

TABLE 5.—SELECTED DATA FOR CROPLAND AND CROPS, BY JUDICIAL DIVISIONS: 1954¹ AND CENSUS OF 1950

Item	Alaska, total	Judicial divisions		
		1	2 and 4	3
Total cropland.....acres 1954..	13, 215	425	2, 500	10, 200
acres 1949..	12, 385	885	2, 251	9, 249
Potatoes harvested...acres 1954..	1, 180	15	475	670
acres 1949..	1, 030	7	199	827
tons 1954..	6, 431	75	1, 684	4, 672
tons 1949..	5, 552	24	775	4, 753
Vegetables harvested for sale...acres 1954..	305	10	60	235
acres 1949..	178	5	49	124
dollars 1954..	² 188, 832	10, 000	36, 980	151, 852
dollars 1949..	99, 179	4, 205	27, 044	67, 930
All other cropland ³ ...acres 1954..	11, 750	400	1, 965	9, 385
acres 1949..	11, 177	873	2, 000	8, 298

¹ Part of Judicial Division 3 included with Judicial Division 1. See text.
² Includes income from crops except potatoes, divided as follows: Cabbage, \$38,578; lettuce, \$87,470; carrots, \$33,122; and other produce, \$69,862.
³ For both years these figures represent the difference between total cropland and the total for potatoes and vegetables.

According to the 1954 Alaska report there were 13,215 acres of cropland in the Territory, which was 881 acres in excess of the 1953 total of 12,334 acres. Much of this increase can be attributed to 1,038 acres cleared in 1953. In 1954, an additional 1,035 acres were cleared.

Feed crops, mostly forage, and potatoes and vegetables comprised nearly all the crops grown in the Territory. Potato sales were the second important source of farm income, furnishing about one-third of the total farm income in 1953. Reduced plantings in 1954 and slightly lower yields resulted in a production 30 percent less than in 1953. Actual sales were off not more than 10 percent. Decreased disease loss and improved storage were the principal factors in maintaining sales when production declined. In 1954, 52 percent came from the Matanuska Valley, 33 percent from the Tanana Valley, 11 percent from the Anchorage area, and 4 percent from all other areas.

Lettuce, carrots, and cabbage were, by far, the most important vegetables grown. Vegetable acreage was approximately the same for the two years but the production for 1954 brought 13 percent less due to lower prices.

TABLE 6.—LAND DISTRIBUTION AND ACRES, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE OF CROPS SOLD: 1954 AND 1953

Item	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
Total cropland.....acres 1954..	13, 215	2, 500	8, 815	750	725	(1)	425
1953..	12, 334	2, 260	8, 425	623	616	(1)	410
Idle, fallow, or green manure.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	2, 278	625	1, 200	153	200	(1)	100
Seeded pasture.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 913	140	1, 600	38	75	(1)	60
Land cleared ¹acres 1954..	1, 035	350	445	90	150	(1)	26
1953..	1, 038	244	650	28	90	(1)	26
Crops harvested.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	8, 143	1, 495	5, 625	432	341	(1)	250
Grain.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 027	205	805	7	7	(1)	10
Wheat.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	35	5	30	—	—	(1)	—
Oats.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	510	75	425	—	2	(1)	8
Barley.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	292	90	195	—	5	(1)	2
Buckwheat.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	10	10	—	—	—	(1)	—
Mixed grain.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	180	25	155	—	—	(1)	—
Any hay or forage crops.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	5, 334	635	3, 915	284	295	(1)	205
Tame grass hay.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 490	80	950	155	175	(1)	130
Grass silage.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	118	65	38	—	10	(1)	5
Oat-pea hay.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 770	280	1, 400	30	30	(1)	30
Oat-pea silage.....acres 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	1, 956	275	1, 500	61	80	(1)	40
Potatoes harvested for sale.....acres 1954..	1, 160	475	560	85	25	—	15
1953..	1, 505	590	760	116	24	—	15
tons 1954..	6, 431	1, 684	3, 785	757	130	—	75
1953..	9, 135	2, 213	5, 700	1, 022	125	—	75
dollars 1954..	618, 025	205, 420	321, 725	67, 780	15, 600	—	7, 500
1953..	928, 020	294, 820	513, 000	97, 700	15, 000	—	7, 500
Vegetables, other than potatoes, for sale.....acres 1954..	305	60	185	30	20	(1)	10
1953..	242	65	130	32	5	(1)	10
dollars 1954..	188, 832	36, 980	124, 703	19, 544	5, 015	2, 500	10, 000
1953..	227, 929	52, 427	138, 237	22, 250	5, 015	2, 500	7, 500
Cabbage.....tons 1954..	282	87	130	65	—	—	—
1953..	268	96	130	42	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	38, 578	12, 180	18, 298	8, 100	—	—	—
1953..	43, 000	16, 320	20, 800	5, 880	—	—	—
Lettuce.....tons 1954..	225	27	190	8	—	—	—
1953..	214	34	156	24	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	57, 470	9, 800	46, 515	1, 355	—	—	—
1953..	63, 760	11, 560	46, 800	5, 400	—	—	—
Carrots.....tons 1954..	211	20	180	11	—	—	—
1953..	276	29	228	19	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	33, 122	4, 600	26, 900	1, 622	—	—	—
1953..	60, 420	6, 625	41, 040	2, 755	—	—	—
Turnips and rutabagas.....tons 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	45	20.5	6.5	18	—	—	—
Greens.....pounds 1953..	6, 428	1, 700	4, 728	—	—	—	—
bunches 1953..	1, 000	—	1, 000	—	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	8, 125	3, 858	1, 297	2, 970	—	—	—
Beets.....tons 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	12.9	3.3	9.6	—	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	2, 397	792	1, 605	—	—	—	—
Celery.....tons 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	52.6	8.6	44	—	—	—	—
dollars 1954..	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953..	13, 120	3, 440	9, 680	—	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

