

tenure group. Tenant farms averaged 59.8 percent in cropland in 1959, while full-owner farms and part-owner farms averaged 43.8 and 38.0 percent, respectively. The average for manager-operated farms was 9.2 percent in cropland and 84.8 percent in pasture.

Crop-share lease tenants had the highest proportion of cropland—76.8 percent—and the lowest proportion of pastureland—17.3 percent. On the other hand, only 27.0 percent of the farmland in cash-lease farms was cropland and 71.5 percent was pastureland.

Nonpastured woodland accounted for only 6.4 percent of all farmland in 1959. Farms in most of the tenure classes included 4.0 percent or less of nonpastured woodland. However, full-owner farms and cropper farms included 12.2 and 13.3 percent, respectively, of this kind of land. Many of the full owners are part-retirement farmers and may have rented part of their cropland to others and retained the woodland part of their farm along with a small amount of cropland. The explanation for the croppers, however, is not as certain.

Tenure and farmland use.—Ninety percent of the cropland, or 411.4 million acres, was in commercial farms in 1959. Of this amount 45.2 percent was operated by part owners. This large proportion was primarily due to the many large part-owner farms in the grain-producing areas of the Great Plains and the Corn Belt. Full owners accounted for 29.8 percent, tenants for 22.9 percent, and managers for 2.2 percent.

Pastureland on commercial farms totaled 534.4 million acres (including the pastured woodland). Again, part owners operated the largest proportion, 54.8 percent, reflecting the importance of part owners in livestock production. Full owners followed with 24.6 percent, and manager-operated farms with 10.1 percent. Tenant farms included only 10.6 percent of the pastureland.

Of the 118.5 million acres of total woodland on commercial farms, full owners reported 43.1 percent. They were closely followed by part owners, who reported 39.6 percent. Tenant-operated farms accounted for only 10.1 percent of the woodland. The large difference between tenant farms and owner farms is to be expected because tenant farms in general are found in the more productive areas, which have limited amounts of timberland.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF CROPLAND, LAND PASTURED, AND WOODLAND, FOR COMMERCIAL FARMS, BY TENURE OF OPERATOR, FOR THE UNITED STATES AND REGIONS: 1959

