

Economic subregion 114.—The southern third of Arizona makes up this subregion. It is desert land with the exception of the high rolling hill country of southeastern Arizona. It has a high proportion of public lands, and large livestock ranching operations. For this reason it is comparable with economic subregion 113 in the size and characteristics of the ranches.

The labor efficiency for the ranches is not as high as may be expected for desert ranching where comparatively little winter feeding of the livestock is required. This is especially true with respect to Class I ranches (see Table 15). There is considerable use of untrained employees on the ranches and this may explain part of the low labor efficiency.

The investment in land and buildings per animal unit is below the average of western subregions but it is rather high considering the extent of public land use and desert ranching here. The extensive buying of ranches for winter recreation and for "dude" ranching probably explains in part the high value of land and buildings per animal unit.

The subregion has a relatively higher percent of very large ranches. Nearly a fifth of the livestock farms had sales of over \$25,000 in 1954.

TABLE 15.—LIVESTOCK FARMS IN SUBREGION 114, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Total	Economic class of farm					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Number of farms.....	1,111	209	191	209	195	200	107
Percent distribution....	100.0	18.8	17.2	18.8	17.6	18.0	9.6
Livestock, average number per farm:							
Cattle.....	311	1,010	362	167	87	48	31
Sheep.....	79	380	27	3	4	10	1
Animal units.....	326	1,086	367	167	88	50	32
Animal units, total.....	362,658	226,989	70,150	34,998	17,075	10,067	3,379
Percent distribution....	100.0	62.6	19.3	9.7	4.7	2.8	0.9
Man-equivalent per farm....	2.4	7.1	2.0	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0
Animal units per man-equivalent.....	137	152	187	127	83	53	33
Hired labor per farm, dollars..	4,172	17,509	2,797	1,111	690	306	128
Hired labor per animal unit, dollars..	12.78	16.12	7.62	6.64	7.88	6.08	4.06
Investment in land and buildings per animal unit, dollars..	326	285	284	477	456	628	690
Value of land and buildings, per farm.....dollars..	106,143	309,382	104,300	79,671	40,145	31,390	22,095
Value of livestock per farm, dollars..	30,186	98,984	34,517	15,816	8,425	4,848	3,161
Value of land and buildings and livestock per farm, dollars..	136,329	408,366	138,817	95,487	48,570	36,238	25,256
Value of all farm products sold per farm.....dollars..	41,693	193,613	16,346	7,425	3,773	1,891	635
Livestock and livestock products sales as a percent of value of all farm products sold.....	87.7	86.5	93.6	96.9	98.0	98.1	99.6

Economic subregion 115.—The southern part of California makes up this subregion. Most of the stock ranching here is on the desert lands east of the coastal mountain ranges of southern California (see Figure 10).

Large stock ranches predominate. About 23 percent of the operators have 83.9 percent of the animal units (see Table 16).

Considering the fact that only limited supplemental feeding is necessary here the labor efficiency in the handling of livestock is low. On the ranches with low gross income this is due to the small size of the ranches. The large amount of hired labor on the small ranches suggests that many are part-time operations probably owned by people with other income who have what they call a stock ranch as an avocation. This characteristic is indicated also by the very high land and building investment per animal unit for all except the Class I ranches.

TABLE 16.—LIVESTOCK FARMS IN SUBREGION 115, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1954

Item	Total	Economic class of farm					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Number of farms.....	1,715	395	251	256	252	428	133
Percent distribution....	100.0	23.0	14.6	14.9	14.7	25.0	7.8
Livestock, average number per farm:							
Cattle.....	242	875	109	66	40	27	19
Sheep.....	149	565	117	2	5	1	7
Animal units.....	271	988	132	67	41	28	20
Animal units, total.....	465,522	390,378	33,159	17,044	10,429	11,809	2,703
Percent distribution....	100.0	83.9	7.1	3.7	2.2	2.5	0.6
Man-equivalent per farm....	2.2	5.9	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.7	1.1
Animal units per man-equivalent.....	122	168	77	51	41	38	19
Hired labor per farm, dollars..	4,720	16,732	2,884	1,381	800	395	283
Hired labor per animal unit, dollars..	17.39	16.93	21.83	20.74	19.33	14.32	13.93
Investment in land and buildings per animal unit, dollars..	493	256	1,450	1,629	1,449	2,488	1,902
Value of land and buildings, per farm.....dollars..	133,565	252,478	191,430	109,155	59,307	60,655	38,031
Value of livestock per farm, dollars..	33,638	122,297	15,951	8,777	5,115	3,526	2,504
Value of land and buildings and livestock per farm, dollars..	167,203	374,775	207,381	117,932	64,512	73,181	40,535
Value of all farm products sold per farm.....dollars..	53,651	214,540	14,482	7,459	3,495	1,750	712
Livestock and livestock products sales as a percent of value of all farm products sold.....	91.2	91.2	89.0	92.7	93.1	93.3	99.4

Rocky Mountain Region

Economic subregion 109.—This is one of the largest subregions. It includes most of the Rocky Mountains, from the Canadian border to the southern end of the Rocky Mountain system. It is essentially a country of livestock ranching, though it contains important irrigated areas in the mountain valleys. For the most part, the stock ranches are of an economically sized operating unit. Though there are many large ranching operations, an appreciable proportion of the stock ranches fall in Economic Classes II to IV.

Labor requirements average rather high (see Table 17) notwithstanding favorable size of units. This results from the ranching operations having rather high winter-feeding requirements. As a rule, hay and other feed crops sufficient for 3 to 5 months of winter maintenance must be grown.

The investment in land and buildings per animal unit is moderate in subregion 109 and considerably below the average for western subregions. Use of considerable acreages of public land, especially by the larger ranches, probably accounts for this low investment.