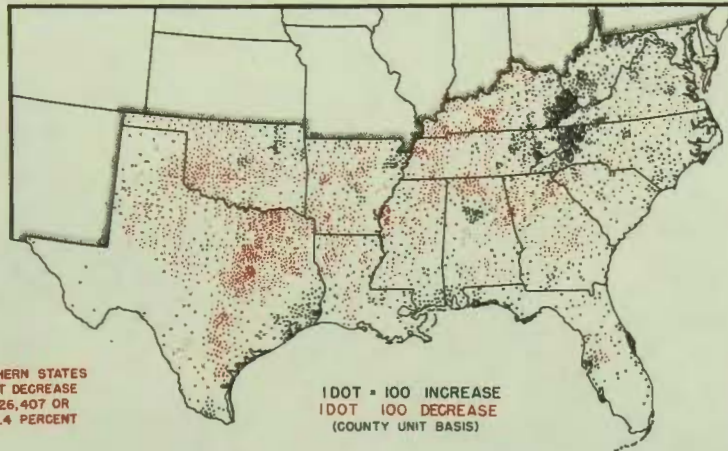


CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FARMS, BY COLOR AND TENURE OF OPERATOR, FOR THE SOUTH: 1930 TO 1945 AND 1940 TO 1945

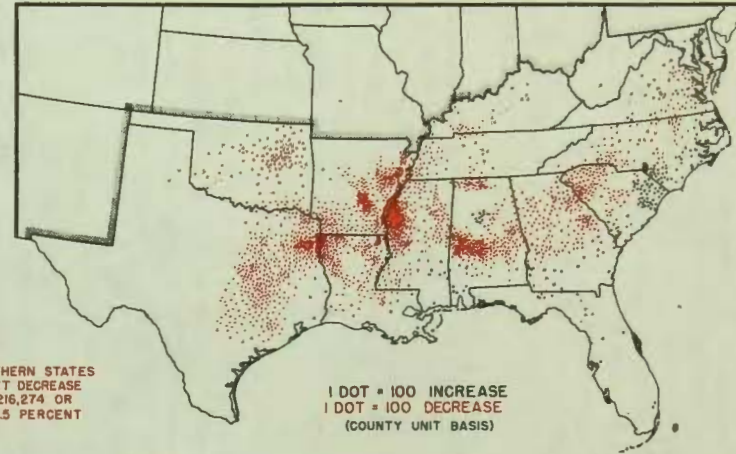
FARMS OPERATED BY WHITE OPERATORS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1930 - JAN. 1, 1945



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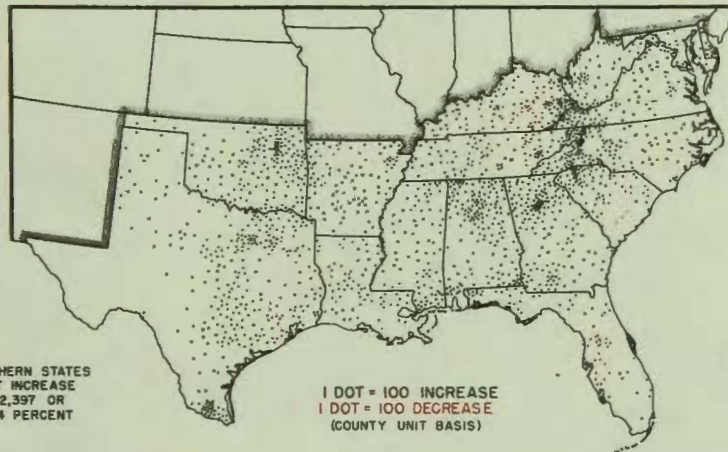
FARMS OPERATED BY NONWHITE OPERATORS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1930 - JAN. 1, 1945



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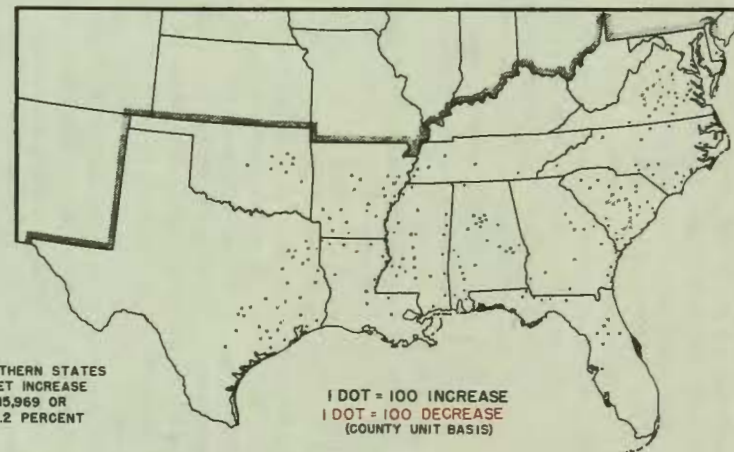
FARMS OPERATED BY WHITE OWNERS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1940 - JAN. 1, 1945



