

Table 51.—USE OF COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER ON CASH-GRAIN FARMS IN THE HARD SPRING WHEAT REGION, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Subregion 89							
Percent of farms using fertilizer	52	85	70	56	45	33	21
Tons used per farm	3.3	19.2	6.4	2.8	1.5	0.8	.4
Rate of application, pounds per acre	71	74	70	60	74	79	88
Subregion 90							
Percent of farms using fertilizer	14	54	31	16	9	4	3
Tons used per farm	0.5	6.7	1.6	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1
Rate of application, pounds per acre	45	44	45	46	44	44	39
Subregion 91							
Percent of farms using fertilizer	11	29	22	13	8	(%)	6
Tons used per farm	.4	3.4	1.0	.4	.2	(%)	0.1
Rate of application, pounds per acre	80	112	81	77	72	53	60
Subregion 105							
Percent of farms using fertilizer	11	27	18	11	5	3	(%)
Tons used per farm	0.5	2.0	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.1	(%)
Rate of application, pounds per acre	40	36	37	50	54	66	22

<sup>2</sup> Less than 0.5 percent or less than 0.05 ton.

EFFICIENCY LEVELS OF FARM OPERATION

Gross sales minus the specified expenses per farm varied greatly from an average of \$4,570 to \$8,989 among four subregions. (See tables 52 to 55.) This measure does not represent net income because only some of the operating expenses have been considered. Other large items of cost to be considered in arriving at a net income include taxes, repairs and depreciation on buildings and machinery, supplies, and livestock purchases. Additional costs of production would include also the value of the operator's and unpaid family labor and interest on the investment. Also these data indicate returns for only 1 year and therefore may reflect abnormal differences in weather conditions in 1954. Although the importance of specific expense items varies somewhat from one part of this area to another, these data do provide useful measures for comparing economic classes of farms and subregions.

Table 52.—SELECTED MEASURES OF INCOME AND EFFICIENCY LEVELS ON CASH-GRAIN FARMS IN SUBREGION 89, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Gross sales per farm.....dollars..	7,759	36,897	14,616	7,400	3,929	2,037	852
Specified expenses per farm do....	2,080	10,365	3,689	1,889	1,171	756	407
Gross sales less specified expenses per farm.....do....	5,679	26,532	10,927	5,511	2,758	1,281	445
Gross sales per man-equivalent do....	5,581	10,350	8,508	5,430	3,245	2,017	932
Total investment per \$100 gross sales.....do....	579	394	491	598	779	1,042	1,527
Total investment per man-equivalent.....do....	31,859	40,236	42,186	31,600	25,330	20,840	13,570
Machinery investment per man-equivalent.....do....	8,450	8,445	9,735	8,647	7,745	7,297	6,018
Machinery investment per crop acre.....do....	31	23	27	31	38	41	47
Wheat yield per acre.....bushels..	15	17	16	14	13	10	8
Crop acres per man-equivalent....	272	371	357	276	204	170	115

Table 53.—SELECTED MEASURES OF INCOME AND EFFICIENCY LEVELS ON CASH-GRAIN FARMS IN SUBREGION 90, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Gross sales per farm.....dollars..	6,138	34,976	13,813	7,104	3,908	2,081	989
Specified expenses per farm.....dollars..	1,508	7,893	3,017	1,607	1,193	764	589
Gross sales less specified expenses per farm.....dollars..	4,570	27,083	10,796	5,497	2,715	1,317	400
Gross sales per man-equivalent.....dollars..	4,493	11,478	7,561	4,898	3,129	2,006	1,001
Total investment per \$100 gross sales.....dollars..	630	360	401	607	797	1,017	1,727
Total investment per man-equivalent.....dollars..	27,461	42,046	36,861	28,731	25,888	21,350	17,274
Machinery investment per man-equivalent.....dollars..	8,538	9,653	8,894	8,933	8,351	7,539	6,441
Machinery investment per crop acre.....dollars..	22	15	17	21	25	28	29
Wheat yield per acre.....bushels..	8	13	10	8	7	6	4
Crop acres per man-equivalent....	392	648	517	416	336	274	223

Table 54.—SELECTED MEASURES OF INCOME AND EFFICIENCY LEVELS ON CASH-GRAIN FARMS IN SUBREGION 91, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Gross sales per farm.....dollars..	6,838	34,966	14,251	7,297	3,953	2,058	964
Specified expenses per farm.....dollars..	1,683	7,498	3,044	1,758	1,151	783	523
Gross sales less specified expenses per farm.....dollars..	5,155	27,468	11,207	5,539	2,802	1,275	441
Gross sales per man-equivalent.....dollars..	5,225	13,609	8,823	5,364	3,261	2,015	989
Total investment per \$100 gross sales.....dollars..	583	340	468	587	764	951	1,564
Total investment per man-equivalent.....dollars..	30,492	46,833	41,543	30,185	24,834	19,021	14,077
Machinery investment per man-equivalent.....dollars..	8,110	9,464	9,541	8,233	6,707	6,210	4,612
Machinery investment per crop acre.....dollars..	24	15	20	24	29	29	24
Wheat yield per acre.....bushels..	10	12	11	10	8	7	5
Crop acres per man-equivalent....	338	640	469	345	266	213	190

Table 55.—SELECTED MEASURES OF INCOME AND EFFICIENCY LEVELS ON CASH-GRAIN FARMS IN SUBREGION 105, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Gross sales per farm.....dollars..	11,142	43,587	16,549	7,658	3,958	2,023	889
Specified expenses per farm.....dollars..	2,153	6,285	2,895	1,848	1,164	795	549
Gross sales less specified expenses per farm.....dollars..	8,989	37,302	13,654	5,810	2,794	1,228	340
Gross sales per man-equivalent.....dollars..	8,530	19,632	11,212	6,025	3,608	2,192	1,053
Total investment per \$100 gross sales.....dollars..	552	385	518	667	800	1,129	1,982
Total investment per man-equivalent.....dollars..	47,172	76,377	56,986	39,519	31,276	25,094	22,302
Machinery investment per man-equivalent.....dollars..	9,356	10,572	10,247	9,000	8,639	7,671	6,676
Machinery investment per crop acre.....dollars..	16	11	14	17	22	24	28
Wheat yield per acre:							
Winter.....bushels..	27	29	25	22	20	12	5
Spring.....bushels..	12	18	14	10	9	7	6
Crop acres per man-equivalent....	589	936	714	526	401	315	240

Some of the more meaningful measures of levels of efficiency are not affected significantly by growing conditions in a single year. These include total investment per man, machinery investment per man, machinery investment per crop acre, and crop acres per man.