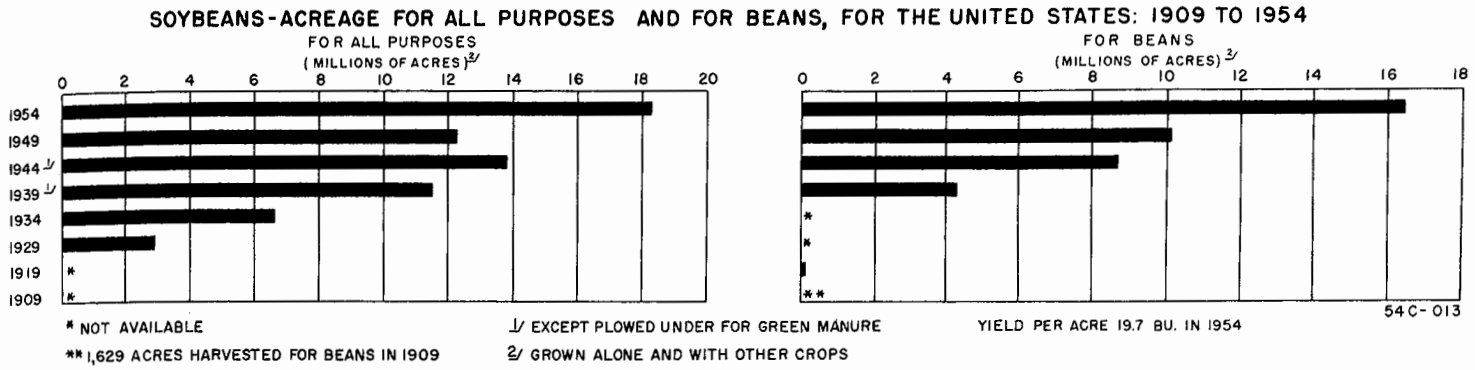


important producing areas where soybeans are grown in alternate rows and are planted for harvest as beans. The quantity harvested represents the total harvested on the acres grown alone and grown with other crops. The average yield per acre for beans shown in Table 58 was based on the total acreage for beans (acres grown alone plus acres grown with other crops).

The unit of measure for reporting the quantity harvested for soybeans for beans was bushels, and for soybeans for hay, tons. The quantity sold for soybeans for beans and soybeans for hay was not enumerated but was estimated on the basis of crop disposition data published by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The estimated quantity sold for both beans and hay was multiplied by the average price per unit to secure the value of sales. In addition, an average value per acre for soybeans hogged or grazed was computed for each State. The average value per acre used for estimating the value of soybeans hogged or grazed grown with other crops was one-half the value for soybeans hogged or grazed grown alone. No value was computed for soybeans plowed under for green manure.

In 1954, the total acres of soybeans grown for all purposes, 18.2 million acres, was about 50 percent above the acreage reported for 1949 and the highest ever reported for any Census. Also, the proportion of the crop harvested for beans was also the highest ever reported for a Census.

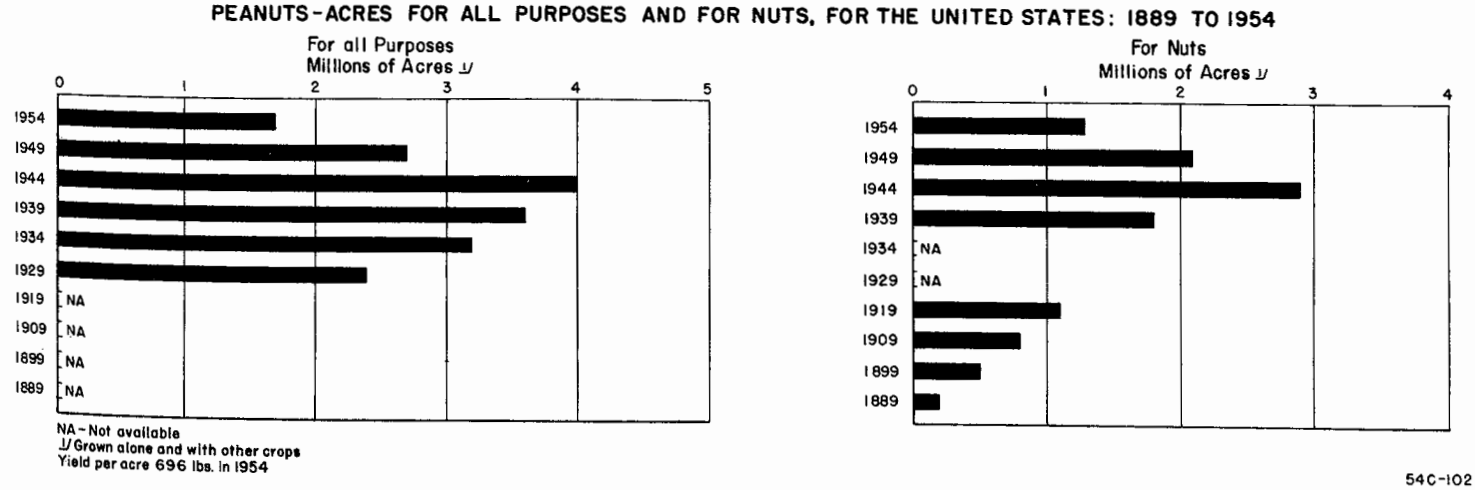
Cowpeas.—Separate inquiries for cowpeas appeared on the questionnaire in 14 Southern and Southwestern States and 30 counties of Southeastern Missouri where cowpeas is an important crop.

The inquiries for cowpeas on the 1954 Questionnaire were similar to those for soybeans, except that the acreage for all purposes excluded that acreage harvested for fresh market, canning, or freezing. Cowpeas harvested for fresh market, canning, or freezing were to be reported as a vegetable harvested for sale. Because of their widespread use for interplanting as a cover crop, the questionnaires for all 15 States except Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma provided for reporting both the acreage grown alone and grown with other crops. As in the case of soybeans, the quantity harvested was reported as a total and represented the amount harvested from the combined acreage.

Peanuts.—Separate inquiries on peanuts appeared on the questionnaire for the 12 important producing States, and for 30 counties of Southeastern Missouri. The inquiries called for information on peanuts grown for all purposes, and the acreage and quantity harvested for nuts and the acreage and tons of vines or tops saved for hay. The acreage from which vines or tops are saved for hay is often the same as that from which nuts are harvested. No inquiry was made regarding the acreage hogged or grazed, or the acreage plowed under.

The difference between the total acreage for all purposes and the acreage from which nuts were picked or threshed provides an approximation of the acreage used solely for hogging or grazing. Drought in some of the important peanut-producing areas reduced yields in 1954 so that it was not profitable to harvest the crop either for nuts or for hay. Therefore, a larger than normal proportion of the acreage for all purposes was harvested for purposes other than for nuts in 1954. The quantity of peanut vines and tops saved for hay has been understated for each Census because of the difficulty in getting complete reports for vines or tops saved for hay when the peanuts have been harvested primarily for nuts.

The quantity of peanuts sold was estimated on the basis of crop disposition data as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The value of the nut and hay crops was calculated by multiplying State average prices by the quantity of nuts harvested and the quantity of tops or vines saved for hay. To obtain the value of the total peanut crop, an estimate was made for the value of the acreage not harvested for nuts. This value was secured by computing a State average price per acre for nuts and hay, then multiplying the difference between acres harvested for all purposes and acres harvested for nuts by one-half of this average value per acre. In the case of acres grown with other



412006 O - 57 - 40