



HORSES AND MULES BY TYPE AND ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM

Of the 1.8 million farms reporting horses and mules in November 1954, 80 percent reported having only 1 or 2 head. These were reported in all five areas, but were especially numerous in the southern area. Certainly the horses and mules on these farms play a very minor role in our present day agricultural production. Farms with three or more horses or mules were relatively numerous in the Southern, Great Plains, and Western areas. Large proportions of the farms having two or more head were cotton farms in the southern region, and livestock other than dairy or poultry farms in the Great Plains and Western

regions where forage crops and range lands are prevalent. Many dairy farms in the Central and Eastern States still have one or more horses or mules.

Some farms in each economic class, including those with sales of \$25,000 or over reported horses and/or mules. Many of these animals are saddle horses, or old animals which will not be replaced as they die off. This is true in all five areas shown. However, very few farmers in any class group, in any region, reported more than 1 or 2 animals. It is apparent from the wide distribution of the 4 million head of horses and mules among all farm types, economic classes, and size-of-farm groups that few commercial farmers depend to any great extent on animal power for farmwork.