

for all commercial farms. For each economic class, cotton farms account for a preponderance of farms growing the crop, and even larger proportions of the acreage and production.

TABLE 5.—FARMS REPORTING COTTON, ACRES OF COTTON HARVESTED, AND COTTON PRODUCTION FOR COTTON FARMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS REPORTING COTTON, FOR EACH ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	All classes	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Farms reporting.....	72	71	62	54	62	78	88
Acres harvested.....	83	86	81	79	80	87	91
Bales harvested.....	86	86	85	81	84	91	94

THE PICTURE BY REGIONS

Data for the selected regions of this study which show the total number of farms, the number of farms reporting cotton, acres of cotton harvested, and bales of cotton produced, by economic class of farm and by type of farm are particularly useful in indicating the characteristics of cotton production. They make discernible a reasonably clear picture of: (1) The nature of the diverse agricultural economies in which cotton growing is carried on; (2) the role and relative importance of the cotton enterprise in the several regions and on different types of farms; (3) the structure, with respect to size of business, of the cotton-production industry in the regions.

Information of this kind for economic class of commercial farms and for types of noncommercial farms is shown in table 6.

The data relating to the number, and proportion, of all farms reporting cotton indicate the relative importance of cotton production in the agriculture of the region and show the relative importance of the enterprise to different size-of-business groups.

In Regions I, II, and III, the three humid regions east of the Mississippi River, cotton is grown on 74, 64, and 87 percent, respectively, of all commercial farms. This leaves little doubt that in these regions it is an extremely important enterprise. An examination of the proportions of the economic classes of commercial farms that report cotton presents some interesting implications. For example, in Region II, where 64 percent of all commercial farms report cotton, only about one-fourth of Economic Class I and Class II farms grow cotton, and only slightly more than one-third of Class III farms report the crop. To a less pronounced degree the same situation prevails in Region III. In Region I about the same proportion of Class III farms report cotton as of all commercial farms. But here too, smaller proportions of Economic Classes I and II farms report cotton than the proportion of all farms reporting cotton.

It is noteworthy that a larger proportion of the large farms in these areas do not grow cotton. Particularly for Regions II and III the general characteristics of the topography, and the effects of this upon the practicability of adopting labor-saving methods suggest that many of the larger farms may not find cotton as profitable as other enterprises. In this connection, data of table 7 show that in Regions I and II a large majority of the farms in Classes I through III that report cotton are not cotton farms. These same data reveal that in Region III where 89 percent of all commercial farms that report cotton are cotton farms, a majority of the farms reporting cotton in Classes I and II are not cotton farms.

A somewhat similar situation with respect to the proportions of farms in different economic classes that report cotton is found in

TABLE 6.—NUMBER OF FARMS, FARMS REPORTING COTTON, AND ACRES AND BALES OF COTTON HARVESTED, FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS AND FOR NONCOMMERCIAL FARMS, BY REGIONS: 1954

