



**AGRICULTURAL LAND IN DRAINAGE ENTERPRISES**

In 1960, the area reported in organized drainage districts by the Bureau of the Census was 102 million acres. This was practically no change from the total acreage reported in drainage districts since 1950, when 103 million acres were reported. However, these data should not be construed to mean that very little drainage activity occurred during this period within the existing enterprises and on other land not included in them. Perhaps another 70 million acres had been drained by individual farmers outside drainage districts. Under the Agricultural Conservation Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, payments were made for installation of either open or enclosed drains or for shaping of land for drainage on nearly 17 million acres of land. This of course does not include land drained by farmers without Federal assistance.

Approximately 92 million acres of the land within organized drainage districts which had been drained was being used for agricultural production in 1960. The distribution of this acreage by farm production regions is shown in the accompanying text table:

Region	1,000 acres	Percent
Northeast.....	752	0.8
Lake States.....	21,022	22.8
Corn Belt.....	35,395	38.4
Northern Plains.....	3,412	3.7
Appalachian.....	2,893	3.1
Southeast.....	5,353	5.8
Delta States.....	14,832	16.1
Southern Plains.....	5,825	6.3
Mountain.....	390	0.4
Pacific.....	2,423	2.6
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>92,297</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**IRRIGATED LAND IN FARMS**

The distribution of the acreage of irrigated land in farms in 1959 is shown in the above map. Most of the irrigated acreage was in the 11 Western States, Texas, and Nebraska. California and Texas together had 13 million acres of the 33 million irrigated in 1959 in the United States.

The accompanying table shows the distribution of the acreage of irrigated land in 1949, 1954, and 1959 by farm production regions. The net change in acreage between 1949 and 1959 is also shown by regions.

IRRIGATED LAND IN FARMS, BY REGIONS, 1949-59

Region	Irrigated land in farms <sup>1</sup>			
	1959	1954	1949	Increase or decrease, 1949-59
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>
Northeast.....	206	188	87	119
Lake States.....	87	51	28	59
Corn Belt.....	87	69	16	71
Appalachian.....	118	85	7	111
Southeast.....	490	490	375	115
Delta States.....	1,296	1,698	1,004	292
Eastern States.....	2,284	2,581	1,517	767
Northern Plains.....	3,003	1,631	1,128	1,875
Southern Plains.....	5,853	4,815	3,166	2,687
Mountain.....	12,095	11,208	11,643	452
Pacific.....	9,787	9,317	8,334	1,453
17 Western States.....	30,738	26,971	24,271	6,467
Hawaii.....	141	( <sup>2</sup> )	117	24
<b>Total United States <sup>3</sup>.....</b>	<b>33,163</b>	<b>4 29,552</b>	<b>25,905</b>	<b>7,258</b>

<sup>1</sup> Totals do not add because of rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes Alaska. Irrigated acreage in Alaska in 1959 was estimated at only 358 acres by the Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station.

<sup>4</sup> Excludes Hawaii in 1954.