

The proportion of farms reporting potatoes increases consistently as we go from Class I to Class VI farms. For example, only 11 percent of the Class I livestock farms reported potatoes harvested, but 31.6 percent of the Class VI livestock farms reported this crop. This reflects the tendency of the smaller farms to be more self-sufficient from the standpoint of production for direct consumption by the farm household; it may also reflect the relatively more ample supply of family labor on many of these farms.

Cropland used for specified crops.—The pattern of distribution of corn acreage harvested for grain in the United States is shown in figure 23. There are large acreages in the Southern and Southeastern States, but the largest concentration is in the Corn Belt of the North Central States. There were 39,358,892 acres of

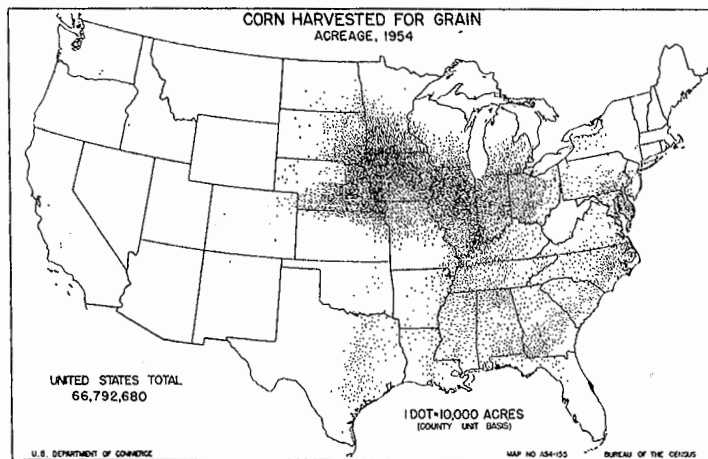


FIGURE 23.

corn harvested for grain on commercial farms in the Corn Belt in 1954. This was 62.1 percent of the 63,394,112 acres of corn harvested for grain on all commercial farms in the United States that year.

Almost a third of the total acreage of cropland in the Corn Belt was in corn harvested for grain, in 1954 (table 53). The proportion of all cropland used for this crop on livestock farms (32.4 percent) was only slightly smaller than the proportion (34.5 percent) so used on cash-grain farms. The percentage of cropland in corn for grain was greatest on cash-grain farms in the Central Corn Belt (39.7 percent) and smallest on livestock farms in the Southern Corn Belt (21.6 percent). In all regions except in the Northern Corn Belt the cash-grain farms had a slightly larger percentage of their cropland in corn for grain than did livestock farms. In the Northern Corn Belt the livestock farms had a slightly larger percentage of their cropland in corn for grain than did cash-grain farms, but the cash-grain farms had larger percentages in soybeans, wheat, and barley.

The distribution of soybean acreage harvested for beans in the United States is shown in figure 24. The large areas of acreage concentration of this crop are in the Corn Belt. Smaller areas, also important in soybean acreage and production, are the Mississippi Delta reaching from southeastern Missouri southward into Mississippi and Louisiana, and the Atlantic Coast area in North and South Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland. The Corn Belt had 11,773,052 acres of soybeans harvested for beans on commercial farms in 1954. This was 72.7 percent of the 16,189,376 acres of soybeans for beans on all commercial farms in the United States. As shown on the map, the areas of heaviest concentration within the Corn Belt are in east central Illinois, central Indiana, and northwestern Iowa and southwestern Minnesota.

TABLE 53.—PERCENT OF TOTAL CROPLAND IN SPECIFIED CROPS, BY TYPE OF FARM, IN THE CORN BELT AND COMPONENT REGIONS: 1954

Region and type of farm	Corn harvested for grain	Soybeans harvested for beans	Wheat threshed or combined	Oats threshed or combined	Barley threshed or combined	Rye threshed or combined	Soybeans cut for hay	Red clover seed harvested	Land in fruit orchards, etc. ¹
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total Corn Belt:									
All commercial farms.....	32.3	9.7	6.8	15.9	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1
Cash-grain farms.....	34.5	16.3	10.0	13.6	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.4	(Z)
Livestock farms ²	32.4	4.7	4.2	17.8	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1
Eastern Corn Belt:									
All commercial farms.....	32.3	13.4	11.3	9.3	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.9	0.2
Cash-grain farms.....	34.5	20.7	12.3	8.2	0.3	0.7	0.1	1.0	(Z)
Livestock farms ²	32.7	7.6	10.6	9.8	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.1
Central Corn Belt:									
All commercial farms.....	38.8	14.0	2.1	19.9	0.2	0.1	(Z)	0.3	(Z)
Cash-grain farms.....	39.7	21.0	3.5	17.6	0.2	0.2	(Z)	0.3	(Z)
Livestock farms ²	38.6	6.2	0.8	22.0	0.2	0.1	(Z)	0.4	0.1
Northern Corn Belt:									
All commercial farms.....	29.5	8.7	1.1	23.3	1.4	0.2	(Z)	0.2	(Z)
Cash-grain farms.....	29.8	16.5	2.1	21.8	2.4	0.4	(Z)	0.2	(Z)
Livestock farms ²	31.8	4.2	0.6	24.1	0.9	0.1	(Z)	0.2	(Z)
Western Corn Belt:									
All commercial farms.....	34.6	2.4	9.4	17.0	0.6	0.4	(Z)	0.1	(Z)
Cash-grain farms.....	35.8	3.7	16.5	13.4	0.6	0.4	(Z)	0.1	(Z)
Livestock farms ²	34.2	1.5	4.5	19.5	0.6	0.5	(Z)	0.1	(Z)
Southern Corn Belt:									
All commercial farms.....	22.1	13.5	8.7	9.4	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.2
Cash-grain farms.....	25.9	23.8	12.8	7.1	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.1
Livestock farms ²	21.6	7.4	5.6	10.9	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1

Z 0.05 percent or less.

¹ Land in bearing and nonbearing fruit orchards, groves, vineyards, and planted nut trees.² Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.