

TABLE 13.—COLOR AND TENURE OF FARM OPERATORS ON OTHER FIELD-CROP FARMS IN SPECIFIED TOBACCO AREAS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	All farms	Economic class of farm					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Flue-cured tobacco							
Total number of operators	166,232	326	2,875	24,557	69,131	53,976	15,367
Percent of operators:							
White	64	89	87	74	65	61	48
Nonwhite	36	11	13	26	35	39	52
Owners, part owners, or managers	44	81	56	39	38	48	59
Croppers	30	6	18	30	33	28	24
Other tenants	27	12	26	31	29	24	18
Burley tobacco							
Total number of operators	104,645	118	1,240	7,001	21,223	37,770	37,293
Percent of operators:							
White	98	100	99	98	98	98	98
Nonwhite	2		1	2	2	2	2
Owners, part owners, or managers	72	79	55	52	62	72	82
Croppers	13		10	12	17	15	8
Other tenants	15	21	34	36	21	13	10
Southern Maryland tobacco							
Total number of operators	4,546	37	321	1,001	1,626	1,255	306
Percent of operators:							
White	74	86	98	83	74	67	51
Nonwhite	26	14	2	17	26	33	49
Owners, part owners, or managers	62	59	72	60	57	68	64
Croppers	16	14	3	14	17	20	20
Other tenants	22	27	25	26	26	12	16
Dark-fired and air-cured tobacco							
Total number of operators	18,143	26	113	978	4,703	7,823	4,500
Percent of operators:							
White	81	100	91	92	85	82	74
Nonwhite	19		9	8	15	18	26
Owners, part owners, or managers	64	42	82	67	54	62	75
Croppers	22	19	9	19	28	24	15
Other tenants	14	39	9	14	18	14	10

In each subregion, the percentage of operators that were nonwhite increased as the size of operation decreased. There was no consistent relationship between size of farm and the percentage of operators classified as owners, part owners, managers, or tenants.

PRODUCTION CONDITIONS BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM PRODUCING VARIOUS TYPES OF TOBACCO

Types of farms are likely to differ from each other in several factors such as size, use of resources, and production efficiency. Farms that grow the same product or similar products vary from one area to another or one region to another. The typical farm in the United States, however, is the "family-size" farm—a size of unit that can be worked by the operator and his family with only moderate hired help.

Data are presented on a per-farm basis for some of the main characteristics of farms that produce various types of tobacco. These data show variations between tobacco farms producing various types of tobacco and make it possible to compare tobacco farms with farms of other types. Subregion or subregions were selected as representative of the various types of tobacco. Data are given for subregions 24 and 25 for flue-cured tobacco, subregions 32 and 45 for Burley tobacco, subregion 19 for Southern Maryland tobacco, and subregion 53 for dark-fired and air-cured tobacco.

In each case the data are given by economic class of farm to show variations between size of operation. In analyzing these

TABLE 14.—NUMBER AND SIZE OF OTHER FIELD-CROP FARMS IN SELECTED AREAS IN SPECIFIED TOBACCO SUBREGIONS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	All farms	Economic class of farm					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Flue-cured tobacco (subregion 24)							
Number of farms	49,070	48	1,196	10,969	23,039	11,243	2,575
Total acres per farm	51	392	140	69	45	38	31
Total crop acres per farm	27	195	73	40	25	17	11
Percent of total acres in cropland	53	50	52	58	56	45	35
Flue-cured tobacco (subregion 25)							
Number of farms	43,975	30	167	2,300	14,264	20,464	6,750
Total acres per farm	72	244	275	149	88	58	45
Total crop acres per farm	27	128	114	58	34	22	15
Percent of total acres in cropland	37	52	41	39	38	37	33
Burley tobacco (subregion 45)							
Number of farms	29,442	97	1,103	5,725	11,471	8,201	2,845
Total acres per farm	85	611	199	121	82	58	38
Total crop acres per farm	52	469	144	82	49	31	19
Percent of total acres in cropland	62	77	72	68	60	53	50
Burley tobacco (subregion 32)							
Number of farms	22,150	5	45	257	1,926	8,306	11,611
Total acres per farm	61	528	207	174	102	66	48
Total crop acres per farm	29	216	88	98	52	32	20
Percent of total acres in cropland	47	41	43	57	52	49	42
Southern Maryland tobacco (subregion 19)							
Number of farms	4,546	37	321	1,001	1,626	1,255	306
Total acres per farm	103	338	223	156	85	60	48
Total crop acres per farm	51	194	122	79	41	27	22
Percent of total acres in cropland	50	57	55	51	49	45	45
Dark-fired and air-cured tobacco (subregion 53)							
Number of farms	13,829	26	97	755	3,681	6,090	3,180
Total acres per farm	83	298	411	179	96	73	51
Total crop acres per farm	56	216	297	121	70	47	31
Percent of total acres in cropland	67	72	72	68	73	65	61

data, it should be kept in mind that classifications of farms by amount of gross sales were based on data for 1 year—1954. In areas of specialized crop production, gross sales are determined largely by the yield of the specialized crop produced. A low yield may result in farms falling in one class in a given year although they would normally fall in a different class in another year. In some cases, the number of farms in a group, especially Class I, may be too small to provide reliable averages.

Size of farm.—Specialized tobacco farms are not usually very large from the standpoint of area. Such farms in Southern Maryland averaged 103 acres, and this was twice the average size of flue-cured tobacco farms in subregion 24 (see Table 14). The size of farm decreased with the decrease in gross sales. About half of the farms in Burley area, subregion 32, were in Economic Class VI and these Class VI farms averaged only 48 acres and 20 acres of cropland per farm. Normally the acres of cropland on Class I farms were 10 to 20 times as large as the acres of cropland on Class VI farms.

About one-third or more of the tobacco farms in each of the selected subregions were less than 30 acres in size (see Table 15). Less than 10 percent of the farms in each area had 260 acres or more. Only a very small percentage of the farms in Class V or VI in any of the subregions had more than 140 acres.