Region and item	All farms	Commercial farms by economic class						Noncommercial farms				
		Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	Total	Part-time	Residential	Abnormal
REGION I												
All farms, number.....	223,910	160,682	1,784	6,087	20,008	51,288	51,172	20,743	63,228	25,919	37,230	79
Percent distribution.....	100.0	71.8	0.8	2.7	9.2	22.9	22.9	13.3	28.2	11.6	16.6	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number.....	135,573	118,761	988	3,898	15,404	40,640	38,267	19,564	16,812	12,132	4,671	9
Percent of all farms.....	60.5	73.9	55.4	64.0	74.7	79.2	74.8	65.8	26.6	46.8	12.5	11.4
Percent distribution.....	100.0	87.6	0.7	2.9	11.4	30.0	28.2	14.4	12.4	8.9	3.5	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested.....	1,580,374	1,608,759	109,658	161,345	280,983	485,708	349,322	121,743	71,615	60,087	11,132	396
Percent distribution.....	100.0	95.5	6.9	10.2	17.8	30.7	22.1	7.7	4.5	3.8	0.7	(Z)
Bales of cotton harvested.....	986,051	951,156	73,797	108,919	195,394	317,832	196,938	58,276	34,895	30,025	4,616	254
Percent distribution.....	100.0	96.5	7.5	11.0	19.8	32.2	20.0	5.9	3.5	3.0	0.5	(Z)
REGION II												
All farms, number.....	169,464	77,232	1,115	4,349	7,064	12,266	26,174	26,264	92,232	31,968	60,179	85
Percent distribution.....	100.0	45.6	0.7	2.6	4.2	7.2	15.4	15.5	54.4	18.9	35.5	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number.....	72,282	49,708	273	1,118	2,463	7,127	19,023	19,704	22,574	17,407	5,145	22
Percent of all farms.....	42.7	64.4	24.5	25.7	34.9	58.1	72.7	75.0	24.5	54.5	8.5	25.9
Percent distribution.....	100.0	68.8	0.4	1.5	3.4	9.9	26.3	27.3	31.2	24.1	7.1	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested.....	692,432	579,074	13,770	30,955	46,426	124,512	228,017	135,394	113,358	98,914	14,215	229
Percent distribution.....	100.0	83.6	2.0	4.5	6.7	18.0	32.9	19.6	16.4	14.3	2.1	(Z)
Bales of cotton harvested.....	388,460	334,151	9,171	19,313	29,593	77,767	131,563	66,744	54,309	49,124	5,060	125
Percent distribution.....	100.0	86.0	2.4	5.0	7.6	20.0	33.9	17.2	14.0	12.6	1.4	(Z)
REGION III												
All farms, number.....	357,989	220,384	1,723	5,723	13,102	42,392	83,955	73,489	137,605	52,968	84,584	63
Percent distribution.....	100.0	61.6	0.5	1.6	3.7	11.8	23.5	20.5	38.2	14.7	23.5	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number.....	239,490	192,080	953	3,398	9,899	37,882	76,856	63,092	47,410	33,806	13,590	14
Percent of all farms.....	66.9	87.2	55.3	59.4	75.6	89.4	91.5	85.9	34.5	63.8	16.1	22.2
Percent distribution.....	100.0	80.2	0.4	1.4	4.1	15.8	32.1	26.3	19.8	14.1	5.7	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested.....	2,507,604	2,324,630	122,869	150,780	252,504	629,820	790,406	378,251	182,974	152,016	29,905	1,053
Percent distribution.....	100.0	92.7	4.9	6.0	10.1	25.1	31.5	15.1	7.2	6.1	1.2	(Z)
Bales of cotton harvested.....	1,799,588	1,693,480	110,222	119,408	208,879	497,088	552,557	205,326	106,108	92,113	13,310	685
Percent distribution.....	100.0	94.1	6.1	6.6	11.6	27.6	30.7	11.4	5.9	5.1	0.7	(Z)

COTTON PRODUCERS AND COTTON PRODUCTION

TABLE 6.—NUMBER OF FARMS, FARMS REPORTING COTTON, AND ACRES AND BALES OF COTTON HARVESTED, FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS AND FOR NONCOMMERCIAL FARMS, BY REGIONS: 1954—Continued