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FARMS OPERATED BY NONWHITE OWNERS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1940 - JAN. 1, 1945



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The World War II period was one of marked change in the farm-tenure pattern in the South. The decline in the number of farms, which began about 1935, continued throughout the war period. In the 15-year period, 1930 to 1945, white farm operators declined 126,407 or 5.4 percent and nonwhite operators, 216,274 or 24.5 percent. But both white and nonwhite owner operators increased and both white and nonwhite tenant operators decreased. In the three component 5-year intervals, the pattern for white and nonwhite owners was similar; thus, the number of owner operators in each of these color groups increased in the first 5-year interval (the depression years), decreased in the second (the recovery period), and increased again in the third (the war period). On the other hand, white tenants increased in the depression years and decreased successively in the next two intervals, while nonwhite tenants have decreased continuously through all three periods.

The greatest concentration of counties showing net increases in white operators was in the southern Appalachians where the increase began during the depression and continued through the war. White operators also increased in many small localized areas around urban centers. The expansion of part-time farming, where enough agricultural products were produced in connection with rural residences for the land to be classed as farms, meant a large increase in the number of farms near areas of expanding urban population. Some of the more important of these centers are Birmingham, Houston, Knoxville, Mobile, Richmond, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Tampa. White operators increased in counties of northeastern Arkansas and northwestern and southern Texas where additions were made to the cropland. The decline in the number of white operators was generally in areas where there was a reduction in acreage of such cash crops as cotton and dark tobacco, resulting in a surplus in the labor force. Mechanization, no doubt, played an important part in bringing about this loss of white operators in some areas, while less intensive types of farming were developing in other areas. Greatest losses of white operators were found in the upper Piedmont of Georgia and Alabama, the Tennessee Valley, the Texas Black Prairie, and southwestern Oklahoma.

The outstanding change in the number of farm operators from 1930 to 1945 was the decrease of one-fourth in the number of nonwhite operators. Decreases were greatest in areas of greatest density of nonwhite farm population. In one area

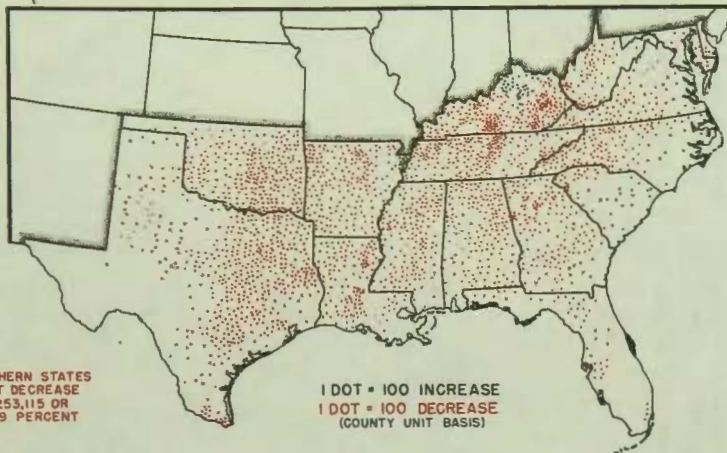
which had large numbers of nonwhite farm population, viz, the Coastal Plains of North Carolina extending into South Carolina—a tobacco-growing area—there was a notable increase in farms operated by nonwhite farmers. The areas having net increases were not widespread and were generally in the Coastal Plains, where there was a net expansion in the cotton, peanut, and tobacco acreage. Jefferson County, Alabama, also had an increase which apparently was a result of increase in the number of part-time farms and rural residences. The greatest net losses in nonwhite operators were recorded in the cotton alluvial land areas of the Mississippi Valley. Other areas that had considerable losses were the Piedmont of South Carolina and Georgia, the Black Prairies of Alabama and Texas, and east central Oklahoma.

The 10.4 percent net increase in farms operated by white owners, including both part owners and full owners, from 1940 to 1945, was rather general in all the Southern States. Counties with net increases were most prevalent in the predominantly white farm-population areas and near communities offering chances to work off the farms. Areas showing greatest increases were the southern Appalachians, the Gulf Coastal Plain, eastern Oklahoma, and central Texas. Some urban workers, many with rural backgrounds, bought small farms for homes which were relatively inexpensive; likewise, full-time farm operators also were purchasing farms. Many owner operators reduced the number of their tenants and croppers which resulted in an increase in the size of owner-operator farms, even though large numbers of extremely small farms were added to the owner-operator group. Counties with net decreases in the number of farms operated by white owners from 1940 to 1945 were scattered throughout the South, generally in areas where there were greatest losses of farm workers.

