labor have been listed along with other farm expenditures and not in the section relating to the numbers employed. It should be noted that the expenditures for farm labor represent the amounts paid in cash. For certain types of labor, cash payments are often supplemented with the furnishing of board, housing, feed, and pasturage for animals, or products of the farm for the use of the laborer's family.

Farm expenditures.—As noted in the foregoing under farm labor, the inquiry for that item specified expenditures in cash. For all other expenditures, it was pointed out in the instructions to enumerators that cash paid out and other obligations incurred during 1930 for all specified goods and services used on the farm should be included. In the case of a tenant-operated farm, contributions made by the landlord, as well as those made by the tenant operator, were to be included. Another instruction stated that a farm operator who rented land to others should report only the expenditures for the part he operated.

The inquiry for the amount expended for farm implements and machinery specified the inclusion of expenditures for automobiles, tractors, and motor trucks, while for expenditures for building materials specified the inclusion of lumber, roofing materials, hardware, cement, paint, fencing material, etc., for use on the farm.

Farm machinery and facilities.—In 1940, an inventory record was made for the number of automobiles, motor trucks, and tractors on each farm. The enumerator was cautioned to include all automobiles owned by hired help living on the farm. Any tractors which were home-made were to be listed under the inquiry relating to that item. For each of these three general classes of equipment, the year of latest model on the farm was to be recorded. The number of farms reporting each model is presented by tenure of operator and by individual year of model beginning with the most recent model and extending to those approximately 10 years of age. For all older models the number of farms reporting is shown in one group. Such data are presented in State table 11. In county table X the year of latest model is given for two 5-year groups and for a third group in which all older models fail.

The averages given for the year of latest model were obtained by adding the years reported for the individual models and dividing that sum by the total number of farms reporting. The resulting quotient is shown as a whole number; for example, a quotient of 1924 (with or without a decimal) is given in the tables as 1924. The average age of any of the types of equipment on the farm might be a little older than indicated by the average for the year of latest model, as shown in the tables, since in some cases there would be cars, trucks, or tractors, of an earlier model on the farm.

An inquiry was carried on the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule as to whether there was an electric distribution line within one-quarter mile of the farm dwelling. This distance was recommended by engineers as the probable range of potential users of electric current. Of the dwellings that were already lighted by electricity, the source of current was ascertained, that is, whether from a power line or from a home plant. Of those lighted by a home plant a presentation is made of the number within one-quarter mile of an electric distribution line.

The enumerator was required to indicate each kind of road on which a farm was located. Many farms have frontage on more than one type of road. For such farms, the tabulations were made so that the higher or superior class of road was shown in one group and the secondary type of road in another group. Such a distinction is made in State table 11. In county table X the farms are classified according to the highest type of road recorded for them.

Livestock and livestock products.—For convenience, the term "livestock" in the Census Reports is made to include not only domestic animals such as horses, mules, cattle, swine, sheep, and goats, but also fur-bearing animals (kept in captivity), poultry, and bees. It follows, then, that the term "livestock products" should include production from the above classes.

In making comparisons between the various census years for any particular class of livestock shown in the accompanying tables, several points should be kept in mind, two of which are:

1. It is characteristic for some classes of livestock to change in numbers between years through rather definite cycles, i.e., from a low point to a high point and back again over a period of years. These cycles often follow price relationships. Census taken every five years might fall at different points of the cycle and thus interfere with the determination of long-time trends. Cyclical changes have an effect on the volume of production.

For the same reasons, in the months of enumeration, it seriously affects the comparability of the statistics for most kinds of livestock, again making it difficult to determine the trend in numbers between census periods. As noted in the livestock tables, the 1940 and 1950 censuses were taken as of April 1; the 1935, 1925, and 1910 censuses as of January 1; and the 1910 census as of April 15. In the period from January 1 to April 15 (or April 16) rapid changes are taking place in the numbers of each class of livestock due to decreases from farm slaughter, deaths, and marketings during this three-month period and to increases due to births and purchases. The net effect of these influences cannot be readily appraised. For the country as a whole, April 1 is in the midst of the season when colts, calves, lambs, spring pigs, and other livestock are born. In some parts of the country, a census on that date would include many young animals; in other parts, it would include relatively few of such animals; and in still other parts, varying proportions would be included. For this reason and because of the necessity of limiting the number of inquiries, those responsible for the 1940 census schedule thought it best that all recently-born animals should be excluded from the enumeration.

