The most completely agriculturally developed parts of the area are in Economic Subregions 11, 12, 13, 14, and 16.

Most of these farms are of average size. Less than 8 percent are in the two economic classes with the smallest incomes and only 6 or 7 percent in the class of largest farms, Economic Class I (Table 52).

Table 52.—Number of Dairy Farms, by Economic Class, for the Atlantic Coast Area: 1954

Subregion	Total dairy farms	Number of farms by economic class					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Atlantic Coast Area	26,073	1,651	9,161	8,649	4,586	1,721	305
Subregion 3	1,929	197	616	511	435	140	30
Subregion 4	3,948	286	1,201	1,301	765	325	70
Subregion 5	3,138	454	1,665	692	236	81	10
Subregion 11	2,230	25	241	805	824	315	20
Subregion 12	2,547	127	925	970	345	150	30
Subregion 13	2,657	126	1,186	880	360	95	10
Subregion 14	556	86	305	105	35	25	------
Subregion 16	9,068	350	3,022	3,385	1,586	590	135

The cropping pattern of the New England part of this area is considerably different from the southern part. Hay crops dominate the former, representing nearly six-sevenths of the harvested acreage and corn occupies about one-seventh. Small acreages of potatoes, tobacco, and truck crops occupy not more than one-twentieth of the harvested cropland while practically no small grains are grown.

The southern part of the area, consisting mainly of farms in Eastern Pennsylvania and Northern New Jersey, has more corn, some small grain and much less hay in the cropping system than the northern part of the area. Hay occupies a little over two-fifths of the harvested crop acreage whereas corn acreage accounts for about one-third and small grain, especially wheat, is grown on all but five percent of the remainder. Truck crops and potatoes use relatively few acres throughout the area, but because of their high per-acre value they add materially to the farm income.

The dairy farms of this area grow more hay and corn and less grain and truck crops than the average of all commercial farms (Table 53). Their cropping system approximates a 6-year system of hay for 3 years followed by 2 years of corn and 1 of small grain. A few acres of cash crops may substitute for any of these standard crops.

Table 53.—Crop Acreage per Farm on Dairy Farms, by Economic Class, for the Atlantic Coast Area: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Number of farms	26,073	1,651	9,161	8,649	4,586	1,721	305
Total acres	152	342	178	131	101	82	72
Cropland, total acres	94	214	113	81	58	44	36
Harvested do	73	156	90	65	44	30	22
Pastured do	18	53	21	14	11	10	10
Not harvested and not pastured acres	3	5	3	2	3	4	4
Crops:							
Corn do	19	38	24	17	10	6	4
All hay do	36	94	43	29	21	16	12
Wheat do	7	11	10	8	4	3	1
All other crops do	11	13	13	11	9	5	5

The average value of farm products sold from all farms of the area was a little over $8,000 per farm. Approximately two-thirds of this was from the sale of livestock and livestock products, while the remaining third was from special and field crops. Less than one-half percent of all farm sales was from forest products. Slightly more than one-fourth of all farms are in the New England part of the area and the income from these farms was about $500 more per farm than in the southern part. They sold more than a fourth of all farm products of the area as well as over two-fifths of the small quantity of forest products.

Total livestock sales from the dairy farms show an average of $10,302 per farm in comparison with a little over half this amount for all the farms of the area (Table 54). Eighty-six percent of this was from milk sales, while another seven percent was from the sale of cows and youngstock. The sale of poultry products, hogs, and sheep account for less than seven percent of the total livestock sales. The smaller farms were slightly more diversified than the larger farms in that they received but three-fourths of their livestock income from the sale of milk while the largest farms received seven-eighths. Cream sales throughout the area were almost nonexistent.

Table 54.—Sources of Farm Income on Dairy Farms, by Economic Class of Farm, for the Atlantic Coast Area: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Number of farms	26,073	1,651	9,161	8,649	4,586	1,721	305
Milk sold per milk cow pounds	7,200	8,831	7,546	6,446	5,267	4,423	2,675
Sales per farm:							
Milk dollars	8,819	34,812	11,756	5,568	3,019	1,498	563
Cattle and calves do	805	3,574	986	491	319	182	109
Hogs do	123	230	155	119	67	34	16
Poultry products except eggs dollars	142	565	196	84	44	30	6
Eggs do	403	977	582	316	151	77	41
Sheep do	5	18	6	4	3	2	------
Other livestock and livestock products dollars	5	16	4	4	3	3	3
Total, livestock and livestock products dollars	10,302	40,192	13,685	6,586	3,606	1,826	738

Specified farm expenses range from a little more than half the total livestock income for the largest farms to slightly more than all livestock income for the smallest farms (Table 55). Feed costs account for more than half these expenses for all classes except Class I. Hired labor is the next highest item of expense except on the smaller farms, where it is replaced by costs of gas and oil. Both the volume of livestock sales and the size of the specified expenses emphasize the problem faced by the smaller farmers in the effective use of resources.

Table 55.—Specified Farm Expenditures on Dairy Farms, by Economic Class of Farm, for the Atlantic Coast Area: 1954

Item	Economic class of farm						
	Total	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Number of farms	26,073	1,651	9,161	8,649	4,586	1,721	305
Average per farm:							
Machine hire dollars	193	279	221	192	151	104	53
Hired labor do	1,348	8,182	1,674	555	273	131	54
Feed do	3,254	10,687	4,158	2,376	1,516	840	527
Gas and oil do	510	1,363	633	414	289	177	125
Fertilizer do	483	1,391	653	374	190	111	51
Lime do	66	211	88	44	29	22	6
Total do	5,854	22,113	7,427	3,955	2,448	1,385	816
Average per crop acre:							
Machine hire do	2	1	2	2	3	2	1
Hired labor do	14	38	15	7	5	3	2
Feed do	35	50	37	29	26	19	15
Gas and oil do	5	6	6	5	5	4	4
Fertilizer do	5	7	6	5	3	3	1
Lime do	1	1	1	1	1	1	(Z)
Total do	62	103	67	49	43	32	23

Z Less than 0.50.

These farmers used more fertilizer than was used on most dairy farms and more was used on the smaller farms (Table 56). The rate of application was nearly twice as high as was used in the northwest and the number using fertilizer was greater than for most areas. From one-fourth to one-half as many farmers used lime as used fertilizer and the rate of application of more than a ton per acre was also more than dairy farmers of other areas used.