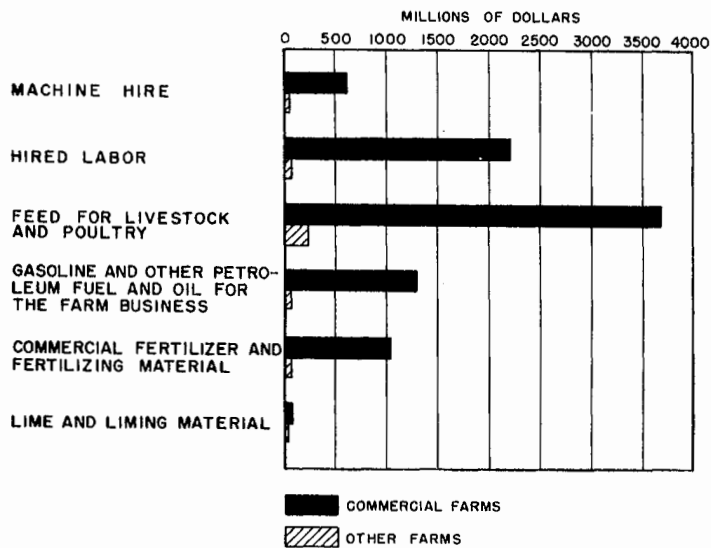


SPECIFIED FARM EXPENDITURES FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS AND OTHER FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1954



The figures on farm expenditures are subject to reporting errors. To assist in obtaining accurate information, the inquiries were made so that records for the Federal income taxes could be used to provide the required figures. However, a landlord who also operated a farm and incurred items of expense on his tenant's operation would have to adjust his income tax records to provide the Census information. Also, a tenant who was required to report items of expense incurred by his landlord would have had to increase the expenses reported on his income tax statement in order to furnish a report for the Census.

Data for expenditures for earlier Censuses are presented only for items included in the 1954 Census. Various items of expenditure have been obtained at each Census of Agriculture, beginning with 1870. The items of expenditure which have been included in one or more Censuses of Agriculture are given at the bottom of this page.

There have been only minor changes from Census to Census in the wording of the inquiries for the items of expenditures for which data are included in the 1954 Census, except in the case of hired labor. For hired labor, cash expenditures for 1900 and the three prior Censuses includes the value of board furnished.

Changes from Census to Census in the amounts expended for any specified item may reflect changes in amount purchased, and changes in the price level. A comparison of expenditures and the index numbers of prices paid by farmers for certain commodities used in production and of wage rates, shows that the change in price level has been an important factor affecting changes.

TABLE 12.—INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICE PAID BY FARMERS FOR SPECIFIED COMMODITIES BOUGHT FOR USE IN PRODUCTION AND OF FARM WAGE RATES, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1910 TO 1954.

[Calendar years 1910-1914 = 100]

Year	Commodities bought for use in production			Farm wage rates
	Livestock	Feed	All commodities	
1954	295	226	252	510
1949	344	206	238	430
1944	202	173	173	318
1939	39	93	121	127
1929	177	136	146	186
1924	116	139	140	182
1919	183	208	195	206
1910	92	98	97	96

Source: Agricultural Statistics, United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service.

FARM EXPENDITURE ITEMS FOR WHICH AN INQUIRY WAS INCLUDED IN THE CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1870 TO 1954

[The data for various Census years may not be entirely comparable for reasons such as wording of the inquiry, instructions to the enumerator, processing of the data, etc. An X in the following table indicates the inquiry was included in the Census of the year specified]

Item on Census questionnaire	1954	1950	1945	1940	1935	1930	1925	1920	1910	1900	1890	1880	1870
Machine hire	X	X											
Hired labor	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Feed for livestock and poultry	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X				
Livestock and poultry purchased		X	X										
Seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees		X	X										
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil	X	X		X									
Tractor repairs		X											
Other machinery repairs		X											
Fertilizer	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
Lime	X		X	X									
Fences (building and repairs)											X	X	
Lumber, timber, wooden posts, poles, and firewood							X						
Building materials				X									
Purchase of farm implements and machinery				X		X							
Electricity						X							