Table A.—INDICATED LEVEL OF SAMPLING RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATED STATE TOTALS BY VALUE OF PRODUCTS FOR SPECIFIED ITEMS—Continued

Item	Level of sampling reliability (refer to corresponding numbered column in table B)
All hay cut:	
Acres	2
Tons	2
Tobacco:	
Acres	3
Production, pounds	3
Cotton:	
Acres	3
Production, running square bales	3
Irish potatoes:	
Acres	[4] 3
Production, bushels	[4] 3
Sweetpotatoes and yams:	
Acres	[4] 3
Production, bushels	[4] 3
Value of vegetables grown for farm household(s) use, dollars	1
Vegetables harvested for sale, acres:	
Fresh beans	3
Cabbage	3
Tomatoes	3
Green peas	3
All other vegetables and melons	3
Land in fruit orchards, vineyards, and planted nut trees, acres	6
Apples:	
Trees of all ages, number	[5] 5
Quantity harvested, bushels	[5] 5
Peaches:	
Trees of all ages, number	4
Quantity harvested, bushels	4
Pears:	
Trees of all ages, number	4
Quantity harvestedbushels	4

[1] 5 for New England States.
[2] 5 for Pacific States.
[3] 5 for value groups less than $2,500.
[4] 5 for value groups of $2,500 or more.
[5] 6 for value groups less than $2,500.

Table B.—SAMPLING RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATED ITEM TOTALS FOR STATES BY VALUE OF PRODUCTS FOR SPECIFIED NUMBERS OF FARMS REPORTING, BY LEVELS

[See table A for designation of level for any item]

If the estimated total number of farms reporting in the value-of-product group is—	Then the chances are about 95 in 100 that the estimated item total would differ from the results of a complete tabulation of the item for all farms by less than—						
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
100	82	117	143	165	200	260	450
500	37	52	64	73	90	117	200
1,000	26	37	45	52	64	82	143
2,500	16	23	28	33	40	52	90
5,000	12	16	20	23	29	37	64
10,000	8.2	12	14	16	20	26	45
25,000	5.2	7.4	9.0	10	13	17	29
50,000	3.7	5.2	6.4	7.4	9.0	12	20
100,000	2.6	3.7	4.5	5.2	6.4	8.2	14
500,000	1.2	1.6	2.0	2.3	2.9	3.7	6.4

Presentation of data.—A State is the smallest geographic area for which the data given in this report are available. Table C presents a summary of data for the United States and gives many of the significant averages and percentages needed for an appraisal and analysis of the data. Maps and charts showing some of the important characteristics and relationships for farms for various value-of-product groups are presented on pages XVII to XXIII. Data by States are given in tables 1 to 17, inclusive. The States have been arranged in groups, by geographic divisions, in order to facilitate comparisons among States in the same general area.

The following discussion relates only to the United States. Since the farms in various States differ from those of the United States as a whole, the conclusions for the United States would not apply to an individual State. The characteristics of farms in each value-of-product group and the relative contribution of farms in each group to the total differ from State to State.

Classification of farms by value of products.—The data given in this special report are for farms classified according to the total value of farm products sold or used by farm households. The value group into which an individual farm has been placed was determined by obtaining a total for the amounts reported for the eight inquiries on the value of farm products sold plus the amount reported for the inquiry on the value of farm products used by farm households.

The total value of products is a measure of all the operations on the farm. It is the resultant of a number of factors, such as the number of acres in the farm, the number of livestock on the farm, the amount of equipment used on the farm, the amount of feed purchased, etc.

The difference between the total value of products and net income requires consideration when using the total value of products as a measure of the size of farming operations. For example, for some crops the total value of products per acre may be small, but only a relatively small proportion of the total may be required to pay production expenses; for such crops the net income per acre may be relatively large. On the other hand, the sale of livestock usually provides a high total value of products which is one of the reasons why a large proportion of the farms in the high value groups are farms on which the production of livestock and livestock products is important. For farms on which the production of livestock, livestock products, poultry and poultry products forms an important enterprise, the total value of products would be materially reduced if allowances were made for the purchase of livestock, the cost of feed and other expenses associated with livestock production.

The data for farms classified by value of products indicate that a large part of the total agricultural production is concentrated on a relatively small proportion of the farms. Farms with a total value of products of $10,000 or more represent 4.9 percent of all farms and account for 36.4 percent of the total value of products. Farms with a value of products of $4,000 or more represent only about one-fifth of all farms and have two-thirds of the total value of farm products. On the other hand, farms with a value of products of less than $600 account for 25.7 percent of all farms, but contribute only 2.6 percent of the total value of products. Farms with a value of products of $600 to $2,499 represent 41.1 percent of all the farms, but have only 17.8 percent of the total value of products.

The following paragraphs summarize some of the important facts regarding the contribution to total agricultural production, as shown by data given in this special report, and the relation of various groups of farms classified on the basis of total value of products.

Land in farms, land use, and size of farm.—Farms with a value of products of $40,000 or more, comprising 0.4 percent of all farms and having 11.7 percent of all land in farms, account for 12.5 percent of the total value of farm products. On the other hand, farms with a value of products of less than $250, comprising 9.5 percent of the farms and having 3.8 percent of all land in farms, contribute only 0.4 percent of the total value of farm products. Farms in the value-of-product group $2,500 to $3,999, in which falls the average value of farm products for the United States, comprise 12.7 percent of all farms, have 12.5 percent of all land in farms, and produce 12.9 percent of all farm products. There is a significant relationship between size of farm and value of products. Except for farms in the value group $0–$249, the average acreage for all land in farms increases from the lowest to the highest value-of-product group.

There is a similar relationship between the acres of cropland harvested and value of products. The average acreage of cropland harvested increases from 11.6 acres for farms in the value group $250–$399 to 615.6 acres for farms in the value group $40,000 and over. More than two-thirds of the farms with less than 20 acres of cropland harvested are in the farm value groups $0 to $249, $400 to $599, and $600 to $999.

The value of land and buildings per farm increases with the increase in the value of products. This average increases from