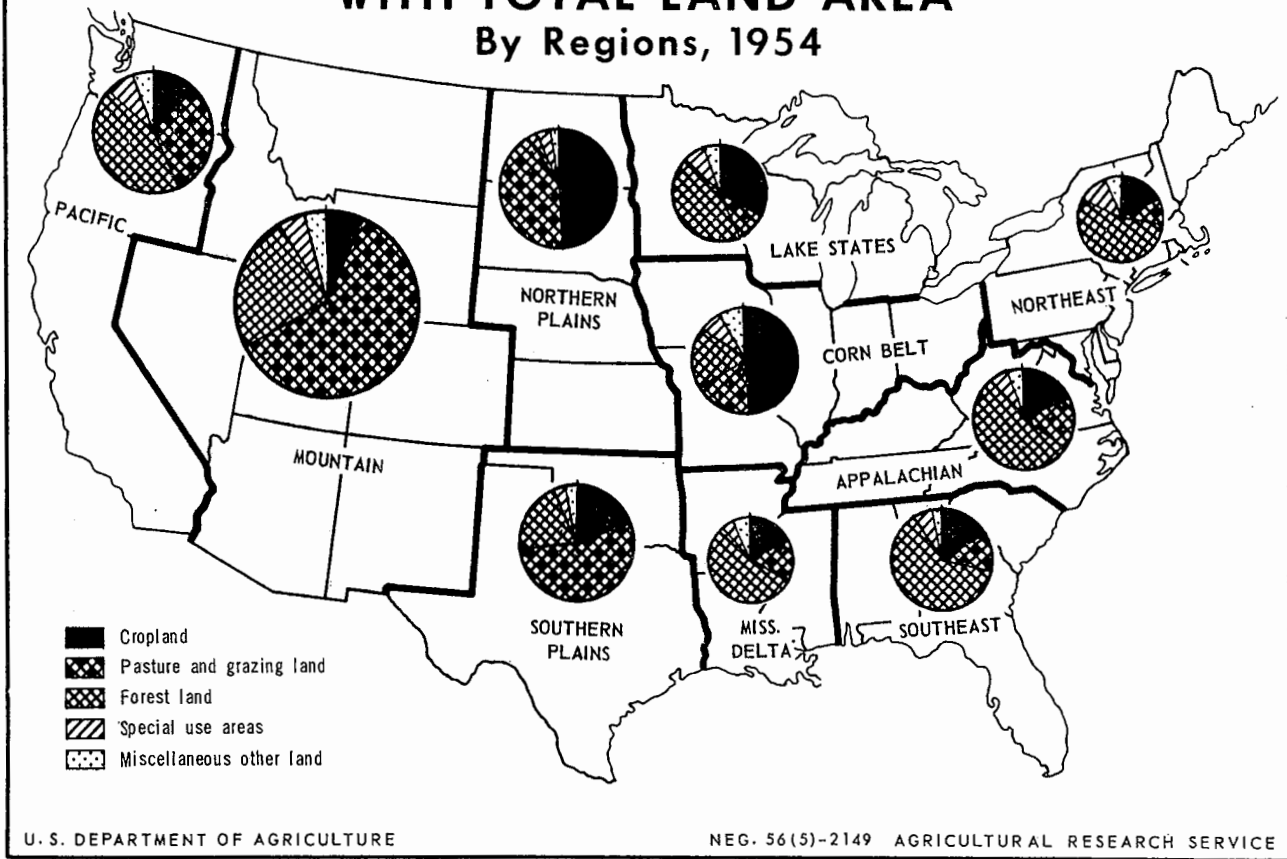


## MAJOR USES OF ALL LAND AS COMPARED WITH TOTAL LAND AREA

### By Regions, 1954



## MAJOR USES OF ALL LAND BY FARM-PRODUCTION REGIONS

MAJOR USES OF LAND IN CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES,  
BY FARM-PRODUCTION REGIONS, 1954

Region	Crop-land <sup>1</sup>	Pasture and grazing land <sup>2</sup>	Forest and woodland <sup>3</sup>	Special uses <sup>4</sup>	Miscellaneous and other land <sup>5</sup>	Total
Northern:	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Northeastern.....	18,848	10,963	63,637	11,634	7,396	112,378
Lake States.....	39,959	11,990	54,451	8,931	7,380	122,711
Corn Belt.....	80,343	30,546	31,033	10,851	12,610	165,383
Northern Plains.....	95,820	82,354	5,428	7,836	3,994	195,432
Total.....	234,970	135,853	154,449	30,252	31,380	595,904
Southern:						
Appalachian.....	22,870	20,455	68,021	7,600	5,682	124,628
Southeastern.....	19,964	14,594	78,114	8,476	3,094	124,242
Mississippi Delta.....	16,179	14,392	51,641	4,371	6,272	92,855
Southern Plains.....	41,407	114,076	43,099	7,631	6,715	212,828
Total.....	100,420	163,517	240,875	27,978	21,763	554,563
Western:						
Mountain.....	36,462	334,821	130,155	26,138	21,093	548,669
Pacific.....	21,727	64,296	89,905	16,830	11,941	204,699
Total.....	58,189	399,117	220,060	42,968	33,034	753,368
United States.....	393,579	698,487	615,384	110,198	86,177	1,903,825

<sup>1</sup> Includes cropland harvested (land from which one or more crops were harvested), crop failure, cropland fallow, cropland used for cover and soil-improvement crops, and cropland temporarily idle.  
<sup>2</sup> Includes cropland used only for pasture and all nonforested pasture and grazing land.  
<sup>3</sup> Excludes forest land reserved for use in parks, wildlife areas, and other special uses of land. Includes forest and woodland pastured or grazed.  
<sup>4</sup> Includes urban areas, rural highways, rural railroads, rural airports, parks, wildlife areas, national defense areas, flood control areas, Atomic Energy Commission areas, farmsteads, farm roads and lanes, State-owned institutional sites, and miscellaneous other uses.  
<sup>5</sup> Includes marshes, sand dunes, beaches, bare rock areas, and desert areas not otherwise included under special uses of land.

The regional distribution of major uses of land is shown in the accompanying map and table. In the Corn Belt and Northern Plains States, cropland, excluding cropland used only for pasture, occupies almost half of the total land area of those States. In the Northeastern, Appalachian, and Southeastern regions, forest land accounts for more than half of the area. Nearly half of the total area is in forests in the Pacific and Lake States. In the Mountain States, pasture and grazing land accounts for well over half the total area. In the Great Plains States, nearly half of the land area is used for pasture and grazing.

Special uses of land occupy the highest proportion of the land area in the Northeastern, Pacific, and Lake States. Some of these uses have expanded rapidly in parts of these and other regions. Urban areas and highways have absorbed an appreciable acreage of good land, particularly in the vicinity of large cities. Reservoirs are another special use of land but since the total land area is reduced as reservoirs are established, their occupation of land is not reflected in the accompanying map and table.

The distribution of such special uses as urban areas, highways, railroads, airports, farmsteads, and farm roads is closely related to the distribution of population and farms. Many of the large areas in other special uses such as parks, wildlife areas, and national defense areas are located in the less populated parts of the country.

Miscellaneous unaccounted-for areas occupy from about 2 to 8 percent of the land area in the different regions. In some areas, a considerable acreage of desert land, marshland, sand dunes, and beaches is included in national defense areas, parks, wildlife areas, and similar special uses. Most of this land has little value for agriculture or forestry. Some of it has mineral and other subsurface value.