

improperly, for briefness to designate those areas where farm lands do not follow a rectangular system of survey. The reports ending in "5" or "0" may, however, represent proper or natural divisions of farm land rather than *biased* reports or a tendency to round the acreages when reporting to the enumerators. There may even be a decided difference in the points of concentration, or modes, when considering reports of farm acreage from different States in *survey* territory. In some of these States, where roads or highways are often built on section lines, the farms would be more apt to follow a rectangular pattern than they would in other States where the roads or highways are built along contour lines. In a *survey* State, such as Alabama, the concentration in certain reported sizes may be due, in part, to the plantation system of farming, where, for example, a tract of 200 acres might be broken down in fifteens, twenties, twenty-fives, or thirties for allotment to croppers or other classes of tenants.

Only a limited amount of other research has been conducted to ascertain the merits or weaknesses of the new grouping. A comparison of the average size of farms in each size group for 1935, both for the old grouping and for the new, is presented in table 2 for Alabama, Iowa, and Wyoming in *survey* territory, and for Georgia, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania in *nonsurvey* territory. The averages for the United States, as a whole, are also presented with those for these six States. It appears that the new grouping adds stability to the averages, i. e., the averages for the new grouping vary less than those for the old as between *survey* and *nonsurvey* territory. As an example, farms in the new grouping of "50 to 69 acres" averaged 58.6 acres in Iowa and 56.5 acres in Georgia, and those of "70 to 99 acres" averaged 81.7 acres in Iowa and 81.1 acres in Georgia, whereas, in the old grouping of "50 to 99 acres", farms averaged 77.6 acres in Iowa and 67.3 acres in Georgia. In one of these two new subgroups Iowa farms were 2.1 acres larger than Georgia farms, and in the other they were 0.6 acre larger, whereas, for the combined, or old, group of "50 to 99 acres", Iowa farms averaged 10.3 acres larger. Of the combined group, "50 to 99 acres", less than 18 percent of those in Iowa were in the subgroup "50 to 69 acres", while 56 percent of those in Georgia and 47 percent of those in Alabama were in this subgroup.

The averages presented in table 2, in nearly all cases, fall below the midpoint of the size groups, indicating a skewed distribution. This skewness may be aggravated as a result of having the lower limits of a size group begin with figures divisible by 10. Some groups, such as the one of "100 to 139 acres", may be skewed from having three modal groups, one at "100 acres", another at "120 acres", and a third at "125 acres", each of a different concentration.

Number and acreage of farms by size.—Of the 6,812,350 farms in the United States on January 1,

1935, nearly 1 out of every 5 (18.4 percent) was "under 20 acres" in size. This approximate proportion prevailed for each of the 3 major-size groups of "20 to 49 acres" (21.1 percent), "50 to 99 acres" (21.2 percent), and "100 to 174 acres" (20.6 percent). Thus, approximately 4 out of every 5 (81.3 percent) farms contained less than 175 acres, leaving about one-fifth (18.7 percent) of the farms with 175 acres or more. An entirely

TABLE 1.—NUMBER OF FARMS, BY UNIT ACRES, IN SELECTED COUNTIES: CENSUS OF 1935

SIZE OF FARM	SURVEY COUNTIES			NONSURVEY COUNTIES ¹	
	Pike County, Ala.	Kossuth County, Iowa	Putnam County, Ohio	Fulton County, Ga.	Beaufort County, N. C.
Total farms in county....	3,699	3,153	3,135	3,605	3,553
Farms of 1 acre.....		8	21	96	1
2 acres.....		4	5	34	11
3 acres.....	5	15	32	60	66
4 acres.....	11	13	43	83	70
5 acres.....	12	26	69	72	95
6 acres.....	3	16	26	45	69
7 acres.....	7	6	23	40	55
8 acres.....	4	12	27	47	88
9 acres.....	5	2	10	19	52
10 acres.....	27	12	45	97	114
11 acres.....	4	1	13	36	44
12 acres.....	12	1	16	50	77
13 acres.....	5	5	12	19	69
14 acres.....	6	4	15	27	48
15 acres.....	32	4	17	50	97
16 acres.....	11	3	4	63	43
17 acres.....	5	1	11	24	38
18 acres.....	11	4	9	37	53
19 acres.....	5	1	5	22	30
20 acres.....	71	8	26	131	90
21 acres.....	18	2	5	29	27
22 acres.....	12	1	11	31	52
23 acres.....	6	1	6	33	36
24 acres.....	17	2	4	25	27
25 acres.....	119	2	14	82	76
26 acres.....	20		4	33	34
27 acres.....	10	1	6	17	29
28 acres.....	32		7	29	33
29 acres.....	10		2	10	12
30 acres.....	484	7	12	134	89
35 acres.....	194		8	52	47
40 acres.....	290	18	131	220	86
45 acres.....	46	2	8	47	38
50 acres.....	87	3	41	194	92
55 acres.....	26	3	17	36	27
60 acres.....	200	6	75	124	54
65 acres.....	47	2	19	26	24
70 acres.....	60	2	42	40	40
75 acres.....	47	5	18	43	38
80 acres.....	201	178	426	90	38
85 acres.....	15	2	21	8	22
90 acres.....	52	5	42	20	31
95 acres.....	11	3	15	12	9
100 acres.....	87	15	123	121	62
105 acres.....	22	3	18	6	10
110 acres.....	18	5	28	10	9
115 acres.....	10	6	7	6	9
120 acres.....	112	177	159	22	20
125 acres.....	10	1	8	20	18
130 acres.....	20	2	16	12	9
135 acres.....	4	4	7	5	9
140 acres.....	30	13	40	13	11
145 acres.....	8	6	10	1	9
150 acres.....	27	10	17	18	20
155 acres.....	2	13	8	4	5
160 acres.....	81	805	83	8	4
165 acres.....		3	8	4	4
170 acres.....	13	4	16	4	3
175 acres.....	6	4	6	7	7
180 acres.....	24	18	14	5	5
185 acres.....	2	4	4	2	4
190 acres.....	7	7	9	1	1
195 acres.....	1	4	5	1	1
200 acres.....	48	141	30	14	18

¹ For an explanation of *nonsurvey* see text discussion.