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 conjunction 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 enumeration to be taken in 1910, 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, 1926, 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 1940, 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 1860, 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 transmitted 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 size 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 sales of cow 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 15 States. This latter table carries the acres and average yields of some of the principal crops which were harvested from irrigated land with comparative data for nonirrigated land. The 15 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, vegetable, 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 values.

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 data for each farm from the census, 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 table. 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.

A 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.
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 1940. For other years the inventory items relate to the date of the census and the production items to the preceding calendar year. Since 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 user of the statistics must be on guard when comparing the figures for one census 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 put larger acreages 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 industrial employment has had its effect upon migration from farms to cities or from cities to farms. Special 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 the 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 names, as when one tract is owned by the former and another tract is rented by him. When a landowner has one or more tenants, renters, croppers, or managers, the land operated by each is considered as a separate farm, on a plantation the land operated by each cropper, renter, or tenant should be reported as a separate farm, and the land operated by the owner or manager by names of wage hands should likewise be reported as a separate farm.

Do not report as a farm any tract of land of less than 3 acres, unless its agricultural products in 1939 were valued at $250 or more.

In the enumerators’ handbook the following instruction was given:

The definition of a farm found on the face of the schedule must be carefully studied by the enumerator. Note that for tracts of land of 3 acres or more the $250 limitation for value of agricultural products 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 meets the principal requirements of a farm. When in doubt, always make out a schedule.

Farming, or agricultural operations, consist of the production of crops, vegetables, and trees (excluding forestry operations) or of the keeping, grazing, or feeding of livestock for animal products (including serums), animal increases, or value enhancement. Livestock includes all kinds of all kinds of hogs, poultry, and fur-bearing animals in captivity, in addition to mules, asses, burros, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and hogs. Frequently, certain operations are not generally recognized as farming. This is especially true where no crops are grown or where the establishments are not commonly considered as farms.

A partial list of types of specialized agriculture and of operations not generally recognized as farming but for which farm and ranch schedules were required is provided. This list included such operations as apiaries, blueberries, cranberries, currants, gooseberries, gooseberry vines, mushroom cellars, etc.

Farm operator.—A "farm operator," according to the Census definition, is a person who operates a farm, either performing the labor himself or directly supervising it. For all practical purposes, the number of farm operators is identical with the number of farms.

Color of operator.—Farm operators are classified as "white" and "nonwhite." White includes Mexicans and nonwhites includes Negroes, Indians, Chinese, Japanese, and all other nonwhite classes.

Race of operator.—Statistics by race of operator are given in one of the State table but no data of this kind are presented in any of the county tables. Separate figures are given for the nonwhite races only.

Tenure of operator.—Farm operators are also classified according to the tenures under which they operate their farms. In State tables 1 and 2 comparative figures are given for full owners, part owners, managers, and "all tenants" for the Northern and Western States, whereas one subclass of tenants, viz., croppers, is added for the Southern States. In county table II data are presented for additional subclasses of tenants. These are cash tenants, share-cash tenants, share tenants including croppers, and others. For all others, a supplementary table to county table II, for the Southern States only, some data are carried separately for croppers. In the supplemental table to county table II, which, as just indicated, is a part of the reports for the Southern States only, information is presented by color and tenure, i.e., a tenure breakdown is shown for each of the two color classifications.

Full owners own all the land they operate.

Part owners own a part and rent from others the rest of the land they operate.

Managers operate farms for others and receive wages or salaries for their services. Persons acting merely as caretakers or hired as laborers are not classified as managers.

Tenants operate hired or rented land only. Cash tenants pay a cash rental. Cash tenants pay a cash rental, such as $4.50 per acre for the cropland or $500 for the use of the whole farm. Share-cash tenants pay a part of their rental in cash and part as a share of crops or livestock production. Share tenants pay a share only of either the crops or livestock production or both. Croppers have been defined as share tenants, to whom their landlords furnish all of the work animals or tractor power in lieu of work animals. Other tenants include those whose rental agreement was unspecified and those who did not fall definitely into one of the above subclasses.

