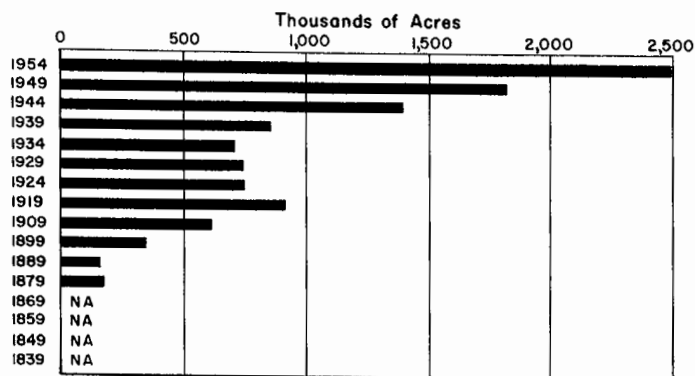
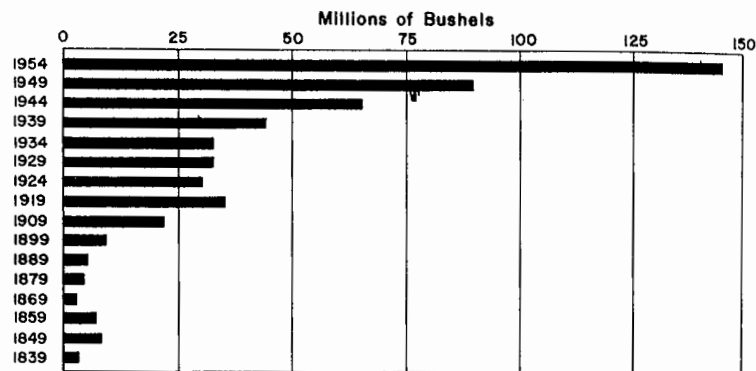


RICE THRESHED—ACRES, 1879 TO 1954; AND PRODUCTION, 1839 TO 1954: FOR THE UNITED STATES



NA—Not available
Yield per acre—58.1 bushels in 1954



54C-101

wheat, harvested as mixtures, under flax and one-half under wheat.

Grains grown together and threshed as a mixture.—A separate inquiry on mixed grains was carried on the questionnaire for 31 of the 48 States. This item was defined as grains grown together and threshed as a mixture. In Texas, the data relate only to the 131 counties in West Texas. In the 123 counties in East Texas and in 17 States, mixed grains were tabulated as "Other grain." In 1954, mixtures of oats and peas or oats and vetch in Oregon and Washington were not to be included under mixed grains, and the quantity harvested for peas, vetch, and oats was to be reported separately. Instructions on the 1945, 1940, and 1935 Census Questionnaires stated that flax and wheat mixtures were to be allocated to the individual crops and not to be reported as mixed grains. Instructions on the 1930 Census Questionnaire did not specifically exclude mixtures of flax and wheat, but instructions given to enumerators stated that such mixtures were not to be included as mixed grains. For 1920, the Census Questionnaire specified mixed crops not separated in harvesting.

Rice.—A separate inquiry on rice, providing information on acres harvested, quantity harvested, and quantity sold, appeared on the questionnaire for six States: Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Arizona, and California, and for 123 counties in East Texas, and 30 counties in Southeast Missouri. The unit of measure for reporting rice production varied: In several States, bushels was the unit of measure; in Arizona and California, the unit was 100-lb. bags; and in Louisiana and East Texas, it was 162-lb. bbl. The bags and barrels were converted to bushels, using standard weights and measures.

Figures on rice sold were obtained by the same methods as for other small grains; that is, the quantity sold—bushels, barrels, or bags—was enumerated and the value was computed by multiplying the quantity sold by State average prices. Small acreages of rice are produced in areas outside the six States and the counties in East Texas and Southeastern Missouri. In these other areas, rice was reported and included with "Other grain." The totals for rice represent only the totals for those States where a separate inquiry appeared on the Agriculture Questionnaire. However, the total represents practically all rice produced in the United States.

Rice requires irrigation. It is grown under several kinds of rental arrangement. In Louisiana and Texas, in the most important rice-producing counties, a list of rice growers was obtained from irrigation companies. These lists were checked with Agriculture Questionnaires in the field in order to insure a complete and accurate enumeration.

The 1954 total rice acreage, nearly 2.5 million acres, was about 37 percent above that for 1949 and was the largest acreage of rice ever enumerated in a Census. Production, slightly over 145 million bushels, and the average yield per acre, 58 bushels, were also the largest reported for any Census. Four States: Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and California have most of the rice acreage and production. In 1954, Arkansas ranked first both in acreage and production.

Other grain.—The Agriculture Questionnaires contained separate inquiries for the most important small grain crops in each area. Small grains, for which the Agriculture Questionnaire did not contain a separate inquiry, were tabulated as "Other grain." Table 56 in this chapter lists, for 1954 and 1949, the acreage, production, and sales of other grain and specifies which grains were included in the classification. A separate inquiry was carried on the questionnaire in 1954 for all but six States: North Dakota, South Dakota, Florida, Louisiana, California, and Arizona. Other grains in these six States were reported under "Other crops" but were tabulated as other grain.

"Other grain" included more grain crops in the 30 counties of Southeast Missouri and the 123 counties in East Texas than "Other grain" for the remaining counties in these two States. In Southeast Missouri, "Other grain" included all small grains other than oats and rice, while for the other counties of Missouri, "Other grain" included all small grains except wheat, oats, barley, and rye. For the 123 counties of East Texas, "Other grain" included all grains except flaxseed and rice. For the remaining counties in Texas, "Other grain" included all small grains except mixed grains, wheat, oats, and barley.

The unit of measure used for reporting "Other grain" was bushels. The quantity of "Other grain" sold was obtained for each farm and the value of sales was computed by multiplying bushels sold by an estimated State average price per bushel.

Annual legumes.—In general, separate inquiries for the annual legumes appeared on the 1954 questionnaire for those States where each crop was important. In the case of soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts, the inquiries called for the various uses of the crops. The first inquiry provided for the total acreage for all purposes followed by other inquiries as to the acreage for each of the more important uses. For other annual legume crops, the separate inquiries provided for reporting each crop for a specific use. For velvetbeans, the inquiries related to velvetbeans for all purposes.

Soybeans.—A separate inquiry for soybeans appeared on the questionnaire for all States except six New England States, Florida, ten of the Western States, and 123 counties of East Texas. In the States where a separate inquiry did not appear on the questionnaire, the acreage of soybeans hogged or grazed was included with other crops hogged and grazed, and hence is not included in the total for soybeans. Also, in these States, the acres of soybeans plowed under for green manure are not available as the acreage of soybeans for such purposes would not have been reported as a harvested crop.

The separate inquiry on the questionnaire for soybeans called for the acreage of soybeans for all purposes, soybeans for beans, soybeans for hay, soybeans hogged or grazed or cut for silage, and soybeans plowed under for green manure. In addition, for 10 Southern States and 30 counties of Southeastern Missouri, the acreage grown alone and acreage grown with other crops was to be reported. In most areas, the acreage grown with other crops is interplanted for a cover crop or for later hogging off or grazing. There are, however, some