

Table 17.—PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF FARMS REPORTING TURKEYS RAISED, BY NUMBER RAISED, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND SELECTED STATES: 1939 TO 1954

State and number of turkeys raised per farm	Percentage distribution for each year			
	1939	1949	1954	
			Light breeds	Heavy breeds
United States:				
Under 100.....	87.6	83.0	89.9	80.7
100 to 799.....	11.0	11.0	5.4	8.9
800 and over.....	1.3	6.0	4.7	10.2
Minnesota:				
Under 100.....	77.4	37.2	51.6	29.4
100 to 799.....	18.3	25.9	11.6	11.4
800 and over.....	4.3	36.9	36.8	59.2
California:				
Under 100.....	71.8	76.3	88.1	71.7
100 to 799.....	18.2	7.4	4.1	6.3
800 and over.....	10.0	16.3	7.8	22.0
Virginia:				
Under 100.....	91.9	84.5	77.9	78.8
100 to 799.....	7.1	7.4	3.5	6.4
800 and over.....	1.1	8.1	18.5	14.8
Missouri:				
Under 100.....	88.5	76.6	80.5	70.4
100 to 799.....	11.2	14.5	9.4	11.2
800 and over.....	.3	8.9	10.1	18.4
Texas:				
Under 100.....	88.2	84.0	92.6	80.9
100 to 799.....	11.8	15.2	6.0	14.1
800 and over.....	.1	.8	1.4	5.0
Utah:				
Under 100.....	63.9	46.8	77.4	58.2
100 to 799.....	15.6	6.2	2.4	4.6
800 and over.....	20.5	47.1	20.2	37.2
Wisconsin:				
Under 100.....	86.5	73.6	77.4	67.9
100 to 799.....	11.5	13.4	11.2	13.5
800 and over.....	2.0	13.0	11.4	18.6
Nebraska:				
Under 100.....	84.1	63.4	82.9	70.9
100 to 799.....	14.7	16.0	5.5	9.0
800 and over.....	1.1	20.5	11.6	20.1
Ohio:				
Under 100.....	84.3	72.0	69.9	57.7
100 to 799.....	13.6	18.7	18.5	17.9
800 and over.....	2.1	9.3	11.6	24.4
Pennsylvania:				
Under 100.....	83.6	64.6	62.6	53.0
100 to 799.....	14.7	28.3	27.6	32.3
800 and over.....	1.7	7.2	9.8	14.7
Iowa:				
Under 100.....	81.0	54.4	69.1	36.0
100 to 799.....	11.0	12.5	11.1	11.2
800 and over.....	8.0	33.1	19.8	52.8

is raised by relatively large operators. In fact, turkey production today is generally a large-scale commercial proposition. Flocks of 5,000 to 15,000 birds are frequent in the more important commercial areas.

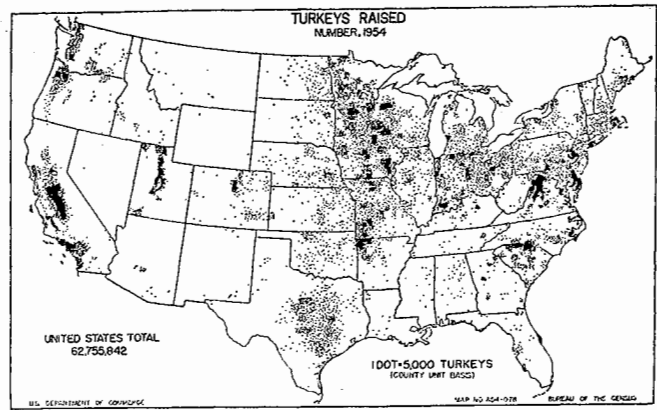


Figure 13

In the main turkey States, except Texas, production is generally concentrated on farms that have relatively large flocks. In Texas, a leading turkey-raising State, the enterprise has not been concentrated on large-scale farms of commercial type. In 1930 the average flock in Texas was 30 birds; by 1954 the average had increased only to 111. The average size of flock in other important turkey-producing States in 1954 was 2,301 for Utah, 1,972 for Iowa, and 2,684 for Minnesota.

Turkey production is highly concentrated in the chief producing areas. The 16 leading turkey-growing States produced 79 percent of the turkeys raised in 1954. Of the 63 million turkeys raised in 1954, 31 million or almost half, were raised in the 100 leading turkey-producing counties.

There has been a definite trend toward larger turkey flocks during the last 15 years in all areas except Texas. In the United States only 1.3 percent of the flocks contained over 800 birds in 1939, as compared with 10.2 (for heavy breeds) in 1954. In 1954, Minnesota had a higher percentage (59.2 percent for heavy breeds) of flocks with more than 800 turkeys than any of the important turkey-producing States. Fifteen years earlier only 4.3 percent of the turkey flocks exceeded 800 birds. The percentage of the farms with less than 100 turkeys raised in Minnesota dropped from 77.4 percent in 1939 to 29.4 in 1954. The change in Iowa was somewhat similar to that of Minnesota.

In Texas relatively small flocks have continued to exist. Only 5 percent of the flocks had more than 800 turkeys in 1954.

Ducks.—The extent of duck raising has not changed much. For 25 years the number raised annually has been about 11 million. But there has been a decided reduction in the number of farmers who raise ducks. In 1929, almost half a million farms reported ducks raised, by 1954 the number had declined to 200,000. The number of ducks raised per farm reporting has more than doubled during the last 25 years.

Table 18.—NUMBER OF TURKEYS, DUCKS, AND GEESE RAISED IN THE UNITED STATES: 1929 TO 1954

Year	Turkeys raised			Ducks raised			Geese raised		
	Farms reporting	Number	Average number per farm reporting	Farms reporting	Number	Average number per farm reporting	Farms reporting	Number	Average number per farm reporting
1929.....	637,843	16,794,485	26	470,418	11,337,487	24	396,727	3,989,831	10
1934.....	676,114	5,381,912	8	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1939.....	389,352	27,933,766	72	178,783	12,138,820	68	85,413	1,152,299	13
1944.....	193,540	27,202,266	141	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1949.....	162,244	36,434,218	225	212,677	10,342,364	49	94,472	1,160,045	12
1954.....	160,807	62,755,842	370	202,353	11,065,481	55	104,385	1,712,999	16

NA Not available.