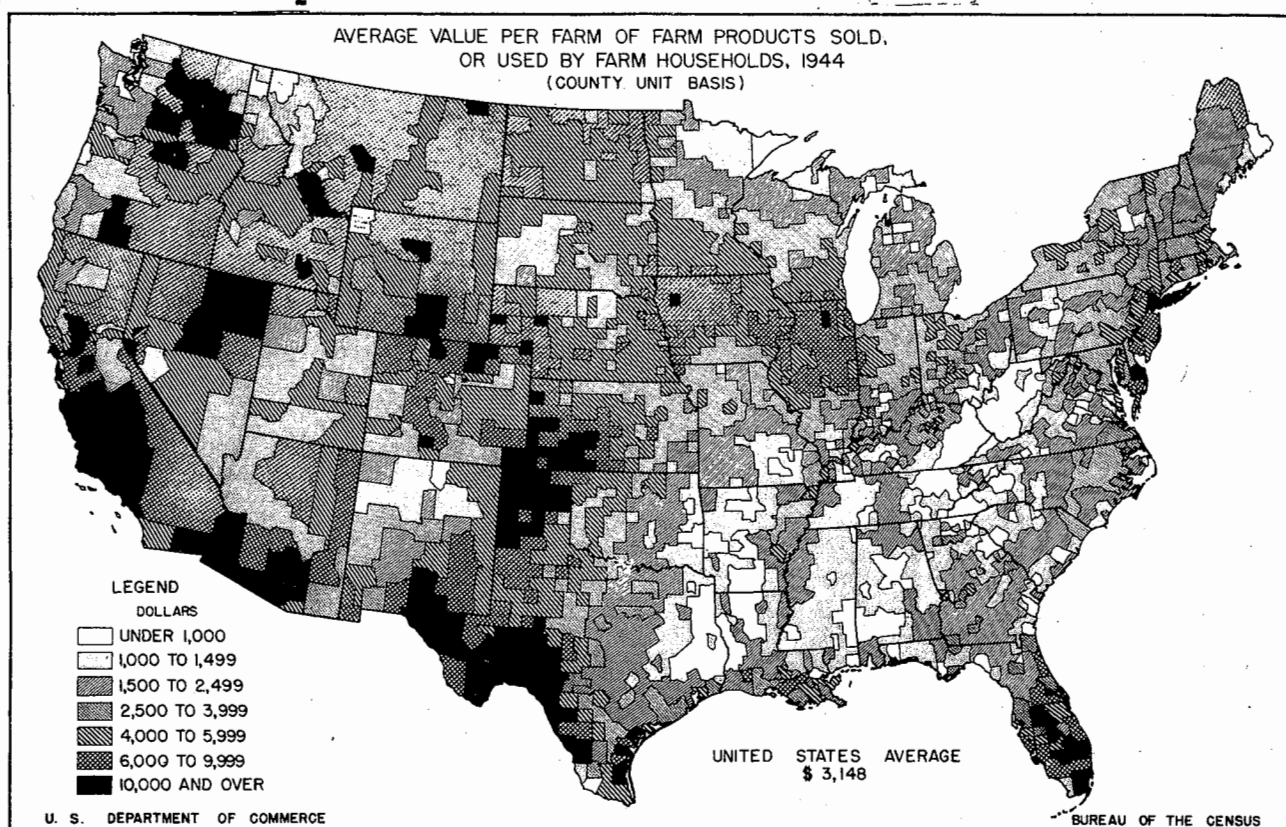


CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1945



The value of products sold or used by farm households probably measures quite accurately the relative proportion of the gross agricultural income derived from different producing groups. However, because different types of farms represent varying degrees of intensity of production, a somewhat different picture of the relative importance of various types of farms would be shown were the comparison made on a net rather than a gross basis. For example, for livestock farms, the total value includes the entire value of all livestock sold with no deduction made for the cost of any livestock purchased, while on crop farms there is no offsetting charge of this character against income. In comparing the value of farm products for the various census years, consideration should be given to changes in the general price level as this change accounts for a large part of the difference in the value of farm products for two periods.

One of the accompanying bar charts shows the value of all farm products sold or used by farm households for 1944, 1939, and 1929. On the same chart are two indices—one reflecting the increase (or decrease) in value as a result of price changes and the other reflecting the increase attributable to increased production.

One of the accompanying dot maps shows the over-all value of farm products sold or used by farm households in 1944. Additional dot maps show the value of sales for each of the source-of-income groups and still another shows the value of the products of the farm used by farm households. These maps were prepared on the basis of county figures. The degree of concentration of the value of farm products, as indicated by the number of dots, shows the relationship between one area and another. On the map showing the total value of products, areas with the largest number of dots, in the main, represent the best agricultural areas of the United States.

In interpreting the accompanying cross-hatch map showing, by counties, the average value per farm for all farm products sold or used by farm households, consideration must be given not only to differences in the type of farming in the various

areas, but also to the size of farming operations prevalent in these areas. For example, values per farm are high in the ranching areas of the West where the size of farming operations is relatively large, whereas values are low in many areas of the South where small tenant-farming operations are prevalent.

In the Census of 1945, the total value of farm products sold or used by farm households, for the United States, for all classified farms was \$18,108,132,494. Of this total, 89.6 percent represented the value of products sold and 10.4 percent, the value of products used. The value of crops sold represented 41.5 percent of the total (products sold and used) and the value of livestock and livestock products sold, 47.7 percent. Forest products contributed only 0.4 percent of the total. Of the eight principal groups contributing to cash income, field crops furnished 31.0 percent of the total (products sold and used); livestock and livestock products (other than dairy and poultry) furnished 25.0 percent; dairy products, 14.0 percent; and poultry and poultry products, 8.8 percent. Smaller percentages were contributed by fruits and nuts, vegetables, and horticultural specialties. A higher proportion of farms reported sales of livestock and livestock products than reported sales of crops. About 1 farm in 10 did not report sales of any products. These data are shown in table 1.

Value of farm products sold versus cash receipts from farm marketings.—The following explanation is submitted to indicate the differences between the value of farm products sold, as shown by the Census, and the cash receipts from farm marketings, as published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. As indicated previously, the value of farm products, as shown by the Census, represents a summation of values reported by individual farmers for farm products sold for a given year. In the case of crops (except citrus fruits), the value represents the sales of crops harvested in 1944, regardless of whether these crops were sold during the calendar year 1944 or were to be sold in 1945 or later. On the other hand, cash receipts from farm marketings represent values obtained by multiplying estimated quantities