

TABLE 1.—NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FARMS REPORTING TOBACCO, PERCENTAGE OF CROPLAND HARVESTED IN TOBACCO, AND PERCENTAGE CASH INCOME FROM TOBACCO IS OF TOTAL CASH INCOME FROM CROPS AND TOTAL CASH FARM INCOME, BY CENSUS PERIODS, UNITED STATES: 1919 TO 1954

Year	Farms reporting tobacco		Percent of cropland harvested in tobacco	Percent cash income from tobacco is of—	
	Number	Percent of all farms		Cash income from crops ¹	Total cash farm income ¹
1954	513,346	10.7	0.5	8.6	3.8
1949	531,922	9.9	.4	7.2	3.2
1944	490,585	8.4	.5	7.6	3.4
1939	498,348	8.2	.6	8.2	3.5
1934	422,166	6.2	.4	7.9	3.7
1929	432,975	6.9	.5	5.4	2.5
1924	390,352	6.2	.4	4.8	2.5
1919	448,572	7.0	.5	6.5	3.4

NA Not available.

¹ Does not include governmental payments. Estimates of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

allotment program, results in a small acreage and production per farm. In 1954, the majority of farmers who grew flue-cured tobacco reported from 2.5 to 4.9 acres and only 34 percent grew more than 5 acres (see Table 2). Of the farmers growing Burley tobacco, 47 percent reported less than 1 acre and only 17 percent reported more than 2.5 acres. Growers of dark fire-cured tobacco had larger acreages than growers of dark air-cured tobacco. Growers of Southern Maryland tobacco and growers of cigar types tended to have slightly larger acreages than growers of flue-cured tobacco. Pounds of tobacco produced per farm varied about the same way that acreage was distributed (see Table 3). But with the exception of Southern Maryland and cigar types of tobacco, less than 10 percent of the growers in each type produced as much as 10,000 pounds of tobacco per farm.

PRODUCING AREAS*

Production of various types of tobacco is highly localized, for no crop is more susceptible to slight changes in soils and subsoils. The chief determining and limiting factor is soil. There are only a few places where two or more types can be grown interchangeably. There are even very limited transition zones wherein types can be alternated or shifted. The major classes and types of tobacco grown in this country are given on pages 7 and 8. Figure 11 shows the location of tobacco-growing districts in the United States, which are found mainly in the States on the Atlantic seaboard and in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Flue-cured tobacco.—About three-fifths of the production of tobacco in this country is flue-cured. The demand for it both domestic and foreign, arises primarily from the use in cigarette manufacture. The production of flue-cured tobacco has been under some kind of control program since 1933. However, with a guaranteed market and support price, it is probable that more farmers grow the crop than would do so under free production and market conditions. Acreage controls extending over many years have fostered an intensive type of cultivation which has considerably increased the yields per acre. More intensive practices and higher yields have raised the labor inputs per acre.

Flue-cured tobacco is produced in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and to a small extent in Alabama. The territory is divided into two general districts commonly referred to as Old Belt and New Belt. They correspond roughly to the physiographic provinces known as the Piedmont and the Atlantic Coastal Plain. The New Belt group, types 12 to 14, differs markedly from the Old Belt tobacco, type 11, the latter being generally heavier in body and darker in color. Differences between types within the New Belt group may be traced primarily to variations in soil.

TABLE 2.—NUMBER OF FARMS REPORTING TOBACCO HARVESTED AND PROPORTION OF FARMS HARVESTING VARIOUS ACREAGES, BY TYPES OF TOBACCO AND STATES, UNITED STATES: 1954

