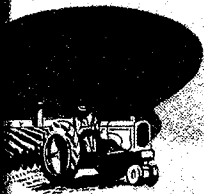


Item 2

UNITED STATES CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE 1945



U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE
W. AVERELL HARRIMAN, *Secretary*
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
J. C. CAPT, *Director*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

W. AVERELL HARRIMAN, *Secretary*

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

J. C. CAPT, *Director*



UNITED STATES CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1945

**RANKING AGRICULTURAL
COUNTIES**

The rank of the leading counties in the United States in agriculture and agricultural products, 1945 and 1944, with comparisons, 1940 and 1939

Prepared under the supervision of

RAY HURLEY

Chief, Agriculture Division

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON: 1947

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

J. C. CAPT
Director

PHILIP M. HAUSER
Deputy Director

A. ROSS ECKLER
Assistant Director

HOWARD C. GRIEVES
Assistant Director

MORRIS H. HANSEN
*Statistical Assistant to the
Director*

RALPH E. GALLOWAY
*Executive Assistant to the
Director*



AGRICULTURE DIVISION

RAY HURLEY
Chief

WARDER B. JENKINS
Assistant Chief

Farm Economics and Finance

HILTON E. ROBISON

Crops

JOHN A. BURROUGHS

Livestock

CARL R. NYMAN

Value of Farm Products

RAYMOND S. WASHBURN

UNITED STATES CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1945

REPORTS ON AGRICULTURE

Volume I.—Statistics for farms, acreage, value, characteristics, livestock, livestock products, crops, fruits, and value of farm products. This volume consists of 33 parts, comprised of State reports with statistics for counties.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Part 1. New England States: | Part 13. Kansas |
| Maine | 14. Delaware, Maryland, and District of Columbia |
| New Hampshire | 15. Virginia and West Virginia |
| Vermont | 16. North Carolina and South Carolina |
| Massachusetts | 17. Georgia |
| Rhode Island | 18. Florida |
| Connecticut | 19. Kentucky |
| 2. Middle Atlantic States: | 20. Tennessee |
| New York | 21. Alabama |
| New Jersey | 22. Mississippi |
| Pennsylvania | 23. Arkansas |
| 3. Ohio | 24. Louisiana |
| 4. Indiana | 25. Oklahoma |
| 5. Illinois | 26. Texas |
| 6. Michigan | 27. Montana |
| 7. Wisconsin | 28. Idaho |
| 8. Minnesota | 29. Wyoming and Colorado |
| 9. Iowa | 30. New Mexico and Arizona |
| 10. Missouri | 31. Utah and Nevada |
| 11. North Dakota and South Dakota | 32. Washington and Oregon |
| 12. Nebraska | 33. California |

Volume II.—General Report—Statistics by subjects for the United States, geographic divisions, and States (one volume).

- | | |
|--|--|
| Chapter I. Farms and Farm Property | VI. Farm Facilities, Roads, and Farm Machinery |
| II. Size of Farms | VII. Livestock and Livestock Products |
| III. Color and Tenure of Farm Operator | VIII. Field Crops and Vegetables |
| IV. Age, Residence, Years on Farm, and Work off Farm | IX. Fruits and Nuts, and Horticultural Specialties |
| V. Farm Population and Farm Labor | X. Value of Farm Products, and Type of Farm |

SPECIAL REPORTS

Multiple-Unit Operations—Units, subunits, acreage, value, characteristics, specified crops and livestock, and value of products

Ranking Agricultural Counties—The rank of the leading counties in the United States in agriculture and agricultural products, 1945 and 1944, with comparisons, 1940 and 1939.

Report for 1945 Sample Census of Agriculture—Statistics by States for items for which data were collected on a sample basis and data for farms classified by size of farm, color and tenure of farm operator, type of farm, value of products, and economic class.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
Washington, D. C.

MAY 26, 1947

SIR:

I transmit herewith a special report of the 1945 Census of Agriculture, entitled, "Ranking Agricultural Counties." This report presents statistics for selected items of inventory and agricultural production for the leading counties in the United States.

Legal provision for the 1945 Census of Agriculture was made by the Act providing for the Fifteenth Decennial Census, approved June 18, 1929.

The compilation of the statistics and the preparation of this special report was under the supervision of Ray Hurley, Chief Statistician for Agriculture, assisted by Charles Frazier, Ralph G. Altman, Gladys R. Eagle, and Henry A. Tucker.

