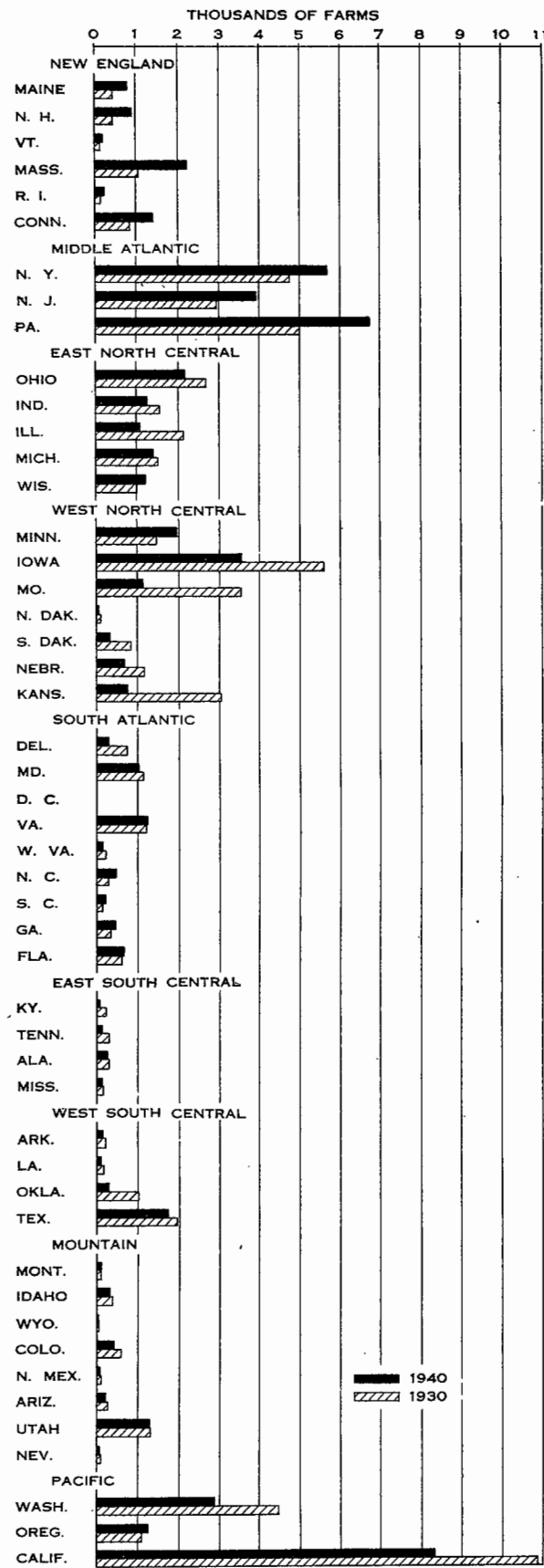


CHART 12. CHICKENS - FARMS REPORTING 400 OR MORE ON HAND, BY STATES: 1940 AND 1930



(BASE FIGURES, AGE GROUPS INCLUDED, AND DATE OF ENUMERATION SHOWN IN TABLES 12)

In 1940 the schedule enumerated turkeys on hand over 4 months old as well as numbers raised in 1939. The 1930 Census asked only for turkeys raised in 1929, and the 1935 Census asked only for turkeys on hand over 3 months old January 1. In 1940 enumerators found 443,410 farms reporting 4,361,752 turkeys on hand April 1, and in 1935, found 676,114 farms with 5,361,912 turkeys on hand January 1. These numbers are obviously not comparable because of the change in date of enumeration from January 1 to April 1. Many turkeys raised for meat are still on hand January 1. In 1940 there were 389,352 farms that reported 27,933,756 turkeys raised in 1939, and in 1930 there were 637,843 farms that reported 16,794,465 turkeys raised in 1929.

In the 1940 Census, 178,783 farms reported 12,136,820 ducks raised in the preceding year. In the 1930 Census, 470,418 farms reported 11,337,487 ducks raised. That the production of geese is declining is indicated by the fact that in 1940 only 85,413 farms reported 1,152,299 geese raised, whereas, in 1930, there were 396,727 farms that reported 3,989,831 raised.

**Unspecified and other poultry.**—The 1940 farm schedule had separate questions on inventory, and numbers raised, for chickens, turkeys, and ducks. The enumerator was instructed to write in the name of any other kind of poultry enumerated. In some cases the enumerator failed to specify the kind of "other poultry" he was enumerating and these were included in the tables under "unspecified and other poultry." Therefore, the number of "unspecified and other poultry" includes any named or unnamed poultry appearing on the schedules, except chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, pigeons, quail, and pheasants. There were schedules for 14,330 farms that reported 83,971 "unspecified" or "other" poultry on hand, and 9,591 farms that reported raising 143,149 such poultry in 1939. Correspondence with farm operators brought out the fact that a fairly high percentage of the "unspecified" poultry should have been recorded as geese. However, as the total number was small, it was thought best not to attempt any estimated allocation to species.

BEES AND HONEY

The reader should be apprised of certain facts relative to the inquiries on bees and honey, in the 1940 Census, before drawing comparisons between these 1940 enumerations and those of former censuses, or, between these data and any body of estimates as to numbers of colonies and production of honey.

At the solicitation of those interested in the bee and honey industry an attempt was made in the 1940 Census to direct the inquiries so as to obtain a record of hives of bees kept on each farm that were owned by the farm operator, separate from the record of hives kept on each farm that were owned by some other party. The inventory question, "hives of bees April 1, 1940" was divided into two parts: (a) "Owned by others, but kept on this farm" and (b) "Owned by you, on this farm and on nonfarm land such as deserts, hills, swamps, etc." The question on honey production was confined to, "Honey produced by your bees in 1939." Only the owner of the bees was to report the production of honey, on the assumption that the farm operator would not likely know the production of honey for bees which he did not personally own or care for. If the enumerator found bees on any farm that were not owned by the operator, he was instructed to find out whether the owner of the bees had as many as 30 colonies altogether, and, if so, to follow up all such cases and obtain the honey production data from the owner, on a separate farm schedule. If unable to contact the owner of the bees, the enumerator was instructed to report the name and address to his supervisor, who would follow up through the enumerator in the district in which the bee owner resided. This "follow up" was difficult when the owner not only lived outside the enumerator's own district, but frequently outside the county or even the State in which the bees were enumerated.

Another specialization in the bee industry that lent further difficulties in the 1940 Census was the apiary devoted to the production of queen bees and package bees for sale. Enumerators were confused as to whether nuclei should be counted as hives, or, if not, how many nuclei would be equivalent to one hive. This difficulty was not provided for in the instructions to the enumerators but was cleared by correspondence when tabulations were in progress.

It is pointed out that the very nature of the questions asked on "hives" and "honey" made it possible that no definite relationship need exist between the number of hives of bees enumerated and the production of honey reported in the 1940 Census, for a given county or even for a State.