Farms reporting.—The term "farms reporting," as used in the tables, indicates the number of farms for which the specified items shown in the particular table were reported. If there were 1,922 farms in a county and only 1,485 of those had chickens on hand over 4 months old, April 1, 1940, and the enumeration of that item was complete, the number of farms reporting chickens for that year would be 1,485.

Land area.—The approximate land areas given for the States and for the counties resulted from a complete reappraisal of the United States, its individual States, and their counties and, consequently, may be at variance with those published in earlier Census Reports even though the county boundaries may not have changed. The measurements involved geodetic values and planimeter readings, and the latest and most authentic maps to be secured from public and private sources were used.

Land in farms.—The acreage designated as "all land in farms" includes considerable areas of land not actually under cultivation and some land not even used for pasture or grazing, but all such land must have been under the control of the operator and considered a part of his farm. However, large areas of timberland or other nonagricultural land held by an operator of a farm as a separate business, and not used for farming, were not to be included in the statistics. Farms were to be excluded. Land neither owned nor leased but from which crops, including wild hay, were harvested, was to be considered as part of the farm. When cattle, sheep, or other livestock were
INTRODUCTION

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 total number of farms. This has been done for all years, even though in all operations prior to 1940, farms or tracts 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 table II.

When the Agricultural Appropriation Bill for 1943 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 presented in council table III.

The operator was also asked to give the value of all farm buildings on the farm. These values were necessarily the nearest approximation the farm operator could give, and the figures obtained are probably somewhat less satisfactory than the figures for the total real-estate value; in other words, the value 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 implements and machinery used in operating the farm. 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; trailers; wagons; harnesses; dairy equipment; cotton gins; threshing machines; combines; apparatus for making cider, grape juice, and sirup, and for dairying fruits; and all other farm machinery and buildings. However, the value of commercial mills and factories, also permanently installed irrigation and drainage equipment, were mentioned specifically to be omitted.

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

If you own all or part of this farm—

Was there any mortgage debt on the land and buildings so owned on April 1, 1940?

Total amount of outstanding mortgage debt on such land and buildings so owned.
(See next column)

What was the annual rate (contract rate of interest on the first mortgage debt (Report this rate to nearest 1/4 per cent.)

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, even 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 owned portion of the farm for these owner-tenant operations was recorded for the first time. This separate value has made possible computations for the owner's equity as well as for his encumbrance.

Owner-operators who rent land to others often think of their entire holdings as one farm, especially if the tracts are contiguous, thus having in mind the meaning different from the Census definition of a farm. For such operators, the mortgage may cover the whole or any part of the land owned; if an enumerator did not make it clear that the mortgage information was to relate only to that portion which the owner himself was operating, the respondent might have included in his answered data for the land on which he was operating. A blanket mortgage, covering both the land the owner was operating and land rented out, could not always be easily apportioned to the respective tracts. Therefore, in the tabulation of the results from the mortgage inquiries, consideration was given to those which can not be apportioned to the land owned by the owner owning any land in addition to that which he was operating. This type of inquiry was first carried in 1930.
In county table VIII figures are given for an item labeled "Average of the rates of interest on loans reported, divided by the number of reports. They do not represent weighted averages. For example, if interest rates were reported as 5 percent on $20,000, 6-1/2 percent on $10,000, 5-1/2 percent on $8,000, and 5 percent on $2,000, the average of these rates would be obtained by dividing their sum (24) by the number of reports (4). The result would be 6 percent, whereas, if extensions were made and a weighted rate secured, the average interest rate would be 6-1/8 percent.

As noted in the questions above, the annual interest rate should represent the cost of money from the first mortgage holder. An effort was made to secure this information. Instructions were 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:

"Give amount of taxes levied in 1939 on the REAL ESTATE of this farm owned by you on April 1, 1940 (include buildings and other improvements). The value of land, 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, taxes, fees, or licenses.

