

TABLE 19.—AVERAGE ACREAGE OF CROPS GROWN ON OTHER FIELD-CROP FARMS IN SELECTED TOBACCO SUBREGIONS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Crop	Average acres per farm by economic class of farm						
	All farms	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Flue-cured tobacco (subregion 24)							
Total cropland harvested.....	24.6	178.9	67.0	36.8	22.9	14.7	9.0
Selected crops:							
Peanuts grown for all purposes.....	.5	6.8	1.8	1.1	.4	.1	.1
Corn for grain.....	11.5	82.5	31.9	17.4	10.9	6.3	3.6
Cotton.....	2.7	11.4	6.2	3.9	2.6	1.7	.7
Tobacco.....	5.7	37.5	14.2	8.2	5.3	3.7	2.3
Small grain for grain.....	.9	24.0	3.7	1.4	.8	.5	.4
Soybeans for beans.....	.5	11.7	3.2	.8	.4	.1	(Z)
All hay.....	1.3	8.3	2.6	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.0
Flue-cured tobacco (subregion 25)							
Total cropland harvested.....	18.1	103.8	77.1	40.7	23.4	14.4	8.5
Selected crops:							
Peanuts grown for all purposes.....	(Z)				(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
Corn for grain.....	5.4	29.5	15.2	9.8	6.9	4.7	2.9
Cotton.....	.1	.2	.9	.3	.2	.1	.1
Tobacco.....	4.8	34.5	17.5	9.8	6.3	4.0	2.3
Small grain for grain.....	2.8	24.2	18.1	7.9	3.9	1.9	.9
Soybeans for beans.....	(Z)		.2	.1	(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
All hay.....	4.4	27.7	24.2	11.6	5.8	3.3	1.9
Burley tobacco (subregion 45)							
Total cropland harvested.....	19.9	182.7	56.9	32.3	18.6	11.0	5.6
Selected crops:							
Peanuts grown for all purposes.....	5.7	27.6	11.6	9.2	5.7	3.4	2.2
Corn for grain.....	3.7	25.8	10.9	5.9	3.6	2.1	1.1
Cotton.....	1.3	33.9	6.8	2.5	.8	.3	.1
Tobacco.....	(Z)			(Z)	(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
Small grain for grain.....	7.9	56.7	21.6	12.8	7.6	4.6	2.0
Soybeans for beans.....							
All hay.....							
Burley tobacco (subregion 32)							
Total cropland harvested.....	15.8	201.0	48.0	52.7	31.8	18.5	10.2
Selected crops:							
Peanuts grown for all purposes.....	4.6	15.0	2.8	11.8	7.5	5.4	3.4
Corn for grain.....	(Z)				(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
Cotton.....	1.2	20.0	3.0	2.9	2.4	1.5	.8
Tobacco.....	2.0	28.0	11.6	11.5	5.4	2.4	.8
Small grain for grain.....	(Z)				(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
Soybeans for beans.....	7.4	135.0	18.7	24.9	15.4	8.6	4.7
All hay.....							
Southern Maryland tobacco (subregion 19)							
Total cropland harvested.....	29.9	126.1	80.2	45.9	24.6	13.9	7.2
Selected crops:							
Peanuts grown for all purposes.....	9.7	24.8	26.4	14.3	8.5	4.5	2.5
Corn for grain.....	10.0	48.1	25.2	14.2	9.0	5.2	3.5
Cotton.....	3.7	19.3	11.0	6.5	2.8	1.2	.1
Tobacco.....	1.2	2.4	2.8	2.0	.7	1.0	.4
Small grain for grain.....	4.3	24.6	10.4	8.0	3.3	1.4	.8
Soybeans for beans.....							
All hay.....							
Dark-fired and air-cured tobacco (subregion 53)							
Total cropland harvested.....	28.3	172.8	173.0	66.6	37.4	23.0	13.0
Selected crops:							
Peanuts grown for all purposes.....	15.1	46.9	54.9	30.3	19.6	13.5	7.9
Corn for grain.....	(Z)				(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
Cotton.....	2.0	10.1	7.9	4.4	2.8	1.7	.8
Dark-fired and air-cured tobacco.....	1.2	18.6	3.7	2.5	1.6	1.1	.7
Burley tobacco.....	3.0	41.6	51.2	11.7	4.6	1.5	.4
Small grain for grain.....	.1		3.4	.3	(Z)	(Z)	(Z)
Soybeans for beans.....	5.3	39.4	33.9	13.6	7.0	4.1	2.5
All hay.....							

Z 0.05 acre or less.

largest percent of the farms were in the 2.5 to 4.9 acre group. Forty-three percent of the farmers in Burley subregion 45 had 2.5 to 4.9 acres in tobacco but 93 percent of the farmers in subregion 32 grew less than 2.5 acres in tobacco. Only 19 percent of the growers of Southern Maryland tobacco grew less than 5 acres of tobacco in 1954 and one-third of the producers grew from 10 to 19.9 acres. About one-third dark fire-cured tobacco farms had less than 2.5 acres in 1954 and 89 percent of the growers of dark air-cured tobacco, grew less than 2.5 acres in 1954. On some farms both dark-fired and dark air-cured tobacco were grown.

For all types of tobacco, the acres of tobacco per farm increased as the gross farm income increased. No Class I flue-cured tobacco farms had less than 20 acres in tobacco.

Livestock.—The livestock kept on specialized tobacco farms varies somewhat in the different types of tobacco areas (see Table 21). In the flue-cured regions, it is kept mainly to supply products for home consumption. In subregion 24, milk cows were reported on 24 percent of the farms as compared with 66 percent in subregion 25.

Farms in the Burley subregions and the dark-fired and air-cured have more livestock than farms in the other subregions. Livestock is used to supplement the income from tobacco on many of the farms.

In all subregions the amount of livestock increased with the increase in gross income, especially for beef cattle and hogs. Many of the larger farmers found the adding of livestock enterprises profitable as the resources were used to better advantage and the income from tobacco was supplemented.

Labor used.—Except on the larger farms, the farm organization of tobacco farms is planned around the farm family. Hired labor was relatively unimportant except on the Classes I and II farms. Family labor made up a larger proportion of the labor force on flue-cured farms than for any of the other types of tobacco (see Table 22). The average crop acres per man was smallest in the flue-cured and highest in the dark-fired and air-cured subregions.

As to be expected, the average man-equivalents of labor increased as the size of farm operations increased. However, the amount of labor on large farms was only 3 to 4 times the amount on small farms.

The majority of the operators of tobacco farms spend full time on the farm business. In each subregion except Southern Maryland, two-thirds or more of the operators reported no days of work off farm (see Table 23). For the operators who did work off farm, the days worked were less than 100. Size of farm apparently had little to do with whether operators work off farm or the time spent at nonfarm work. In most cases, a slightly higher proportion of the operators of large farms, than of smaller farms, reported off-farm work, but the difference was not great.

Farm mechanization and home conveniences.—Tobacco production requires a great deal of hand labor especially during the harvest season. The number of crop acres per farm is usually small. Operators have been slow to mechanize, partly because of the small size of the unit and partly because of the fact that machinery has not been developed to completely mechanize the harvesting operations. If enough labor is available to harvest tobacco, it usually means a surplus for preharvest work.

With the exception of the Southern Maryland area, tractors were reported on slightly less than half of the farms, averaging about 0.5 tractor per farm (see Table 24). The number of motor-trucks was even smaller, averaging only about 0.3 truck per farm. The percentage of operators reporting motortrucks varied from 80 percent in Southern Maryland to 40 percent in Burley subregion 32.