

TABLE 9.—LIME AND LIMING MATERIALS—FARMS REPORTING, TONS PURCHASED, ACRES LIMED, AND EXPENDITURES; FOR THE UNITED STATES, THE NORTH, THE SOUTH, AND THE WEST: 1954

[Data are based on reports for only a sample for farms. See text. Figures for States in Table 25]

Region	Farms reporting lime purchased		Tons purchased		Acres limed			Pounds used per acre	Expenditures for lime (dollars)				Percent distribution of—			
	Total	Percent of all farms	Total	Average per farm reporting	Total	Average per farm reporting	As a percent of total cropland plus improved pasture		Total	Per ton	Per farm	Per acre limed	Farms reporting	Tons purchased	Acres limed	Expenditures
United States.....	520,445	10.9	17,276,170	33.2	10,502,965	20.2	2.2	3,290	69,477,336	4.02	133.50	6.62	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
The North.....	358,610	17.6	13,082,005	36.5	6,919,040	19.3	2.6	3,784	48,476,789	3.70	135.18	7.01	68.9	75.8	65.9	69.8
The South.....	156,381	6.8	3,980,517	25.5	3,458,735	22.1	2.4	2,302	19,511,958	4.90	124.77	5.64	30.0	23.0	32.9	28.1
The West.....	5,454	1.3	203,648	37.3	125,190	23.0	0.2	3,253	1,488,589	7.31	272.34	11.89	1.0	1.2	1.2	2.1

Many factors affect the cost of commercial fertilizer per ton, per acre, etc. The cost per ton depends largely on the kind of fertilizing material used. For example, in areas where considerable quantities of basic slag were used, and in areas where rock phosphates were an important type of fertilizing material, the costs per ton were low. On the other hand, the costs per ton were very high in certain specialty crop areas or in some of the irrigated areas where highly concentrated fertilizers, such as anhydrous ammonia, were sometimes used in the irrigation water.

Lime and liming material.—In 1954, 10.9 percent of the farms in the United States reported the purchase of lime and liming materials, as compared with 13.8 percent in 1944 and 7.7 percent in 1939. The proportion of farms reporting lime purchased, varied from 0.1 percent in the Mountain States to 28.7 percent in the Middle Atlantic States. Use of lime in the United States averaged 1.6 tons per acre limed in 1954,

with the quantity varying from three-fourths of a ton in the Mountain States to 2 tons per acre in the North Central States.

The average cost of all lime and liming material purchased in the United States in 1954 was \$4.02 per ton, or \$6.62 per acre limed. The cost per ton of liming material varied widely from the United States average of \$4.02 per ton to a high of \$7.32 for the Pacific States to a low of \$3.06 for the West North Central States. The average expenditure per farm reporting liming materials in 1954 was \$134 for the United States.

Other published data.—Data from the 1954 Census of Agriculture for commercial fertilizer and lime and liming materials, in addition to those published in this volume, are located as indicated in the following table. For expenditure data for commercial fertilizer and lime and liming material, see Part 3 of this chapter.

OTHER PUBLISHED DATA FOR USE OF FERTILIZER AND LIME 1954 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Where found	Geographic area for which available	Period	Presentation of data
Volume I.—Counties and State Economic Areas. Parts 1 to 33	Counties and States	1954	County Table 6.—County totals for use of commercial fertilizer, lime and liming materials, and crops on which commercial fertilizer was used.
	Economic Areas and State	1954	Economic Area Tables 1 and 2.—Economic Class of Farm. Totals for economic areas within a State and the State for crops on which commercial fertilizer was used for each economic class of commercial farms and for part-time, residential, and abnormal farms.
			Economic Area Tables 4 and 5.—Type of Farm. Totals for economic areas within a State and the State for crops on which commercial fertilizer was used for each type of commercial farm and for miscellaneous and unclassified farms.
			Economic Area Tables 7 and 8.—Tenure of Operator. Totals for economic areas within a State and the State for crops on which commercial fertilizer was used for each tenure of operator of commercial farms only and totals for other farms.
State only	1954	State Table 4.—Tenure of Operator. State totals for tons and acres on which used for commercial fertilizer and fertilizing material and lime and liming material for each tenure of operator of commercial farms only and totals for other farms.	
	1920 to 1954	State Table 7.—State totals for farms reporting and dollar expenditure for commercial fertilizer and fertilizing material, lime and liming material for 1954 with available comparative data from earlier Censuses to 1920.	
Volume II.—General Report Chapter X	United States only	1954	Tenure of Operator.—United States totals for tons and acres on which used for commercial fertilizer and fertilizing material for each tenure of operator of commercial farms only and totals for other farms.
Volume II.—General Report Chapter XI	United States, regions and States	1954	Economic Class of Farm.—Region and State totals for commercial fertilizer and fertilizing material and lime and liming material for each economic class of farm and for part-time, residential, and abnormal farms.
Volume II.—General Report Chapter XII	United States only	1954	Type of Farms.—United States totals only for commercial fertilizer and fertilizing material and for lime and liming material for 1954 for each type of commercial farms and for miscellaneous and unclassified farms.