The increase in the number of farms operated by nonwhite owners in the South from 1940 to 1945 was 9.2 percent. The counties with net increases were in or near the areas with a high proportion of nonwhite rural population with the exception that plantation areas, such as the Mississippi Delta, the Alabama Black Prairie, and the Piedmont, showed little increase in nonwhite owner operators. The few counties with decreases were more localized than the counties with increases. The major areas were east central Virginia, southern South Carolina, and the alluvial areas of the Mississippi River Valley.

CHANGE IN NUMBER OF FARMS, BY COLOR AND TENURE OF OPERATOR, FOR THE SOUTH: 1930 TO 1945 AND 1940 TO 1945—Continued

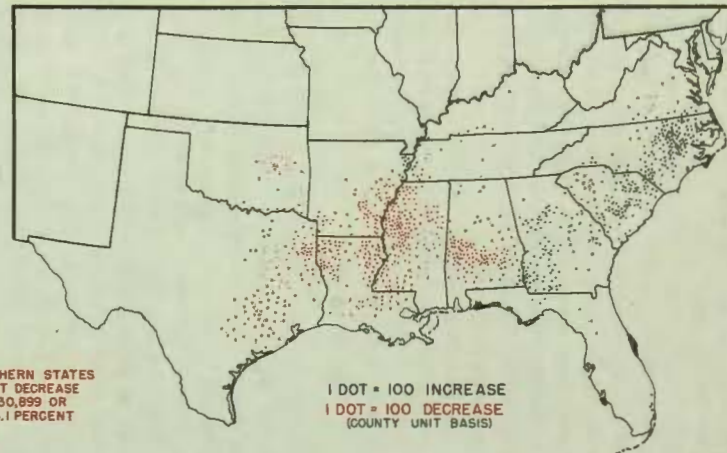
FARMS OPERATED BY WHITE TENANTS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1940 - JAN. 1, 1945



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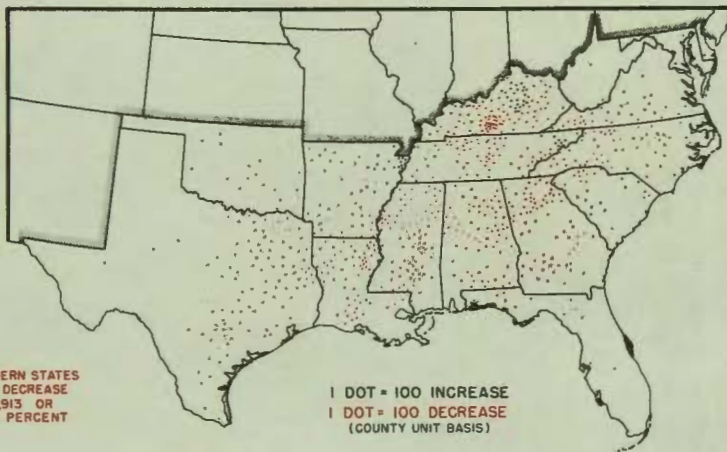
FARMS OPERATED BY NONWHITE TENANTS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1940 - JAN. 1, 1945



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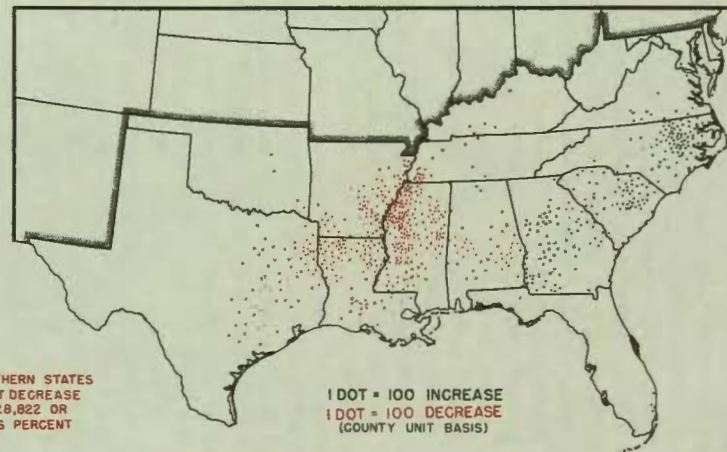
FARMS OPERATED BY WHITE CROPPERS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1940 - JAN. 1, 1945



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FARMS OPERATED BY NONWHITE CROPPERS - INCREASE AND DECREASE IN NUMBER, APR. 1, 1940 - JAN. 1, 1945



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