Region and item	All farms	Commercial farms by economic class						Noncommercial farms				
		Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	Total	Part-time	Residential	Abnormal
REGION IV												
All farms, number	174,753	145,977	4,979	8,898	17,937	39,321	54,397	20,445	28,776	11,740	17,000	36
Percent distribution	100.0	83.5	2.8	5.1	10.3	22.5	31.1	11.7	16.5	6.7	9.7	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	143,624	135,411	3,821	7,267	16,657	37,743	52,301	17,622	8,113	6,535	1,566	12
Percent of all farms	82.1	92.8	76.7	81.7	92.9	96.0	96.1	86.2	28.2	55.7	9.2	33.3
Percent distribution	100.0	94.3	2.7	5.1	11.6	26.3	36.4	12.3	5.7	4.6	1.1	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested	3,197,922	3,145,532	770,786	449,761	533,602	688,036	580,997	122,450	62,390	38,925	5,190	8,275
Percent distribution	100.0	98.4	24.1	14.1	16.7	21.5	18.2	3.8	1.7	1.2	0.2	0.3
Bales of cotton harvested	2,747,257	2,717,741	752,151	399,604	473,033	585,325	440,459	67,169	20,516	20,410	1,611	7,495
Percent distribution	100.0	98.9	27.4	14.5	17.2	21.3	16.0	2.4	1.0	0.7	(Z)	0.3
REGION V												
All farms, number	150,257	57,109	962	3,329	6,019	9,014	17,083	20,702	93,148	31,859	61,265	24
Percent distribution	100.0	38.0	0.6	2.2	4.0	6.0	11.4	13.8	62.0	21.2	40.8	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	47,102	31,661	374	1,129	2,775	5,465	10,305	11,603	15,451	9,749	5,695	7
Percent of all farms	31.3	55.4	38.9	33.9	46.1	60.6	60.3	56.0	16.6	30.6	9.3	2.9
Percent distribution	100.0	67.2	0.8	2.4	5.9	11.6	21.9	24.6	32.8	20.7	12.1	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested	811,339	711,278	85,359	80,329	110,436	155,139	176,122	103,893	100,061	74,775	23,870	1,416
Percent distribution	100.0	87.7	10.5	9.9	13.6	19.1	21.7	12.8	12.2	9.2	2.9	0.1
Bales of cotton harvested	333,306	307,236	62,407	40,940	51,425	62,344	61,831	28,289	26,070	19,525	5,455	1,090
Percent distribution	100.0	92.2	18.7	12.3	15.4	18.7	18.6	8.5	7.8	5.9	1.6	0.3
REGION VI												
All farms, number	33,654	19,589	2,364	2,866	3,398	4,170	3,809	2,982	14,065	4,802	9,263	7
Percent distribution	100.0	58.2	7.0	8.5	10.1	12.4	11.3	8.9	41.8	14.3	27.5	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	10,517	9,456	275	895	2,034	2,859	2,183	1,210	1,061	800	255	6
Percent of all farms	31.3	48.3	11.6	31.2	59.9	68.6	57.3	40.6	7.5	16.7	2.8	85.7
Percent distribution	100.0	89.9	2.6	8.5	19.3	27.2	20.8	11.5	10.1	7.6	2.4	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested	295,655	282,066	43,848	60,089	77,120	57,380	26,214	8,445	13,559	4,530	705	8,324
Percent distribution	100.0	95.4	14.8	23.4	26.1	19.4	8.9	2.9	4.6	1.5	0.3	2.8
Bales of cotton harvested	214,047	201,363	33,534	51,399	56,825	40,081	15,614	3,910	12,684	2,075	280	10,329
Percent distribution	100.0	94.1	15.7	24.0	26.5	18.7	7.3	1.8	5.9	1.0	0.1	4.8
REGION VII												
All farms, number	129,347	94,900	2,918	10,494	18,764	26,204	24,289	12,231	34,447	16,559	17,868	20
Percent distribution	100.0	73.4	2.3	8.1	14.5	20.4	18.8	9.5	26.6	12.8	13.8	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	73,873	67,378	1,868	7,561	14,540	20,545	16,598	6,266	6,495	5,196	1,296	3
Percent of all farms	57.1	71.0	64.0	72.2	77.5	78.4	68.3	51.2	18.9	31.4	7.3	15.0
Percent distribution	100.0	91.2	2.5	10.2	19.7	27.8	22.5	8.5	8.8	7.0	1.8	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested	4,194,710	4,097,763	457,461	923,182	1,126,042	992,309	489,467	109,302	96,947	85,895	7,878	3,174
Percent distribution	100.0	97.7	10.9	22.0	26.8	23.7	11.7	2.6	2.3	2.0	0.2	0.1
Bales of cotton harvested	1,285,179	1,269,085	275,358	318,366	313,137	240,810	102,402	19,010	16,094	14,212	1,195	687