As with farm mortgages, the tax inquiries were restricted to owner-operators, both full owners and part owners. Taxes on farm land rented to others were to be excluded. Here, again, the tabulations were made in such manner that reports for operators who stated that 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 types 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. A presentation is made separately in State table 7 of the 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 most part, to those operators who reported the amount of cash rent paid. The average cost of the farms (the value of the buildings), 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 farms.—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 general idea 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 work off the farm and should have been reported under section 3 of the schedule. The operator worked off the farm on a "pool" basis, on the census date, was running a different farm from the one he operated. In 1939 was not 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. However, the enumerator could not always supply answers 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. Averages are also given in this table by tenure for both white and nonwhite operators for 1940, the only year for which averages in county tables 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—(With)," reflects, in part, the stability or instability of the 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 form of occupancy and had just moved from another farm. In making comparison 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 1940 was taken as of April 1 and that of 1935 as of January 1, it is impossible to classify the data so as to make exact comparison between the two years. This lack of complete comparable data prevents the drawing of conclusions in 1940 with those obtained in 1930 and earlier years when the month, as well as the year, 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 operator 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 10.25 but not as much as 10.25, the average year is shown in the tables as 1930.

Residence of farm operators.—Information was secured in 1940 as to whether the operator of the farm resided on the farm he was operating. The question read "Do you reside on this farm—(Yes or No)." 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 previous calendar 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 cooperatives included mutual fire insurance companies, mutual telephone companies, cooperative truck routes, spray rings, rural electric associations, etc.

Farm labor.—Many and insistent demands were made by the survey which comprised a part of the agricultural schedules for 1940. Several types of information were desired. Some persons wished to secure data which would show the variety of kinds of work available for labor on the farm during 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.
INTRODUCTION

After many conferences by representatives of interested agencies and private individuals, the following question, somewhat complex in nature, was formulated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>X—FARM LABOR</th>
<th>37. Number of workers 14 years old and over and wages paid for farm work on the farm (do not include household or contractual construction work):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLASS OF LABOR</td>
<td>Number of persons 14 years old and over working the equivalent of 3 or more days the week of Mar. 9-15, this year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Operator and unpaid members of his family</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Labor hired by month</td>
<td>(c) Labor hired by day or week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Total cash costs)</td>
<td>(Comes costs)</td>
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</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 amount paid in cash. For certain types of labor, cash payments are often supplemented with the furnishing of board, housing, feeding and pastureage 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 other expenditures, i.e., those made in kind, 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 that for expenditures for building materials specified the inclusion of lumber, roofing materials, hardware, cement, paint, fencing material, etc., for the improvement of 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 automobiles owned by hired help living on the farm. Any tractors which were horse-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.

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 defining 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 X. 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. The tabulation of "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. A census taken every five years might fall at different points of the cycle and thus interfere with the determination of long-term trends. Cyclical changes have an effect on the volume of production.

A change of date 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 (goats) 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 various age groups included in the different census years, a tabulation appears as a part of this text presentation showing to what age groups the numerical data refer. The tabulation is confined to the material appearing as part of this volume.
### CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1940

**Age and Sex Groups Enumerated for Various Classes of Livestock, 1940, With Approximately Comparable Groups, 1910 to 1935; and Ownership of Bees, 1920 to 1940**

(See state tables 4, 13, and 14, and county tables IV, V, and XI)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>1940 (April 1)</th>
<th>1940 (January 1)</th>
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<th>1940 (January 1)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horses and/or mules</td>
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<td>Bulls and calves</td>
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<td>Cattle</td>
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<td>Goats</td>
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<td>Sheep and lambs</td>
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<td>Turkeys</td>
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<td>Ducks</td>
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<td>Geese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guinea fowl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pigeons</td>
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<td>Quail</td>
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<td>Pheasants</td>
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<td>Hives of bees</td>
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<td>Hogs and pigs</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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**Notes:**

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 does affect the total volume reported for a year. This means that a census of milk and egg production taken near the peak of production in April and the previous month 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 and pigs on hand which had been born prior to January 1 of the census year. The change, so that any pig 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 between 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...
INTRODUCTION

Fowls 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 are about 12 weeks of age (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 enumerated.