SPECIAL REPORTS

TABLE 6.—LAND DISTRIBUTION AND ACRES, PRODUCTION, AND VALUE OF CROPS SOLD: 1954 AND 1953—CONTINUED

Item	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
Total cropland—Continued							
Crops harvested—Continued							
Vegetables, other than potatoes, for sale—Continued							
Radishes.....							
tons 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	6.2	2.5	3.7				
bunches 1954.....	42,930	2,930		40,000			
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	5,889	1,193	1,496	3,200			
Onions.....							
pounds 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	7,036		7,036				
bunches 1954.....	57,375		57,375				
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	8,159		8,159				
Parsnips.....							
tons 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	2.5	2.5					
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	750	750					
Greenhouse vegetables.....							
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	4,500	1,200	1,800	1,500			
Mixed vegetables.....							
dollars 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	12,515	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	5,015	(NA)	7,500
Other vegetables.....							
tons 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	(NA)	13.3	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
dollars 1954.....	69,662	10,600	33,080	8,467	5,015	2,500	10,000
1953.....	15,294	6,689	5,560	545	(NA)	2,500	(NA)
Home garden.....							
acres 1954.....	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1953.....	35	(NA)	15	(NA)	10	(¹)	10

NA—Not available.

¹ No report.² Land cleared was not included as such in total cropland for the year in which it was cleared. It may have been utilized as idle land, cropland, etc.

Value of agricultural production.—Table 7 gives figures on the value of agricultural production of Alaska. Data are shown, for both 1954 and 1953, by geographic areas and for farm use and commercial production. The commercial production is further subdivided into income from vegetables and from livestock sales. There is no clear indication, in the available statistics, that any crops other than vegetables were sold. For example, in the statistics for 1954, "Other produce" was listed under vegetables, which could refer to miscellaneous vegetables or possibly to non-vegetable crops.

The value of agricultural production for all of Alaska in 1954 differed only slightly from that in 1953 with the Southeastern Alaska area showing the greatest variation, an increase of over 40 percent. The value of products used on the farm in 1954 was estimated at 8 percent of the commercial production for that year. Matanuska Valley, with 54.7 percent of agricultural production for farm use in 1954 and 64.9 percent in 1953, was the most important producing area. This area also led in commercial production (production for sale) with 54.7 percent of the Territorial total in 1954 and 55.3 percent in 1953.

TABLE 7.—VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION FOR HOME USE AND FOR SALE, BY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS: 1954 AND 1953

Item	Year	Alaska, total	Tanana Valley	Matanuska Valley	Anchorage Area	Kenai Peninsula	Kodiak and Aleutian Islands	Southeastern Alaska
Value of agricultural production, total.....	1954	\$2,877,952	\$380,565	\$1,573,483	\$223,462	\$168,380	\$104,922	\$427,140
	1953	2,819,836	449,382	1,574,471	222,465	169,304	100,000	304,214
Farm use.....	1954	213,182	28,190	116,554	16,553	12,473	7,772	31,640
	1953	153,652	12,998	99,697	7,097	22,115	5,400	6,355
Commercial, total.....	1954	2,664,770	352,375	1,456,929	206,909	155,907	97,150	395,500
	1953	2,666,184	436,384	1,474,784	215,368	147,189	94,600	297,859
Vegetables sold.....	1954	816,857	242,400	446,518	87,324	20,615	2,500	17,500
	1953	1,165,949	347,247	651,237	119,950	20,015	2,500	15,000
Livestock and livestock products sold.....	1954	1,847,913	109,975	1,010,411	119,585	135,292	94,650	378,000
	1953	1,510,235	89,137	823,547	95,418	127,174	92,100	282,859

Comparability of data.—Comparability is affected by factors, such as the time of enumeration, the wording of the questions, and the definition of a farm. For 1954 and 1953, no mention was made as to the date of the mailing of questionnaires, the date of the interviews, or to the minimum for area or production to be reported. In reference to the minimum area or amount of production for enumeration, the following statement, applying to 1954, was contained in the reply to the Bureau's request for available information: "Our procedure encompasses a mailed questionnaire to all persons known to be engaged in any agriculture." Since the production data for 1954 are presented with the matching inventories as of January 1, 1955, and since these data were furnished to the Bureau shortly after July 1, 1955, it seems safe to assume that the data were gathered shortly after January 1.

For the 1950 Census of Agriculture a farm was any place with either 3 or more acres and \$150 or more of agricultural products or less than 3 acres, provided the value of sales of agricultural products amounted to \$150 or more. Places that did not meet

these minimum requirements were considered farms only if they had sufficient potential to meet these minima.

The Census enumerators were not required to determine which places were farms. They were instructed to enumerate all places that the operator called farms, all places of 3 or more acres, and certain specialized operations, such as greenhouses. The determination as to which operations constituted farms was made during the office processing in Washington.

For 1950, the Census of Agriculture was taken as of April 1 of that year. Most of the farms were enumerated in April and May. Inventory items relate to April 1; data on acreage, production, and sales to the crop year 1949.

The classification of livestock by age and sex for 1954 (January 1, 1955) varies somewhat from that used in 1950. The differing classifications are indicated in the tables presenting livestock data. The method of reporting crops also varied. This is indicated more fully in the several crop tables.