Percent distribution	100.0	98.7	21.4	24.8	24.4	18.7	8.0	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.1	(Z)
REGION VIII												
All farms, number	7,779	6,286	1,067	1,493	1,287	1,071	927	441	1,493	692	796	5
Percent distribution	100.0	80.8	13.7	19.2	16.5	13.8	11.9	5.7	19.1	8.9	10.2	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	6,163	5,747	1,027	1,444	1,243	962	791	280	416	386	30	-----
Percent of all farms	79.7	91.4	96.3	96.8	96.6	89.8	85.3	63.5	27.9	55.8	3.8	-----
Percent distribution	100.0	93.2	16.7	23.4	20.2	15.6	12.8	4.6	6.8	6.3	0.5	-----
Acres of cotton harvested	448,104	445,335	243,104	110,190	53,372	20,898	10,446	2,325	2,712	2,607	105	-----
Percent distribution	100.0	99.4	55.4	24.6	11.9	4.7	2.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	(Z)	-----
Bales of cotton harvested	396,452	395,108	234,819	97,876	40,012	14,594	6,672	1,135	1,344	1,304	40	-----
Percent distribution	100.0	99.7	59.2	24.7	10.1	3.7	1.7	0.3	0.3	0.3	(Z)	-----
REGION IX												
All farms, number	78,374	70,755	8,300	18,864	18,225	14,076	8,452	2,838	7,619	3,749	3,820	50
Percent distribution	100.0	90.3	10.6	24.1	23.3	18.0	10.8	3.6	9.7	4.8	4.9	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	18,125	17,845	4,878	6,742	2,922	2,084	1,044	175	280	255	20	-----
Percent of all farms	23.2	25.2	58.8	35.7	16.0	14.8	12.4	3.7	3.7	6.8	0.5	-----
Percent distribution	100.0	98.5	26.9	37.2	16.1	11.5	5.3	1.0	1.5	1.4	0.1	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested	2,286,957	2,281,822	1,085,448	796,839	248,358	107,138	40,954	3,085	5,135	4,590	195	350
Percent distribution	100.0	99.8	47.5	34.8	10.9	4.7	1.8	0.1	0.2	0.2	(Z)	(Z)
Bales of cotton harvested	1,404,491	1,403,496	848,469	437,073	82,871	27,360	7,013	710	995	730	15	250
Percent distribution	100.0	99.9	60.4	31.1	5.9	1.9	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	(Z)	(Z)
REGION X												
All farms, number	67,292	53,396	12,515	12,636	11,441	8,604	6,416	1,784	13,896	5,885	7,938	73
Percent distribution	100.0	79.3	18.6	18.8	17.0	12.8	9.5	2.7	20.6	8.7	11.8	0.1
Farms reporting cotton, number	15,653	15,322	5,997	4,083	2,630	1,660	751	201	331	275	30	26
Percent of all farms	23.3	28.7	47.9	32.3	23.0	19.3	11.7	11.3	2.7	4.7	0.4	35.6
Percent distribution	100.0	97.9	38.3	26.1	16.8	10.6	4.8	1.3	2.1	1.8	0.2	0.1
Acres of cotton harvested	1,515,865	1,508,355	1,266,867	158,146	54,084	21,824	6,279	1,155	7,510	1,155	30	6,325
Percent distribution	100.0	99.5	83.6	10.4	3.6	1.4	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.1	(Z)	0.4
Bales of cotton harvested	2,619,438	2,609,709	2,269,282	234,309	72,012	25,829	7,210	1,067	9,729	1,080	30	8,619
Percent distribution	100.0	99.6	86.6	8.9	2.7	1.0	0.3	(Z)	0.3	(Z)	(Z)	0.3
TOTAL, 10 REGIONS												
All farms, number	1,392,819	906,310	37,727	74,739	117,845	208,406	276,674	100,919	486,509	186,131	299,936	442
Percent distribution	100.0	65.1	2.7	5.4	8.5	15.0	19.9	7.2	34.9	13.4	21.5	(Z)
Farms reporting cotton, number	762,302	643,359	20,454	37,535	70,567	156,967	218,119	139,717	118,943	86,541	32,298	104
Percent of all farms	54.7	71.0	54.2	50.2	59.9	75.3	78.8	73.2	24.5	46.5	10.8	23.5
Percent distribution	100.0	84.4	2.7	4.9	9.3	20.6	28.6	18.3	15.6	11.4	4.2	(Z)
Acres of cotton harvested	17,530,905	16,884,644	4,204,170	2,930,616	2,782,827	3,282,764	2,698,224	986,043	646,261	523,494	93,225	29,542
Percent distribution	100.0	96.3	24.0	16.7	15.9	18.7	15.4	5.6	3.8	3.1	0.6	0.1
Bales of cotton harvested	12,174,269	11,882,525	4,669,210	1,827,209	1,523,181	1,889,030	1,522,259	451,636	291,744	230,598	31,612	29,534
Percent distribution	100.0	97.6	38.3	15.0	12.5	15.5	12.5	3.7	2.4	1.9	0.3	0.2

Z 0.05 percent or less.