

FARMERS AND FARM PRODUCTION

TABLE 4.—NUMBER OF FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN THE CORN BELT, BY BROAD ECONOMIC CLASS AND TYPE OF FARM: 1954

| Broad economic class and type of farm | United States, total | Corn Belt | |
|--|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| | | Total | Percent of United States |
| All farms..... | 4,783,021 | 927,921 | 19.4 |
| Commercial farms, total ¹ | 3,327,617 | 797,259 | 24.0 |
| Cash-grain farms..... | 537,838 | 264,546 | 49.2 |
| Livestock farms ² | 604,636 | 326,662 | 47.0 |
| Dairy farms..... | 548,763 | 64,774 | 11.8 |
| Poultry farms..... | 154,267 | 19,204 | 12.4 |
| General farms..... | 347,466 | 113,335 | 32.6 |
| Other field-crop farms..... | 367,771 | 3,212 | 0.9 |
| Other commercial farms ³ | 676,886 | 5,526 | 0.8 |
| Other farms, total..... | 1,455,404 | 130,662 | 9.0 |
| Part-time farms..... | 574,575 | 62,017 | 10.8 |
| Residential farms..... | 878,136 | 68,205 | 7.8 |
| Abnormal farms..... | 2,693 | 440 | 16.3 |

¹ The numbers of commercial farms in the United States, listed in this table, are estimated from a sample of farms on the State economic area basis. Numbers of commercial farms in the United States by economic class within types are estimated from a sample of farms on the economic subregion basis. These different methods of estimation explain the slight differences in numbers of cash-grain farms and of livestock farms shown for the United States in this table and tables 1, 9, and 10.

² Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

³ Cotton farms, vegetable farms, fruit-and-nut farms, and miscellaneous farms.

A main explanation for the shift in numbers of these two types of farms in this period is provided by the index numbers of prices received by farmers. While the index number of prices received for all farm products sold in the United States was practically the same in 1954 as in 1949, the index number of prices received for all crops in 1954 was 108 percent of that in 1949. Prices of feed grains and hay in 1954 were 116 percent of the 1949 level. On the other hand, the index number of prices received for meat animals and for livestock and livestock products was 94 (1949=100).

In the Corn Belt, in 1954, 85.9 percent of all farms were classified as commercial farms compared with 69.6 percent in the United States (table 5). Cash-grain farms numbered 28.5 percent and livestock farms 35.2 percent of all Corn Belt farms. Dairy farms and poultry farms comprised 7 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively, of the total. As with cash-grain farms and livestock farms, the Corn Belt had a relatively greater concentration of general farms than the United States as a whole. In the Corn Belt, as

TABLE 5.—PERCENT OF FARMS IN EACH BROAD ECONOMIC CLASS AND TYPE, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND CORN BELT: 1954

| Broad economic class and type of farm | United States | Corn Belt |
|---|---------------|-----------|
| | Percent | Percent |
| All farms..... | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Commercial farms, total..... | 69.6 | 85.9 |
| Cash-grain farms..... | 11.2 | 28.5 |
| Livestock farms ¹ | 14.6 | 35.2 |
| Dairy farms..... | 11.6 | 7.0 |
| Poultry farms..... | 3.2 | 2.1 |
| General farms..... | 7.3 | 12.2 |
| Other field-crop farms..... | 7.7 | 0.3 |
| Other commercial farms ² | 14.2 | 0.6 |
| Other farms, total..... | 30.4 | 14.1 |
| Part-time farms..... | 12.0 | 6.7 |
| Residential farms..... | 18.4 | 7.4 |
| Abnormal farms..... | 0.1 | (Z) |

Z, 0.05 percent or less.

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

² Cotton farms, vegetable farms, fruit-and-nut farms, and miscellaneous farms.

outlined for the present study, the proportions of cash-grain and livestock farms are higher than in most of the individual five Corn Belt States. The percentage distribution of cash-grain, livestock, and other types of farms in States of the North Central Region of the country is shown in table 6.

Cash-grain farms account for 11.2 percent of all the farms in the United States and 49.2 percent of these are in the Corn Belt. The percentage of farms classified as cash-grain farms in the Corn Belt as a whole was higher than the proportions shown for Iowa and

TABLE 6.—NUMBER OF ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS, AND NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIFIED TYPES OF FARMS, IN THE UNITED STATES AND SPECIFIED STATES: 1954