Respectfully,

J. C. CAPT,
Director of the Census

HON. W. AVERELL HARRIMAN,
Secretary of Commerce

III

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction.....	v
Summary.....	1
100 leading counties in—	
Value of farm products sold or used by farm households.....	2
LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS	
100 leading counties in—	
Horses and colts.....	3
Mules and mule colts.....	4
Cattle and calves.....	5
Cows milked.....	6
Milk produced.....	7
Value of dairy products sold.....	8
Hogs and pigs.....	9
Sheep and lambs.....	10
Chickens on farms.....	12
Chickens raised.....	13
Chicken eggs produced.....	14
Turkeys raised.....	15
FIELD CROPS HARVESTED	
100 leading counties in—	
Corn for grain.....	16
Wheat.....	18
Oats threshed.....	20
Barley threshed.....	22
Flax harvested.....	24
Soybeans grown alone.....	26
Soybeans harvested for beans.....	27
Peanuts harvested for nuts.....	28
All hay, excluding sorghums for hay.....	30
Alfalfa cut for hay.....	31
Cotton.....	33
Tobacco.....	35
Irish potatoes.....	37
Sweetpotatoes and yams.....	39
50 leading counties in—	
Rice.....	41
VEGETABLES HARVESTED FOR SALE (EXCLUDING IRISH AND SWEET POTATOES)	
100 leading counties in—	
Vegetables harvested for sale, total.....	42
Fresh beans (snap, string, or wax).....	44
Sweet corn.....	45
Tomatoes.....	46
FRUITS AND NUTS	
100 leading counties in—	
Value of specified fruits and nuts harvested.....	47
Apples, trees of all ages.....	48
Cherries, trees of all ages.....	50
Peaches, trees of all ages.....	52
Pears, trees of all ages.....	54
Plums and prunes, trees of all ages.....	56
Grapes, vines of all ages.....	58
50 leading counties in—	
Oranges, trees of all ages.....	60
Grapefruit, trees of all ages.....	61

RANKING AGRICULTURAL COUNTIES

Introduction.—This special report presents statistics for selected items of inventory and agricultural production for the leading counties in the United States.

The widespread interest in the relative importance of the more important agricultural counties has prompted the preparation of this report.

Rank of counties.—The leading counties were selected on the basis of the extent to which they contributed to the United States total for the particular item of inventory or production. The rank of a county depends on the magnitude of the inventory or production item for the county. The method used in ranking counties does not provide a measure of the intensity of production. A county may occupy a foremost position because it comprises a large area or a large area of farm land. For most of the items, the rank of the county according to the 1945 Census of Agriculture, as well as the 1940 Census of Agriculture, is given. Since rank is determined on the basis of data for a single year, the rank of a county, particularly for production items, may be influenced considerably by climatic and economic conditions prevailing during the particular year.

Source of statistics.—The statistics given in this report were secured in the 1945 and 1940 Censuses of Agriculture. In these censuses, enumerators visited each farm and ranch and obtained a report as to the number of livestock, livestock production, and crop acreage and production on each of these farms and ranches. Reports for each item were totaled for all farms in the county. These totals are given for each county in volume I of the reports of the 1945 Census of Agriculture and were used in the preparation of the tables given in this special report.

Scope of the report.—This report includes the ranking counties for only a limited number of selected items for the 1945 Census of Agriculture. For most of the items, figures are given for the 100 ranking counties; however, for items for which production is centered in a restricted number of counties, the data have been limited to the 50 leading counties.

When the tables include two or more related items such as acreage and production, the counties listed in each table were selected on the basis of only one item. In the case of most crops, the selection of counties and the order of rank and listing were based on acreage. The 100 leading counties based on acreage may not be identical with the 100 leading in production.

Moreover, counties ranked on the basis of acreage do not appear in the same order as counties ranked on the basis of production. Since only the 100 leading counties based on acreage appear in the tables, usually not all of the 100 ranking counties based on production are listed. However, the rank of the counties based on production has been determined on the basis of the 100 leading producing counties, regardless of whether all these are listed in the table.

Definitions and explanations.—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 tenures, as when one tract is owned by the farmer 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 a farm. Thus, on a plantation the land operated by each cropper, renter, or tenant is reported as a separate farm, and the land operated by the owner or manager by means of wage hands is likewise reported as a separate farm.

