



Cropland harvested as a percentage of the total land area.—Most of the counties with more than 60 percent of the total land area used for harvested cropland are concentrated in the North Central States. Only a few additional counties in Texas and in the Mississippi Delta fall into this category. Immediately surrounding this core of high-density counties are found most of the

counties with 40 to 59 percent of the land area in cropland harvested. Counties with less than 10 percent of the total land area used for cropland harvested are numerous in the Western States, the mountainous and hilly areas of the Eastern States, the Coastal Plain flatwoods, and in the heavily forested counties of northern New England, and the northern parts of the Lake States.

Uses of cropland harvested.—Most of the Nation's cropland is now used to produce products for domestic use. From 1950 to 1954, about 85 percent of the acreage of crops harvested was used in domestic consumption. The other 15 percent was used to produce exports and feed for horses and mules. Acreage used for producing exports during this 5-year period averaged 40 million acres and that used for feed for all horses and mules averaged 15 million acres. This represents a significant drop from the 1945-49 period when an average of 46 million acres were used for export production and 27 million acres were needed to feed all horses and mules.

From 1910 to 1914 only 60 percent of the acreage was used to produce domestic products. About 44 million acres were used to produce exports in the 1910-14 period. This means that the principal change in the disposition of production from the acreage of crops harvested has been the marked reduction in the acreage used to produce feed for horses and mules. The acreage used to feed horses and mules has declined by about 76 million acres between the 1910-14 and 1950-54 periods.