A change of data from January 1 to April 1 may seriously affect comparability in enumeration of migratory sheep in the Western States. January 1 will usually find such sheep on the winter range but April 1 may find them in a different county or even a different State, en route to or on the spring-fall range. The instructions to the enumerators were that sheep on open range be enumerated where the ranch headquarters are located.

The inquiries for 1940 were so worded that, when considering young animals and poultry, inclusions were made for horse and mule colts and calves over 3 months of age, pigs and kids (goat) over 4 months of age, lambs over 6 months of age, and poultry over 4 months of age, on the date of the census. Because of the varying age groups included in the different census years, a tabulation appears as a part of this text presentation showing what age groups the numerical data refer. The tabulation is confined to the material appearing as part of this volume.
## XII

**CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1940**

**AGE AND SIX GROUPS ENUMERATED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES OF LIVESTOCK, 1940, WITH APPROXIMATELY COMPARABLE GROUPS, 1910 TO 1935; AND OWNERSHIP OF BEES, 1910 TO 1940**

(See State tables 1, 13, and 14, and county tables IV, V, and XI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>1940 (April 1)</th>
<th>1945 (January 1)</th>
<th>1930 (April 1)</th>
<th>1935 (January 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horses and/or mules</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 5 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mules and male colts</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 3 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colt</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>1 to 27 mo. old</td>
<td>Under 3 yr. old</td>
<td>Over 5 mo. old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male colts</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 3 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle and calves</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 3 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows and heifers</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 27 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kept mainly for milk production</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 27 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kept mainly for beef production</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 27 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hogs and pigs</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
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<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats and kids</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
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<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep and lambs</td>
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<td>Over 6 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkeys</td>
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<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geese</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
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<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
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<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>All ages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pheasants</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
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<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hives of bees</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 4 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News sold by operator or by others</td>
<td>Over 4 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>All ages</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>1940 (April 1)</th>
<th>1945 (January 1)</th>
<th>1930 (April 1)</th>
<th>1935 (January 1)</th>
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<td>For animals in captivity</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 5 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
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<td>Slain for food</td>
<td>Farm reporting number</td>
<td>Over 5 mo. old</td>
<td>All ages</td>
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</table>

1: Not available.

In theory, a change in the date of the enumeration should have little effect on the volume of production reported for the previous calendar year. However, experience indicates that, when accurate records of production are not kept, daily production of milk and of eggs at the time of the enumeration may affect the total volumes reported for a year. This means that a census of milk and egg production taken near the peak of production in April, for the previous year, would tend to give somewhat higher figures than a census taken in January which is near the low point.

In county tables IV and V, where the data are given only for the last 3 censuses, the inventory data for 1935 are given in italics, since that census was taken as of January 1 while the 1940 and 1930 enumerations were as of April 1.

Hogs and pigs.—In 1940, pigs on hand on April 1 which had been born since December 1, 1939, were not to be counted as a part of the farm inventory. In some of the previous censuses taken in April the inventory had been limited to hogs on hand which had been born prior to January 1 of the year. The change, so that any pigs under 4 months of age would be excluded, was made at the request of the United States Department of Agriculture which divides farrowings into “spring” and “fall,” the former including pigs born from December 1 to the following June 1 and the latter including pigs born from June 1 and December 1.

Poultry.—To be counted in 1940, all poultry on hand on the census date had to be over 4 months of age. This age limit, as in the case of pigs, had been raised. By excluding
rows under 3 months in several of the preceding censuses, an approach was made to securing information for laying flocks, particularly for chickens. Since many chickens which go to market as broilers would be excluded from the enumeration in (or approximately 3 months), some chickens intended for broilers might be included in the enumerations and some might be excluded. By changing the minimum age to 4 months it was hoped that chickens on hand on the census date which were to be marketed as broilers would be excluded from the enumeration in 1940.