Farming, or agricultural operations, consists of the production of crops or plants, vines, and trees (excluding forestry operations) or of the keeping, grazing, or feeding of livestock for animal products (including serums), animal increase, or value increase. Livestock, as here used, includes poultry of all kinds, rabbits, bees, and fur-bearing animals in captivity, in addition to mules, asses, burros, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, and hogs.

Farms reporting.—The term "farms reporting," as used in the table, indicates the number of farms for which the specified item shown in the particular table was reported. For example, if there were 2,850 farms in the county and only 2,619 of these had chickens over 4 months old on hand on January 1, 1945, the number of farms reporting chickens for 1945 would be 2,619.

Value of farm products sold or used by farm households.—This value was obtained by Census enumerators from farm operators. The 1945 questionnaire contained nine inquiries relating to the value of groups of farm products sold or used by farm households. The value of farm products sold or used by farm households represents a total of the individual reports of

farm operators for the nine value-of-products inquiries on the Census questionnaire. This total value gives an approximate measure for farm income.

The rank of counties according to the value of farm products sold or used by farm households presents an over-all comparison of the leading counties in the United States in the production of all agricultural products.

In the case of the value of dairy products sold and the value of vegetables harvested for sale, the totals for individual value-of-products inquiries have been used as a basis for ranking the 100 leading counties for these items.

In the case of table 34, the rank of counties according to the value of fruits and nuts has been based on the total for the calculated value of harvested fruits and nuts for which separate inquiries were carried on the 1945 Census Schedule rather than on the value of fruits and nuts sold. The calculated value was obtained by multiplying the production of each kind of fruit and nut by county-unit prices. This calculated value includes the value not only of the quantities of fruits and nuts sold, but also the value of fruits and nuts used on the farm where produced.

Livestock and livestock products.—The count of livestock on farms and ranches for the 1945 Census of Agriculture was made as of January 1, 1945. For the 1940 Census, the count was made as of April 1, 1940.

The production of livestock products was to be reported for the calendar year preceding the census; for example, the production of milk, eggs, etc., for the 1945 Census of Agriculture represents the quantity produced in the calendar year 1944.

Acreage and production of field crops.—The acreage and production given for the various crops relate to 1944 or 1939.

Vegetables harvested for sale.—The statistics on vegetables relate to those harvested for sale in 1944 or in 1939. When more than one vegetable crop was harvested from the same acreage of land during the year, the acreage was counted for each crop.

Fruits and nuts.—The data on the number of fruit trees relate to the number of trees of all ages on January 1, 1945, or April 1, 1940.

Figures on production relate to the quantity harvested in 1944 or 1939 except in the case of citrus fruits. For citrus fruits, the data for 1944 relate to the crop harvested in the 1943-1944 season from the bloom of 1943. The data for 1939 relate to the crop harvested in 1939 and 1940 from the bloom of 1939 for Florida and Texas and in 1938 and 1939 from the bloom of 1938 for California and Arizona. For several of the fruits, the production was enumerated in different units in various regions and was converted to a common unit of production for use in the tables showing the rank of the counties.

Importance of the 100 leading counties.—The data in table 1 indicate the extent to which the leading counties as a group, as well as the leading county, contribute to the United States total. The contribution to the United States total by the leading counties varies from over 99 percent in the case of oranges and grapefruit to 11.4 in the case of horses and colts.

For many of the selected items, the difference between the leading county and the second leading county was not very significant. For a few items, however, the total for the leading county was very much larger than the total for the next ranking county. For example, the number of plum and prune trees of all ages for Santa Clara County, California, was almost three times as large as the number in the next ranking county; the acreage of Irish potatoes in Aroostook County, Maine, was nearly three times the acreage in Kern County, California, the second ranking county; the acreage of fresh beans harvested for sale for Palm Beach County, Florida, was almost five times as large as for the second ranking county; the number of chickens raised for Sussex County, Delaware, was nearly five times as large as the number raised in the second leading county; the number of grapevines for Fresno County, California, was more than two and one-half times the number for the second leading county; the value of all dairy products sold for Los Angeles County, California, was more than double the value for the second ranking county; and the acreage of sweetpotatoes and yams for St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, was more than double that of the second leading county.