

FARMERS AND FARM PRODUCTION

investment. In the dark-fired and air-cured area, 24 percent of the investment was in machinery, and 8 percent in livestock. These proportions were higher than for any of the other areas. In flue-cured subregion 24 only 3 percent of the total investment was in livestock.

In all of the tobacco areas, the average capital investment increased as gross farm sales increased. The average investment on Class II farms was 5 to 10 times the investment on Class VI farms. The average investment for farms in the same income group varied widely by types of tobacco.

Production expense.—Table 26 shows some of the major cost items in operating specialized tobacco farms. In each case fertilizer was the largest or almost the largest item of expense, for tobacco is heavily fertilized. In the flue-cured tobacco subregions, the amount expended for gasoline, fuel, and oil is high, as oil burners are used for curing tobacco on many of the farms. The expenditure for hired labor was much greater on farms in the flue-cured subregion 24 and in Southern Maryland than in the other subregions.

There was a considerable variation in average expenditure per crop acre between subregions for the same types of tobacco and for different types of tobacco. The subregion with the highest expenditure per acre was flue-cured 24 with an average of about \$41. This compared with only \$19 per acre for flue-cured in subregion 25. Subregion 53 had the lowest expenditure per acre; here the average was only \$8.

TABLE 26.—SPECIFIED FARM EXPENDITURES ON OTHER FIELD-CROP FARMS IN SELECTED TOBACCO SUBREGIONS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item of expense	All farms	Economic class of farm					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Flue-cured tobacco (subregion 24)							
Amount per farm (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	57	283	145	84	54	32	22
Hired labor.....	412	4,227	1,773	673	347	196	113
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	101	641	360	147	90	62	44
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	224	1,347	733	347	203	122	75
Commercial fertilizer.....	407	2,352	1,127	604	380	246	139
Lime.....	2	64	10	3	2	1	1
Total.....	1,203	8,914	4,148	1,858	1,076	659	394
Amount per crop acre (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	2.10	1.45	1.98	2.14	2.17	1.91	2.01
Hired labor.....	15.31	21.67	24.14	17.05	13.96	11.70	10.38
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	8.33	6.90	9.99	8.79	8.17	7.27	6.87
Fertilizer and lime.....	15.22	12.39	15.48	15.39	15.36	14.72	12.78
Total.....	40.96	42.41	51.59	43.37	39.66	35.60	32.04
Flue-cured tobacco (subregion 25)							
Amount per farm (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	44	115	216	106	55	36	18
Hired labor.....	116	858	1,226	354	143	86	38
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	78	42	694	194	92	62	42
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	112	375	635	294	151	85	38
Commercial fertilizer.....	241	1,083	998	531	308	197	109
Lime.....	3	66	36	10	4	2	1
Total.....	594	2,539	3,805	1,489	753	468	246
Amount per crop acre (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	1.02	0.90	1.89	1.82	1.63	1.64	1.22
Hired labor.....	4.33	6.69	10.77	6.08	4.26	3.97	2.58
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	4.18	2.92	5.57	5.05	4.47	3.92	2.55
Fertilizer and lime.....	9.09	8.96	9.08	9.30	9.29	9.19	7.40
Total.....	19.22	19.47	27.31	22.25	19.65	18.72	13.75

TABLE 26.—SPECIFIED FARM EXPENDITURES ON OTHER FIELD-CROP FARMS IN SELECTED TOBACCO SUBREGIONS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954—Continued

Item of expense	All farms	Economic class of farm					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Burley tobacco (subregion 45)							
Amount per farm (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	64	335	179	111	62	33	16
Hired labor.....	260	5,803	1,468	453	185	82	32
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	176	1,744	593	290	149	95	46
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	109	1,094	430	198	95	43	16
Commercial fertilizer.....	198	1,769	626	319	176	113	54
Lime.....	9	128	49	15	7	3	1
Total.....	814	10,783	3,335	1,392	674	369	185
Amount per crop acre (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	1.23	0.71	1.24	1.35	1.27	1.07	0.87
Hired labor.....	4.95	12.36	10.14	6.53	3.75	2.63	1.71
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	2.07	2.14	2.99	2.42	1.94	1.38	.87
Fertilizer and lime.....	3.91	4.04	4.69	4.08	3.73	3.73	2.88
Total.....	12.16	10.25	19.06	13.38	10.60	8.81	6.33
Burley tobacco (subregion 32)							
Amount per farm (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	31	150	62	141	54	38	19
Hired labor.....	46	10,000	1,179	352	96	49	21
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	87	1,445	481	309	145	102	60
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	44	900	344	287	99	53	21
Commercial fertilizer.....	112	2,250	512	421	222	135	67
Lime.....	2			13	5	3	2
Total.....	322	14,745	2,578	1,523	621	380	190
Amount per crop acre (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	1.08	0.69	0.71	1.43	1.02	1.19	0.95
Hired labor.....	1.63	46.30	13.38	3.57	1.84	1.54	1.03
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	1.54	4.17	3.91	2.92	1.90	1.66	1.05
Fertilizer and lime.....	3.99	10.42	3.29	5.81	4.40	4.26	3.44
Total.....	8.24	61.58	21.29	13.73	9.16	8.65	6.47
Southern Maryland tobacco (subregion 19)							
Amount per farm (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	53	266	151	75	50	17	17
Hired labor.....	565	3,443	2,500	840	356	159	62
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	145	215	310	288	101	67	66
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	199	901	483	309	154	115	36
Commercial fertilizer.....	367	2,246	1,122	499	287	187	77
Lime.....	24	55	51	45	18	10	8
Total.....	1,353	7,126	4,617	2,056	966	555	256
Amount per crop acre (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	1.04	1.37	1.24	0.95	1.21	0.64	0.80
Hired labor.....	11.02	17.73	20.50	10.59	8.63	5.95	2.86
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	3.88	4.64	3.96	3.90	3.73	4.31	1.66
Fertilizer and lime.....	7.62	11.85	9.62	6.85	7.39	7.33	3.93
Total.....	23.56	35.59	35.32	22.29	20.96	18.23	9.25
Dark-fired and air-cured tobacco (subregion 53)							
Amount per farm (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	47	86	255	116	58	35	35
Hired labor.....	87	947	1,936	285	104	53	22
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	115	737	652	233	148	95	66
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	98	1,067	1,082	281	136	69	27
Commercial fertilizer.....	195	721	1,194	545	278	149	69
Lime.....	13	143	114	27	15	11	9
Total.....	555	3,701	5,233	1,487	739	412	228
Amount per crop acre (dollars):							
Machine hire.....	0.85	0.40	0.86	0.96	0.83	0.73	1.13
Hired labor.....	1.56	4.39	6.52	2.35	1.50	1.12	.71
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil.....	1.76	4.95	3.65	2.31	1.96	1.45	.89
Fertilizer and lime.....	3.75	4.00	4.40	4.71	4.22	3.38	2.48
Total.....	7.92	13.74	15.43	10.33	8.51	6.68	5.21