State	Number of farms reporting tobacco harvested	Percent of farms harvesting—						
		Under 0.5 acres	0.5 to 0.9 acres	1.0 to 2.4 acres	2.5 to 4.9 acres	5.0 to 9.9 acres	10.0 to 19.9 acres	20.0 acres and over
Flue-cured tobacco								
All farms	226,020	0.9	2.1	20.6	42.0	30.0	4.1	0.3
North Carolina	134,695	.5	1.3	15.4	40.9	36.2	5.4	.3
South Carolina	34,872	2.1	4.8	28.2	44.3	19.1	1.4	.1
Georgia	27,872	.7	2.0	31.7	45.7	18.0	1.7	.2
Virginia	23,045	.9	2.1	22.4	42.4	28.7	3.3	.2
Florida	5,733	.8	3.7	35.6	37.0	16.9	4.4	1.6
Alabama	203	89.2	7.4	2.9	.5			
Burley tobacco								
All farms	238,458	10.9	36.6	34.9	13.1	3.9	0.5	0.1
Kentucky	115,620	5.8	27.3	38.9	20.2	6.9	.8	.1
Tennessee	70,082	15.1	48.3	30.9	5.1	.6	.1	(Z)
Virginia ¹	19,051	12.1	38.9	38.4	9.0	1.5	.1	(Z)
North Carolina	13,913	25.8	44.7	26.6	2.4	.4	.1	(Z)
Ohio ²	8,478	8.3	37.2	31.0	17.1	5.5	.8	.1
Indiana	6,902	9.5	45.1	33.3	9.8	2.1	.2	(Z)
West Virginia	3,407	23.1	53.9	21.2	1.8			
Kansas and Missouri	1,005	73.9	21.2	4.8	.1			
Southern Maryland tobacco								
Maryland	5,601	0.3	1.1	11.8	17.7	33.3	27.8	8.0
Dark fire-cured tobacco								
All farms	13,865	3.7	7.1	40.1	35.8	12.3	1.0	(Z)
Kentucky	6,682	4.8	7.0	43.5	34.5	9.5	.6	.1
Tennessee	7,183	2.6	7.2	37.0	37.0	14.8	1.4	(Z)
Dark air-cured tobacco								
All farms	16,717	24.8	30.6	35.6	8.0	1.0	(Z)	(Z)
Kentucky	13,151	21.3	30.7	38.0	9.0	1.0	(Z)	(Z)
Tennessee	3,566	38.0	30.1	26.4	4.6	.9		
Cigar-filler tobacco								
Pennsylvania ³	4,886	0.4	0.0	16.3	26.7	40.4	14.6	0.7
Cigar-binder tobacco								
All farms	5,029	1.7	4.6	32.1	38.2	16.4	4.7	2.3
Connecticut	660	.8		9.1	22.7	23.5	26.5	17.4
Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin	4,369	1.8	5.3	35.6	40.5	15.3	1.5	
Cigar-wrapper tobacco								
All farms	243	0.4		20.6	28.8	21.0	12.3	16.0
Connecticut	79			6.3	31.6	19.0	12.7	30.4
Massachusetts and Vermont	164	.6		27.4	27.4	22.0	12.2	10.4

Z Less than 0.05 percent.

¹ Also includes dark air-cured tobacco grown in Virginia.

² Also includes cigar-filler tobacco grown in Ohio.

³ Also includes cigar-binder tobacco grown in Pennsylvania.

Old Belt tobacco, type 11, is grown on the loam and sandy loam soils of the Piedmont derived from underlying granite, gneiss, slate, etc., and underlaid usually with heavy clay subsoils. This area embraces the Piedmont country of southern Virginia and northern North Carolina. Its terrain varies from undulating to hilly with mountainous portions on the west. About four-fifths of the land is in farms. The average size of the commercial tobacco farm is about 78 acres, of which 4 to 5 acres will be in tobacco each year. Production of the crop is rather equally divided at present between tenant- and owner-operated farms. Tobacco is the main enterprise on most farms, but livestock, especially dairying, is definitely increasing. This area is also the center of the cigarette manufacturing industry. Winston-Salem is the leading

*The discussion in this section is based partly on a preliminary manuscript being prepared on the "System of Economic Areas" by Donald J. Bogus and C. L. Beale.