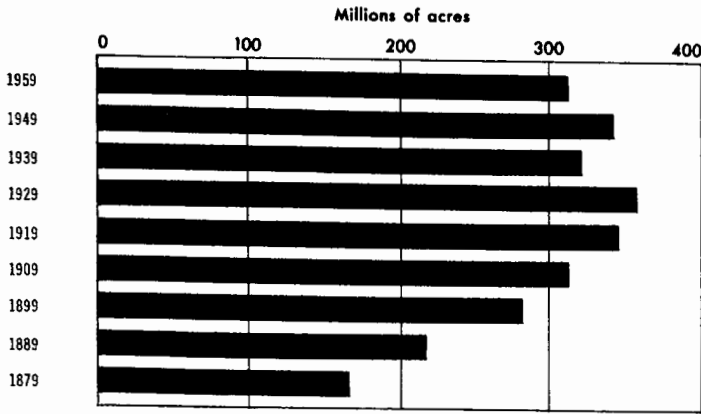


**CROPLAND HARVESTED FOR THE UNITED STATES:
1879 TO 1959**



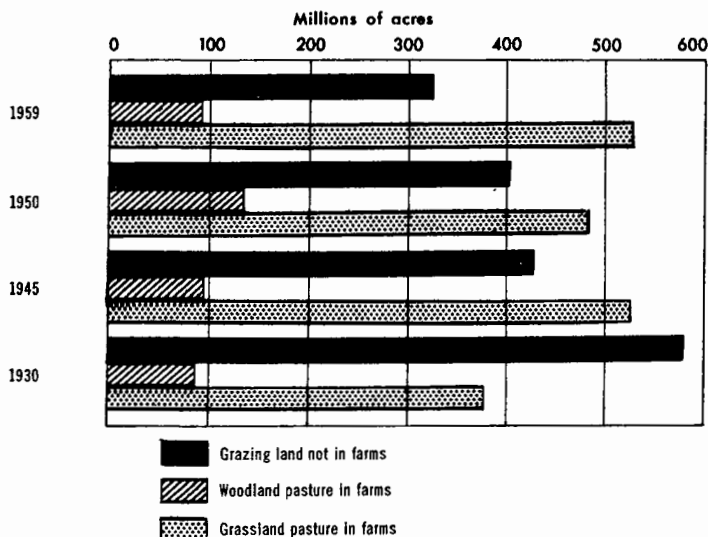
The decline in cotton acreage because of the shift of cotton acreage westward, and the increase in cotton yields; the decrease in corn acreage; and the abandonment of marginal farms have accounted for a large part of the decrease in cropland harvested in the South. The acreage of cropland harvested has declined about half in South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama. The acreage of cropland harvested was less in 1959 than at the end of World War I and World War II in every State in the South except Florida.

The decline of cropland harvested in the North occurred largely in the Northeastern States, Missouri, Michigan, and Ohio. The abandonment of cropland in the face of competition from more productive midwestern areas and the industrial expansion into agricultural areas have contributed significantly to the decline of cropland harvested in the North. The acreage of cropland harvested in the more productive areas of the Corn Belt has remained unchanged since World War I.

In the West, the acreage of cropland harvested was 10 million acres, or 36 percent, more in 1959 than at the end of World War I. Much of this increase was the result of the increase in irrigated land. In Montana and Arizona, the acreage of cropland harvested in 1959 was more than twice as large as at the end of World War I.

Since 1900, the total area (farm and nonfarm) used for pasture and grazing has declined 180 million acres, or about 16 percent. Since 1920, the decline has been 114 million acres, or 11 percent.

**PASTURE AND GRAZING LAND FOR THE UNITED STATES:
1930 TO 1959**



At each successive census, more of the rangeland in the Western and Southern States has been included as land in farms. This accounts, to a large extent, for the decrease of grazing lands not in farms and the increase of pastureland in farms.

For the 48 conterminous States, the acreage of pastureland in farms was 25 million acres less in 1959 than in 1954. There was a decrease of three-fourths of a million acres of cropland used for pasture and 29 million acres of woodland used for pasture. Pasture that was not cropland and not woodland increased 5 million acres. Most of the increase in pasture that was not cropland and not woodland resulted, largely, from the reporting of woodland pasture, in Texas and other parts of the Southwest, in 1954 as other pasture in 1959. About two-thirds of the decrease in pastureland was in the Eastern and Southern States, where a considerable acreage of land was taken out of agriculture.

For the conterminous United States, there was a decrease of 33 million acres, or 17 percent, in the acreage of woodland in farms from 1954 to 1959. Nearly three-fourths of this decrease occurred in Northeastern and Southern States where, over the last three decades, there has been a reversion of considerable acreage of pastureland and cropland to forest lands. About one-fifth of the decrease in woodland in farms occurred in Texas where more of the brushland area was reported as other pasture, not cropland and not woodland. The decline of land in farms in the forested regions during the 5-year period resulted from the transfer of an appreciable amount of woodland in farms to forest land not in farms.

VALUE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS

Farm land and buildings in the conterminous United States had an estimated value of \$129 billion in 1959. This was more than three times the total value in 1940 and almost eight times the total value in 1900. More than one-fourth of the value of farm land and buildings is on 2 percent of the farms. More than three-fifths of the value of land and buildings of all farms is accounted for by the value of land and buildings on the 17 percent of the farms having a value of land and buildings of \$60,000 or more.

Farms with a value of land and buildings of—	Percent distribution for number of farms	Percent distribution of value of land and buildings
All farms.....	100.0	100.0
Less than \$15,000.....	40.7	7.1
\$15,000 to \$24,999.....	17.5	8.2
\$25,000 to \$39,999.....	13.9	10.7
\$40,000 to \$59,999.....	10.9	13.0
\$60,000 to \$99,999.....	9.3	17.5
\$100,000 to \$199,999.....	5.6	18.3
\$200,000 or more.....	2.1	25.2

Average value of farm land and buildings per farm.—Value of farm land and buildings per farm averaged \$34,825 for the conterminous United States in 1959. The average was \$36,003 per farm in the North, \$23,702 in the South, and \$82,379 in the conterminous West. It varied from a low of \$13,962 per farm in the East South Central Division to a high of \$89,632 per farm in the conterminous Pacific Division. While the average value of land and buildings per farm was high in the West, in general, it was also high in certain other areas including the central Corn Belt, southern Florida, and a strip along the Atlantic Coast from about Washington, D.C. through Connecticut. Values were generally low throughout most of the South, in northern New England, in the upper Great Lakes area, and in the Appalachians.

The average value of land and buildings per farm by States was lowest in West Virginia with an average of \$10,230, while the highest was in Arizona with an average of \$269,724.