From these data, the indicated inter-farm movement of sheep and lambs was 6.416,000 head for 1954 and 6,627,000 head for 1949. The total movement across State lines, from producer through stockyards to producer, was estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture as 5,986,000 for 1954 and 5,963,000 for 1949. The total sales shown by the Census include not only sheep and lambs sold for slaughter but also those sold to other farmers as well as those shipped to stockyards for further sale to farm operators for further growth or fattening.

Dairy products.---The total value of dairy products (milk and cream) sold, was \$3,334 million for 1954, or 8.3 percent above the \$3,079 million reported for all dairy products sold, for 1949. Sales of milk and cream, in 1954, represented 27.1 percent of the total value of all livestock and poultry and their products sold, and 13.5 percent of the value of all farm products sold.

In many cases, the value of dairy products sold as reported by farm operators represented the net amount received after hauling and marketing costs had been deducted.

Chickens.-The value of all chickens sold, in 1954 totaled \$698 million, or 23.0 percent more than the \$568 million reported for 1949.

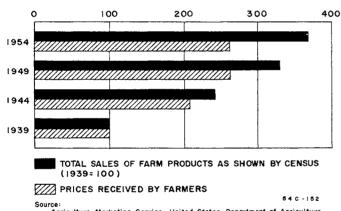
Broilers comprised 81.8 percent of the number of all chickens sold in 1954. The value of broilers sold comprised 79.9 percent of the value of all chickens sold in 1954. No data were obtained

regarding the sale of broilers separately from other chickens sold for 1949.

It was necessary for the farm operators and Census enumerators to estimate the number and value of chickens and broilers sold during the last two or three months of 1954. As many farm operators do not keep complete records of the numerous sales of chickens usually made during the year, the data on the number and value of chickens sold are probably subject to considerable reporting error particularly by the considerable number of farmers not engaged in the specialized production of poultry and poultry products. The accurate enumeration of broiler production and sales is difficult because of the varied arrangements made by farm operators for the production of broilers. The proportion of the production and sale of chickens occurring on specialized poultry and broiler farms is increasing and this change has probably resulted in improvement in the accuracy of the reporting of the production and sale of chickens.

Chicken eggs.-The value of sales for chicken eggs in 1954 was \$917 million or 9.1 percent below the \$1,008 million reported for 1949. Data on the quantity and value of chicken eggs sold are subject to considerable reporting errors as many farm operators, especially those not engaged in the specialized production of poultry and poultry products do not maintain complete records of the numerous sales made during a calendar year.





Agriculture Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture

## VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD. FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1939 TO 1954