| State | Commercial farms by type | | | | Percentage distribution | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Total commercial | Cash-grain | Livestock ¹ | Other types | Total commercial farms | Cash-grain farms | Livestock farms | Other types |
| United States..... | 3,327,617 | 637,838 | 604,636 | 2,095,143 | 100.0 | 16.2 | 20.9 | 63.0 |
| Ohio..... | 123,457 | 35,626 | 28,714 | 59,117 | 100.0 | 28.9 | 23.3 | 47.9 |
| Indiana..... | 115,182 | 39,395 | 36,496 | 39,291 | 100.0 | 34.2 | 31.7 | 34.1 |
| Illinois..... | 147,801 | 69,293 | 43,830 | 34,675 | 100.0 | 46.9 | 29.7 | 23.5 |
| Iowa..... | 178,238 | 40,097 | 104,799 | 33,342 | 100.0 | 22.5 | 58.8 | 18.7 |
| Missouri..... | 140,307 | 20,465 | 59,821 | 60,021 | 100.0 | 14.6 | 42.6 | 42.8 |
| Minnesota..... | 146,527 | 33,956 | 28,040 | 84,531 | 100.0 | 23.2 | 19.1 | 57.7 |
| Wisconsin..... | 135,064 | 3,904 | 10,327 | 120,833 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 7.6 | 89.5 |
| Michigan..... | 98,161 | 21,441 | 10,400 | 66,320 | 100.0 | 21.8 | 10.6 | 67.6 |
| North Dakota..... | 59,546 | 38,992 | 7,740 | 12,814 | 100.0 | 65.5 | 13.0 | 21.5 |
| South Dakota..... | 59,796 | 18,322 | 28,081 | 13,393 | 100.0 | 30.6 | 47.0 | 22.4 |
| Nebraska..... | 94,153 | 34,613 | 42,127 | 17,413 | 100.0 | 36.8 | 44.7 | 18.5 |
| Kansas..... | 102,626 | 54,174 | 25,410 | 22,942 | 100.0 | 52.8 | 24.8 | 22.4 |
| Kentucky..... | 122,784 | 4,932 | 16,090 | 101,762 | 100.0 | 4.0 | 13.1 | 82.9 |

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

TABLE 7.—NUMBER OF FARMS IN EACH REGION OF THE CORN BELT, AND PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION AMONG REGIONS, BY BROAD ECONOMIC CLASS AND TYPE OF FARM: 1954

| Broad economic class and type of farm | Corn Belt, total | Eastern Corn Belt | Central Corn Belt | North-ern Corn Belt | West-ern Corn Belt | South-ern Corn Belt |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | Number of farms: | | | | | |
| All farms..... | 927,921 | 221,145 | 182,559 | 114,627 | 205,807 | 203,603 |
| Commercial farms, total..... | 797,259 | 177,280 | 167,845 | 108,569 | 186,176 | 157,889 |
| Cash-grain farms..... | 264,546 | 68,300 | 69,037 | 27,469 | 68,874 | 40,866 |
| Livestock farms ¹ | 326,662 | 51,480 | 72,070 | 40,608 | 91,307 | 71,137 |
| Dairy farms..... | 64,774 | 18,145 | 5,661 | 17,128 | 7,744 | 16,096 |
| Poultry farms..... | 19,204 | 6,698 | 2,882 | 2,329 | 2,538 | 4,757 |
| General farms..... | 113,335 | 27,934 | 17,354 | 20,442 | 24,599 | 23,006 |
| Other field-crop farms..... | 3,212 | 2,423 | 72 | 205 | 337 | 175 |
| Other commercial farms ² | 5,526 | 2,300 | 769 | 388 | 717 | 1,352 |
| Other farms, total..... | 130,662 | 43,865 | 14,714 | 6,058 | 19,721 | 46,304 |
| Part-time farms..... | 62,017 | 22,352 | 6,970 | 3,170 | 9,161 | 20,364 |
| Residential farms..... | 68,205 | 21,306 | 7,655 | 2,805 | 10,470 | 25,909 |
| Abnormal farms..... | 440 | 147 | 89 | 83 | 90 | 31 |
| Percentage distribution of farms: | | | | | | |
| All farms..... | 100.0 | 23.8 | 19.7 | 12.4 | 22.2 | 22.0 |
| Commercial farms, total..... | 100.0 | 22.2 | 21.1 | 13.6 | 23.4 | 19.7 |
| Cash-grain farms..... | 100.0 | 25.8 | 26.1 | 10.4 | 22.3 | 15.4 |
| Livestock farms ¹ | 100.0 | 15.8 | 22.1 | 12.4 | 28.0 | 21.8 |
| Dairy farms..... | 100.0 | 28.0 | 8.7 | 26.4 | 12.0 | 24.8 |
| Poultry farms..... | 100.0 | 34.9 | 15.0 | 12.1 | 21.7 | 20.3 |
| General farms..... | 100.0 | 24.6 | 15.3 | 18.0 | 10.5 | 5.4 |
| Other field-crop farms..... | 100.0 | 75.4 | 2.2 | 6.4 | 10.5 | 5.4 |
| Other commercial farms ² | 100.0 | 41.6 | 13.9 | 7.0 | 13.0 | 24.5 |
| Other farms, total..... | 100.0 | 33.6 | 11.3 | 4.6 | 15.1 | 35.4 |
| Part-time farms..... | 100.0 | 36.0 | 11.2 | 5.1 | 14.8 | 32.8 |
| Residential farms..... | 100.0 | 31.3 | 11.2 | 4.1 | 15.4 | 38.0 |
| Abnormal farms..... | 100.0 | 33.4 | 20.2 | 18.0 | 20.5 | 7.0 |

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

² Cotton farms, vegetable farms, fruit-and-nut farms, and miscellaneous farms.