Separate inquiries were carried on the 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule for chickens, turkeys, and ducks. Another inquiry was provided for other classes of poultry. The names of these other classes of poultry were to be given along with the numbers on hand over 4 months old on April 1, 1940, and not the numbers raised in 1939. County data for chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, and guineas are presented in county table V. State table 14 presents totals for farms reporting, numbers on hand, and numbers raised, for pigeons, peafowls, and quail. In many cases the names of the other classes of poultry were not given. The factual data for such reports are included under the heading "Unspecified and other."

Bees and honey.—Beeskeeping has been considered as an agricultural operation. At the request of those interested in apiculture, the form of the inquiry was changed in 1940 so that the total number reported was divided among those reporting hives or hives of bees. The first related to hives on a farm on April 1 which were owned by someone other than the farm operator and the second related to hives owned by the farm operator whether kept on his farm or on nonfarm land such as deserts, hills, swamps, or any other place of which the bees have been planted for that specific purpose in county table V, at the beginning of which totals for the State are given. If the number of farms reporting hives of bees for each of these groups are added, the total may differ somewhat from the number of farms reporting hives of bees shown in State table 14, since the figures shown in State table 3 for this item represent the number of farms having bees regardless of whether owned by the operator or by others but kept on farms.

The schedule inquiry in 1940 regarding honey production was addressed to the farm operator and read as follows: "Honey produced by your bees in 1939 . . . pounds . . . ." In order to get a report on substantial amounts of honey production for bee owners whose bees were on another farm, the following instruction was given to the enumerators:

If a farm is owned by a person other than the operator, not only list on the schedule for this farm the number of hives but also inquire as to whether the owner of such colonies has other bees. If he has as many as 30 hives altogether, on this farm and elsewhere, list him as a beekeeper in the county, and determine whether a schedule should be obtained. If such is the case, prepare a farm schedule, including thereon the total quantity of honey produced by all hives on his farm and the county, and send to your supervisor the name and address of the owner of the bees and any information pertaining to his operations which might be helpful, in the enumeration, such as name of owner, the location of his farm, the extent of land under cultivation, etc., in order that a Farm and Ranch Schedule may be obtained from him.

Goats and mohair.—The inventory of goats and kids for April 1, 1940, related to those animals over 4 months old on that date. Separate data were secured for Angora and for "other" goats and for the first time an inquiry was included relating to the number of goats milked. The quantity of mohair and kid hair clipped in 1939 was also reported.

Farmslaughter and purchases and sales of livestock.—Data are shown for four separate classes of animals butchered, namely, cattle (excluding calves), calves, hogs and pigs, and sheep and lambs. In the county table, figures are also given for the number of farms reporting slaughter of any of these four classes of animals. Another set of figures is given in the county table only for the number of farms reporting cattle and/or calves butchered. The 1940 inquiry included animals butchered for food on the farm or in regard to the number of hogs from that farm. Animals butchered off the farm on a custom basis, or otherwise, for use on the farm were to be reported by the operator of the farm for which the animals were butchered.

For purchases and sales, data are shown, in county table X, only, in two classes of animals, namely, cattle, excluding calves; calves; hogs and pigs; and sheep and lambs. Data are also presented therein for the farms reporting the purchase or sale of cattle and/or calves.

FOR ANIMALS (KEPT IN CAPTIVITY).—By definition, all establishments or businesses which kept fur-bearing animals for income or profit were classified as farms provided they met certain general requirements. However, animals of the type of animals kept or pelts taken was secured only for silver fox and mink. These data are presented in State table 14 only, but not in a county table.

Crops.—The 1940 Farm and Ranch Schedule was prepared in such a manner that every crop grown on the farm or land leased as farms should have been enumerated. The crop inquiries were varied in different sections of the country so that separate questions could be carried for all crops widely grown in each major area. If a separate inquiry was not carried for a particular crop, then, of course, it would be reported under one of several "catch-all" questions on the schedule. By means of different schedules for each region it was also possible to use the unit of measure that was most prevalent in an area for reporting production.

