

Cash leases are used most frequently for part-time or residential farms, for grazing land, and for crops with relatively stable yield patterns that decrease risk. In 1959 cash renting was the dominant method of renting in the relatively less productive areas and in areas of high industrial activity. It was the most common method in most of the counties of the Northeast and in the adjacent areas of Maryland, West Virginia, and Ohio where the topography is not well suited to crop production; in the Gulf Coast area from Florida to Louisiana; in the cutover timber area of northern Wisconsin and Minnesota; in most counties extending from southwest Texas through the Ozark Mountain area into lower Missouri; and in broad areas throughout the West.

Share-cash leases predominated in most of the counties in areas of high productivity in the North Central region and in a few other widely scattered areas. Share-cash tenants generally engaged in some livestock production and paid a rent comprising a proportion of their grain crops and a fixed cash amount for buildings, pasture, or meadowland.

Crop-share arrangements were the most frequently used method of renting farms in which staple crops such as grains, cotton, and tobacco were grown. This type of renting predominated in scattered areas throughout the Southeast and East North Central States, and in broad areas of the Great Plains and the Far West.

Livestock-share leases are used in areas particularly suited to the production of feed grains and livestock or livestock products. In 1959 this type of lease was dominant in central Ohio, northern Indiana, the dairy area of southwest Wisconsin, and adjacent areas in Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota.

The cropper system developed in the South where soil, climate, and labor supply were particularly suited to the production of cash crops with relatively large labor requirements. In 1959 the cropper system was still the predominant rental arrangement in the tobacco-producing areas of the South, as well as in many of the cotton-producing counties along the Mississippi River and nearby areas.

