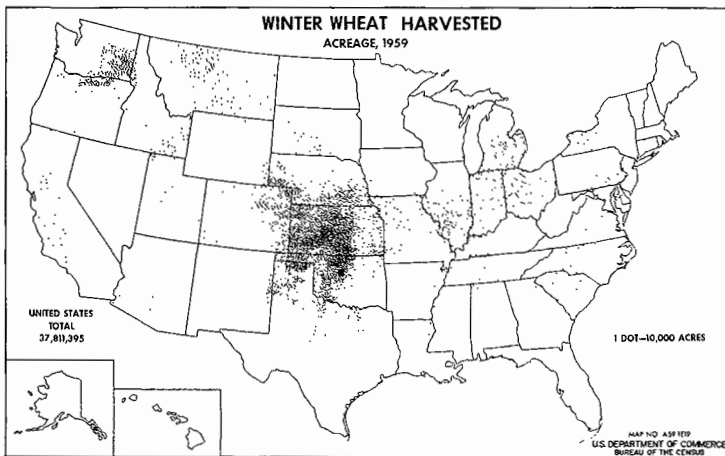


ALL WHEAT HARVESTED

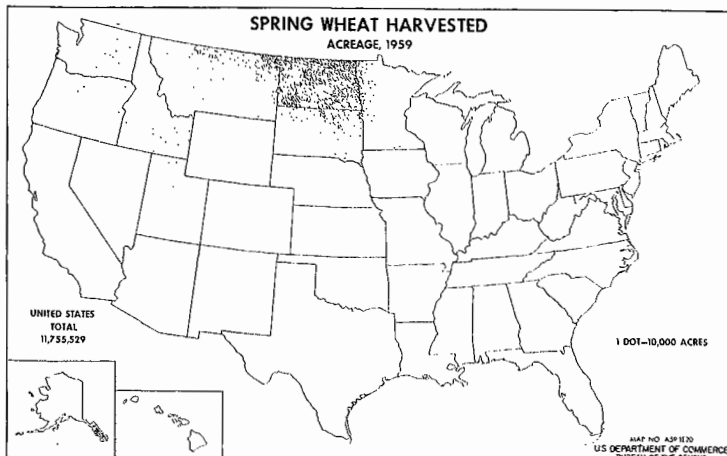
Nearly 50 million acres of wheat were harvested in 1959. This is a major decline from the 71 million acres harvested in 1949. However, 73 million acres were harvested in 1919. Acreage allotment programs have greatly limited the acreage of wheat being planted and harvested in recent years.

Almost three-fourths of the total acreage of wheat harvested in 1959 was in the Great Plains. Another major wheat producing area is located on the Columbia Plateau of Washington, Idaho, and Oregon, where nearly 4 million acres were harvested in 1959. Among the States, Kansas led in acreage harvested with nearly 10 million acres, or almost one-fifth of the total U.S. crop. North Dakota had 6.4 million harvested acres, followed by Oklahoma with 4.3.



WINTER WHEAT HARVESTED

Of all wheat harvested, the acreage of winter wheat accounted for approximately 76 percent of the total. Winter wheat is more widely grown than spring wheat, which is produced mainly in only 6 states. Winter wheat is planted in the fall of the year and is harvested in early summer. Particularly in the southern and central parts of the Great Plains, it is important to get wheat matured before hot dry southwest winds begin to affect yields. Generally, winter wheat yields are higher than spring wheat yields. For the 10-year period 1950-59 the average yield for winter wheat for all of the United States was 20.9 bushels per harvested acre. For the same 10-year period the spring wheat yields averaged 16.4 bushels per harvested acre. Therefore, one finds that winter wheat is more widely grown than spring wheat, which is limited primarily to the northern part of the Great Plains and to the Columbia Plateau where climatic conditions are not favorable for winter wheat production.



SPRING WHEAT HARVESTED

Spring wheat is planted in the late spring and harvested late in summer. In the areas where it is grown a high proportion of the total rainfall comes during the summer months. Evapotranspiration rates are not as high in areas where spring wheat is grown as in the southern Great Plains where much winter wheat is produced, therefore the favorable seasonal distribution and greater effectiveness of the precipitation make it possible to produce wheat with a smaller total annual precipitation.

Only about a fourth of the total wheat crop is spring wheat. North Dakota has more than half of the 11.8 million acres of spring wheat that were harvested in 1959. Montana is the second leading State in spring wheat acreage with more than 2 million acres. Durum wheat used in making macaroni and spaghetti has generally been harvested from about 2 million acres in the spring wheat area in recent years.