The acreage, or area, given in the tables for the several crops represents the acreage harvested in 1939 with the following exceptions: The acreage given for land in fruit orchards, vineyards, and planted nut trees represents the land in bearing and nonbearing trees and vines, on the census date; and the acreage, or area, for horticultural specialties represents the land under fruit trees or vines at the census date. The harvested area was made. It should be pointed out that the acreage harvested is often much less than the acreage planted; also, that a crop intended for harvest in one manner might be harvested in an entirely different manner; for example, soybeans were cut for hay in one farm, while in another farm these beans may have actually been hogg'd or cut for hay. The following instruction was given to the enumerators for 1940:

If a crop which did not justify harvesting in the usual manner was hogg'd or hogg'd off, or was cut for forage, it should be considered as harvested. If any harvesting, any appreciable part of a field was skipped, enter only the acres actually harvested. Where the entire field was gone over in harvesting, report the entire acreage as harvested even though the yield was small.

The production for the various crops represents the quantity harvested in 1939, with the exception of citrus fruit production which was to be reported for the crop from the bloom of 1938 for Arizona and California and from the bloom of 1939 for all other areas in which citrus fruits were grown.

In comparing the statistics for one census year with those for another, it should be borne in mind that the acreage of crops (or the number of fruit trees or vines) and the number of farms reporting are, on the whole, a better index of the changes or trends in the agriculture of the country than the quantity of crop production, since variation in quantity may be due largely to favorable or unfavorable seasons or to other factors.

Units of measure.—The unit of measure for reporting production of some crops has varied from one census year to the next. As has been noted the schedule for 1940 made it possible to secure the production of some crops in varying units for the major geographic regions. In the earlier censuses, production of a crop was quite generally, though not universally, reported in a standard unit for all areas with the result that the quantity harvested was given for some areas in terms of containers not widely used in those areas. Types of containers and their cubic content have varied over the years with production and marketing practices. This has been especially true of units of measure for vegetables and fruits. It has been found impossible to obtain the production of vegetables in terms of standard containers, hence, the resort to use of units of sales, which has its limitations.

In the tables, the current production of the several crops is shown in the unit of measure carried on the schedule; for example, is shown for apples. Data are given for States except Arizona and California where it is given in tons or fractions thereof, since the schedule required the production of this crop in those respective units. In the State tables the historical data are given for most of the crops in the unit carried on the most recent schedule for that area. This often required that the figures for earlier years be converted into different units from those reported and published for those years. Conversions have been made by using the weights in current use. These weights, factors, or used in
making the conversions will be published in the general report, volume III, where the data for each crop are brought together and shown by States in the same table.

For a few crops, the type of container, or weight per unit, has varied much from one census year to another; but it has been deemed inadvisable to show the production for other years in terms of the current census year’s unit. Peanuts, which were reported in pounds in 1939 and in bushels in earlier years, afford a good example of the difficulty of converting production figures. There has been a considerable shift in the type of peanuts grown in the various States owing principally to market demands and, in part, to farm production practices and crop programs. The Virginia type of peanut weighs 22 pounds per bushel; the runner type, 22 pounds per bushel; and the Spanish type, 30 pounds per bushel. Production of these types has varied widely within many of the States through the years and no reliable data on the production by types within the States are available.

Corn.—In State table 4 and county table VI figures are presented for the item “corn for all purposes.” This item includes corn harvested for grain, for silage, and that hogg’d or grazed off, or cut for fodder. It does not, however, include sweet corn and other corn for roasting ears or for canning, popcorn, “Egyptian corn,” karf, or milo maize. There is no duplication of acreage for the uses shown in the table, that is, for silage, grain, and for all uses when totaled will equal that reported for “corn for all purposes.”

Sorghums.—In the Census of 1940 sorghums for silage were reported separately from those which were cut for hay or fodder. Separate figures for these appear in county table IV and not in State table 4. Under the item “sorghums for grain,” the enumerator was instructed to “include the seed of sweet sorghums and the seed from the virus hybrids, as well as from grain sorghums.” As in the case of corn, there is no duplication in the acres of sorghums harvested for grain and the acreage cut for silage, hay, or fodder.

Small grains.—In the tables, figures are given for small grains threshed. The term “grain threshed” is broad enough to include small grains harvested with combines, which are in general use in many areas. Acreages of oats, wheat, barley, and other small grains which were harvested for hay are shown with the hay crops and not under “small grains.”