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 number of hens on hand or on farm land as hens, 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, pheasants, and quail. In many cases the names of other classes of poultry were not given. The factual data for such reports are included under a 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 inquiries were carried on with regard to the number of 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, mountains, etc. For each of these two groups are presented 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 5 since the figures shown in State table 5 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 hives 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 on this farm there are bees owned by a person other than the operator, it may 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 on nonfarm land such as deserts, hills, mountains, etc., he should visit him in your district, and examine 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 his bees . . . . If such owner is not in your district, or is outside the State, and the address of the owner is known, the enumerator is requested to notify the address of the owner and any information pertaining to his operations which might be helpful in the enumeration, such as number of hives of bees on this farm, a statement whether he has other bee and where located, 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, kid, is also reported.

Farms slaughter 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 in 1939 for use on the particular farm or for sale 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 XI only, for four specific 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 of cattle or of cattle and/or calves.
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 so much from one census year to another, that a few have been deemed 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. 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; Southeastern Runner type, 28 pounds per bushel; and the Spanish type, 30 pounds per bushel. Information 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 hogged 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," Kerr, or milo maize. There is no duplication of acreage for the uses shown in the table, that is, the acreage for all uses totaled will equal that reported for "corn for all purposes."

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

Small grains.—In the tables, figures are given for small grains threshed. The term "grain threshed" is broad enough to include 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 the items "mixed 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 harvesting 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 out for hay, another inquiry was carried in the small grain section of the schedule worded as follows: "Oats cut for grain when ripe or nearly ripe and fed unthreshed (oat cut 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 a part of the schedule inquiry:

- Coopesees
- Peanuts
- Canadian peas
- Austrian peas
- Other peas
- Vetches
- Crotalaria
- Smaller beans
- Velvetbeans
- Various beans
- Mungbeans
- Other beans
- Soybeans
- Lupines
- Horsebeans
- Beans
- Jutebeans
- Other peas
- Lupines

This list 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."

Hops, unfermented and fermented, and lespedeza hay were secured in the 1940 Census for the first time. These data appear in county table VII.

Annual legumes.—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 total acreage for any particular legume. That part of the acreage of the individual annual legumes out for hay was to be reported not 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 hay appears in State table 4 and county table VII.

If soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts were grown extensively in an area, a separate inquiry was carried for the reported farm schedule. For these three crops the total acreage harvested was requested and a subquestion was designed to ascertain the portion of the acreage (both grown alone and grown with other crops) which was harvested for beans only, for peas only, or for peanuts only. The data for acreage obtained as a result of the subquestions are shown in county table XII only.

For some of the annual legumes, such as cowpeas, picking of the seed is often incidental to the main use made of the crop. Some picking of seed is also made from interplanted acreages. For these beans are produced on an extensive scale in several sections of California. This crop was given a separate inquiry on the regionalized schedule for that State, which form was also used in Arizona. Such data are presented in State table 18 and county table XII for these two States.

Miscellaneous field crops.—In the "catch-all" question for field crops, some reports have been secured for crops not grown on an extensive scale. The data for any such crops are shown in a State table only. Some of these crops which may be listed therein are casava, chinch, flax for fiber, ginseng, golden seal, kudzu, mustard seed, sugar beet seed, sunflower seed, willows, etc.

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 XIII for the quantities and value of the vegetables harvested for sale (excluding Irish and sweet potatoes). Data are usually given for more kinds of vegetables in State table 18 than in county table XIII.

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 households living on the farm.

Horticultural specialties.—Special emphasis was given in the instructions to enumerators for a part of the production of mushroom cellars, 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 as part of each specialized schedule to obtain the area and the amount of sales of specialty products.

Small fruits.—The figures given for the individual small fruits represent the acreage and production for tame, or cultivated, varieties only, with the exception that wild blueberries 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 this reason, 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 Bartlett and other pears; of plums into plums and prunes; and of grapes into table, raisin, and wine or juice varieties. Such information, when available, is contained in State table 17 and county table XIV.

Syrup and sugar.—Production of maple syrup and sugar was carried as a separate inquiry only in Region 1 which roughly comprises those States in the northeastern part of the country. When reported, it will appear in State table 17 and county table XIV.