

counties. The area of most dense concentration of farms using lime was to the east of the Corn Belt, mainly in eastern Ohio, western and northern Pennsylvania, and southern New York. In the Corn Belt, most of the counties with relatively large percentages of the farms reporting expenditures for lime and liming material were in the eastern and southern areas. In the Western Corn Belt there were relatively few counties in which more than 10 percent of the farms reported this expenditure.

In the Corn Belt as a whole, 19 percent of the commercial farms reported expenditures for lime and liming material in 1954 (table 66). Slightly more than a fourth of the commercial farms in the Southern and Eastern Corn Belt and about a fifth of those in the Central Corn Belt reported this item. The smallest proportions of farms using lime were among the cash-grain farms of the Northern and Western Corn Belt.

TABLE 66.—USE OF LIME AND LIMING MATERIAL ON COMMERCIAL FARMS, BY TYPE OF FARM, IN THE CORN BELT AND COMPONENT REGIONS: 1954

Region and type of farm	Percent of commercial farms reporting expenditures for lime and liming material	Acres limed as a percentage of total cropland	Average quantity of lime and liming material used per acre limed (tons)
Total Corn Belt:			
All commercial farms.....	19.0	3.0	2.1
Cash-grain farms.....	17.8	2.7	2.1
Livestock farms ¹	20.9	3.5	2.1
Eastern Corn Belt:			
All commercial farms.....	26.1	5.1	1.9
Cash-grain farms.....	24.4	4.3	1.9
Livestock farms ¹	31.6	6.6	1.9
Central Corn Belt:			
All commercial farms.....	20.1	3.5	2.1
Cash-grain farms.....	20.1	3.3	2.1
Livestock farms ¹	22.2	3.9	2.2
Northern Corn Belt:			
All commercial farms.....	13.9	2.0	2.5
Cash-grain farms.....	6.5	0.9	2.4
Livestock farms ¹	18.7	2.8	2.5
Western Corn Belt:			
All commercial farms.....	7.7	1.1	1.8
Cash-grain farms.....	6.4	0.8	1.8
Livestock farms ¹	8.7	1.3	1.8
Southern Corn Belt:			
All commercial farms.....	26.8	4.6	2.2
Cash-grain farms.....	27.0	4.0	2.3
Livestock farms ¹	28.7	5.4	2.1

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.

Only 3 percent of the cropland on commercial farms in the Corn Belt was limed in 1954. On livestock farms in the Eastern Corn Belt 6.6 percent, and on livestock farms in the Southern Corn Belt 5.4 percent of the cropland was limed that year. But these percentages indicate that liming is an important farm practice in these areas, for after a field has been limed it usually does not have to be relimed for 6 to 10 years or more.

The average quantity of lime or liming material used per acre limed was 2.1 tons. The heaviest applications, on the average, were made in the Northern Corn Belt and the lightest in the Western Corn Belt.

Expenditures for lime and liming material were reported by larger proportions of the higher economic classes than of the lower economic classes of farms (table 67). About a third of the Class I farms reported using lime, compared with about a tenth of the Class VI farms. The percentage of cropland limed in 1954 did not show any particular relation to economic class except that the largest percentage of acreage limed was on the Class I farms. Rates of application per acre on Class V and Class VI farms appeared to be only slightly smaller than the average for all commercial farms.

TABLE 67.—USE OF LIME AND LIMING MATERIAL ON COMMERCIAL FARMS, BY TYPE AND ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, IN THE CORN BELT: 1954

Type and economic class of farm	Percent of commercial farms reporting expenditures for lime and liming material	Acres limed as a percentage of total cropland	Average quantity of lime and liming material used per acre limed (tons)
All commercial farms.....	19.0	3.0	2.1
Cash-grain farms:			
Total.....	17.8	2.7	2.1
Class I.....	34.7	4.2	2.1
II.....	23.8	2.9	2.1
III.....	17.0	2.2	2.1
IV.....	14.8	2.3	2.1
V.....	13.9	2.8	2.0
VI.....	9.7	2.5	2.0
Livestock farms:¹			
Total.....	20.9	3.5	2.1
Class I.....	30.9	4.5	2.1
II.....	25.9	3.6	2.1
III.....	21.4	3.1	2.1
IV.....	17.6	2.9	2.1
V.....	14.2	3.4	2.0
VI.....	9.7	3.5	1.9

¹ Livestock other than dairy and poultry farms.