For small grains (other than a flax and wheat mixture) threshed,” the following instruction was given to the enumerators:

Even though the mixture of grains may be separated in the process of harvesting or after harvest and the quantities of the separate grains determined, report the total of the mixture here and do not report under the questions for those specific crops the quantities of the separate kinds included in this mixture.

In addition to an inquiry for “oats threshed” and an inquiry for “small grain hay” which included oats cut for hay, another inquiry was carried in the small grain block of the schedule. This followed: “This is for grain when ripe or nearly ripe and fed unthreshed (omit oat hay).”

Hay crops.—For the enumerators’ guidance as to what hay crops were to be included under “annual legumes saved for hay,” the following list was made as a part of the schedule inquiry:

- Compass
- Peanuts
- Canola
- Other peas
- Vetches
- Crotalaria
- Soybeans
- Lupines
- Mungbeans
- Other beans
- Negrovered
- Velvetchens
- Horsebeans
- Other peas

This listing was followed by a note concerning byproducts used for hay or straw which read: “Include peanut ‘vines saved for hay, but omit ‘straw where beans or peas have been threshed.’ Separate figures for sweetclover hay and lespedeza hay were secured in the 1940 Census for the first time. These data appear in county table VII.

Miscellaneous crops.—The inquiries for the individual annual legumes were designed to obtain the acreage of each crop grown alone and the acreage grown with companion crops. Because of different planting practices, the interplanted acreage cannot be satisfactorily reduced to an equivalent solid acreage to obtain a true acreage for any particular legume. That part of the acreage of the individual annual legumes cut for hay was to be reported only under the separate inquiries for legumes, but, also, in the hay section of the schedule under “annual legumes cut for hay.” The acreage and production of annual legumes cut for hay appears in State table 4 and county table VII. If soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts were grown extensively 12 soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts were grown extensively 12

Vegetables.—The data for Irish potatoes and sweetpotatoes are presented in State table 4 and county table VII. Information is given in State table 10 and county table XII for the farms reporting, acreage, and value of the individual vegetables harvested for sale (excluding Irish and sweet potatoes). Data are usually given for more kinds of vegetables in State table 10 than in county table XII.

The inquiry on the 1940 schedule relating to vegetables grown for home use was intended to secure the value of all vegetables grown in 1939 on a particular farm for consumption by the operator’s family and by all other household living on the farm.

Agricultural specialties.—Special emphasis was given in the instructions to enumerators that production in mushroom cellsars, nurseries, greenhouses, and similar establishments were considered agricultural operations, for which a farm and ranch schedule should be secured, if minimum requirements of a farm were met. Three inquiries were made in part, of such regionalized schedule to obtain the area and the amount of sales of such products.

Small fruits.—The figures given for the individual small fruits represent the acreage and production for cane, or cultivated, varieties only, with the exception that vegetable berries were considered a harvested crop if the land was used primarily for their production. The 1940 schedule specified that nonbearing acreage was not to be included.

Tree fruits, nuts, and grapes.—On many farms there are a few fruit or planted nut trees, or grapevines which are not a part of a well-defined orchard or vineyard. In many such cases reports were secured for the number of trees, with or without production, but no acreage was shown. An acreage was supplied when there were enough trees or plants, at normal planting distances, to make two acres. For example, the number of farms reporting land in bearing and nonbearing fruit orchards, as shown in State table 17 and county table XIV, is usually smaller than the number of farms reporting tree fruits, nuts, or grapes of any kind.

Demand has been made for the number of farms reporting orchard fruits, the number of farms reporting citrus fruits, and the number of farms reporting nuts. State table 17 and county table XIV present this type of data. In several regions where fruit production is important, a separation was secured for cherries into sour cherries and sweet cherries; of peaches into clingstone and freestone; of pears into burlat and other pears; of plums into plums and prunes; and of table apples into table, raisin, and wine or juice varieties. Such information, when available, is carried in State table 17 and county table XIV.

Maple syrup and sugar.—Production of maple syrup and sugar was carried as a separate inquiry only in Region I which roughly comprises those States in the northwestern part of the country. When reported, it will appear in State table 17 and county table XIV.