

# VIRGIN ISLANDS

**TABLE 1.—FARMS, FARM ACREAGE, AND VALUE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS: 1917 TO 1954**

Item	1954	Census of 1950 (Apr. 1)	Census of 1940 (Apr. 1)	Census of 1930 (Apr. 1)	Census of 1917 (Nov. 1)
Farms.....number..	(NA)	755	828	329	430
All land in farms.....acres..	73,000	63,753	55,219	68,322	69,892
Cropland, total.....acres..	35,780	16,461	13,404	(NA)	(NA)
Harvested.....acres..	6,340	5,594	4,964	<sup>1</sup> 6,895	<sup>2</sup> 39,448
In growing crops not harvested.....acres..	600	603	2,952	(NA)	(NA)
On which crops failed and idle land.....acres..	200	4,132	5,488	(NA)	(NA)
Pastured.....acres..	28,640	6,132	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Pasture other than cropland.....acres..	15,720	30,663	30,521	(NA)	(NA)
Non-crop open or brush pasture.....acres..	8,265	21,046	15,496	(NA)	(NA)
Woodland pasture.....acres..	7,455	9,617	15,025	(NA)	(NA)
All other land.....acres..	21,500	16,629	11,294	(NA)	(NA)
Woodland not pastured.....acres..	15,000	13,473	7,935	(NA)	(NA)
Other land (house lots, etc.).....acres..	6,500	3,156	3,359	(NA)	(NA)
Irrigated lands.....acres..	26	13	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Value of land and buildings.....dollars..	10,000,000	6,402,720	2,398,546	2,400,711	3,017,341
Average value per farm.....dollars..	(NA)	8,600	2,897	7,297	7,017
Average value per acre.....dollars..	<sup>3</sup> 225	101	43	35	43

NA—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Acres of crops harvested in 1929.

<sup>2</sup> Acreage reported as improved land on the Census date.

<sup>3</sup> As reported. Does not correspond with land in farms and total value reported.

**TABLE 2.—LIVESTOCK ON FARMS—SPECIFIED LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: 1917 TO 1954**

Item	1954	Census of 1950 (Apr. 1)	Census of 1940 (Apr. 1)	Census of 1930 (Apr. 1)	Census of 1917 <sup>1</sup> (Nov. 1)
<b>LIVESTOCK</b>					
Any livestock.....farms reporting..	(NA)	671	695	261	381
Horses and colts.....number..	750	1,077	<sup>2</sup> 954	862	1,827
Mules and colts.....number..	50	268	<sup>2</sup> 623	994	1,598
Asses and burros.....number..	300	399	<sup>2</sup> 544	523	748
Cattle and calves, total.....number..	12,000	11,955	<sup>2</sup> 8,796	12,252	12,187
Cows.....number..	6,000	5,331	<sup>2</sup> 7,306	<sup>4</sup> 4,726	(NA)
Calves under 3 months of age.....number..	4,800	1,082	(NA)	<sup>2</sup> 2,770	(NA)
Heifers and heifer calves, 3 months old and over.....number..	(NA)	2,617	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Bulls, bull calves, steers, 3 months old and over.....number..	1,200	2,325	<sup>2</sup> 1,490	(NA)	(NA)
Hogs and pigs, total.....number..	850	978	<sup>2</sup> 1,124	860	2,145
Under 4 months.....number..	(NA)	498	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
4 months old and over.....number..	(NA)	480	266	(NA)	(NA)
Sheep and lambs.....number..	2,000	2,786	<sup>2</sup> 1,819	1,533	1,046
Goats and kids.....number..	2,000	3,876	<sup>2</sup> 2,134	1,478	1,584
Chickens 4 months old and over.....number..	15,000	10,074	8,046	<sup>2</sup> 3,331	<sup>2</sup> 6,137
<b>LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS</b>					
Chickens sold.....number..	5,000	10,533	<sup>2</sup> 2,817	(NA)	(NA)
Chicken eggs sold.....dozens..	44,000	22,807	20,812	4,353	(NA)
Turkeys, ducks, geese, and other poultry.....number..	1,100	665	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

NA—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Age classes included not specified.

<sup>2</sup> Over 3 months old.

<sup>3</sup> Included in total for cattle and calves over 3 months old; no other mention of age.

<sup>4</sup> Cows and heifers 2 years old and over kept mainly for milk production.

<sup>5</sup> Under 1 year old.

<sup>6</sup> Over 4 nths old.

<sup>7</sup> Over 6 months old.

<sup>8</sup> Poultry of all kinds.

<sup>9</sup> Poultry sold.

**Introduction.**—The 1954 statistics for the Virgin Islands were submitted by the Department of Agriculture and Labor through the Office of the Governor. In the Department's transmittal, the Commissioner stated: "Since we have not yet been able to collect such statistical data \* \* \*, I have had to depend entirely upon the kind cooperation of the Virgin Islands Corporation and the Federal Experiment Station for such information as they collected during the last four-year period."

**Censuses of agriculture.**—The figures given in the tables for this report for 1950, 1940, 1930, and 1917 are from the Censuses of Agriculture taken under the supervision of the United States Bureau of the Census. The first United States Census of Agriculture of the Virgin Islands was taken in 1917, a special Census authorized by the Secretary of Commerce. The next Census was taken in 1930 in conjunction with the Census of Population. A Census of Agriculture was also taken in 1940 and 1950 in conjunction with the Censuses of Population.

The questionnaire used for the Census of Population contained one inquiry which was designed to help the enumerator to obtain an agriculture questionnaire for every place for which one was required. The inquiry read: "Is this house on a farm?" This inquiry was to be answered for every family. If the reply to this question was "Yes," the enumerator was to fill an agriculture questionnaire for the place. He was instructed to fill an agriculture questionnaire for every farm, for every place of 3 or more acres whether or not it was considered a farm, and for every place of less than 3 acres on which agricultural products valued at \$100 or more were produced in 1949, whether or not it was considered a farm.

For the 1950 Census of Agriculture, places, regardless of size, were counted as farms if the value of agricultural products in 1949, exclusive of home gardens, amounted to \$100 or more. The agricultural products could have been either for home use or for sale. Places operated in 1949, for which the value of agricultural products in 1949 was less than this minimum because of crop failure or other unusual situation, and places operated in 1950 or 1949 for the first time were counted as farms if normally they could be expected to produce these minimum quantities of farm products.

The Census enumerator was not given the definition of a farm. He was instructed to obtain an agriculture questionnaire for every place that the operator considered a farm, for every place of 3 or more acres whether or not it was considered a farm, and for every place of less than 3 acres if the agricultural products produced in 1949 were valued at \$100 or more. Thus, agriculture questionnaires were filled for more places than those that qualified as farms. The determination as to which reports were to be included in the tabulations as representing farms was made during the processing of the questionnaires in Washington.

The 1950 Census of Agriculture was taken as of April 1, 1950. Inventory items relate to approximately that date. Data on acreage of crops and quantity harvested are for the crop year 1949. The special Census of 1917 was taken as of November 1. Inventory items relate to November 1 and production items relate to the year ended October 31, 1917.

**Presentation of statistics.**—Data are presented only for the area, as a whole. Comparative data are usually given for all Census enumerations. In a few instances, Census data are presented even though no recent data are available.