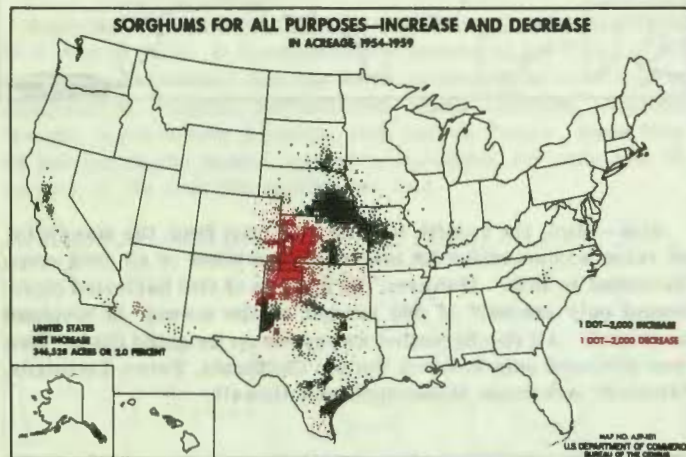
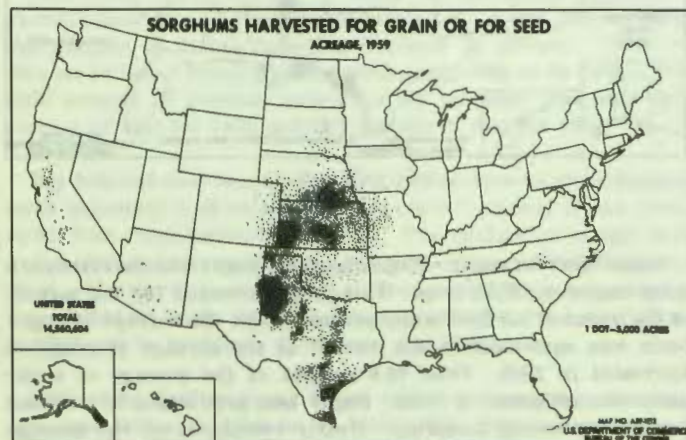


Sorghums.—The 17.9 million acres of sorghums harvested for all purposes in 1959 was the largest acreage ever reported for any census and represents a 2 percent increase over that for 1954. The 1959 acreage of sorghums for all purposes was slightly more than twice that of 1919 and more than 78 percent greater than the 1949 acreage.

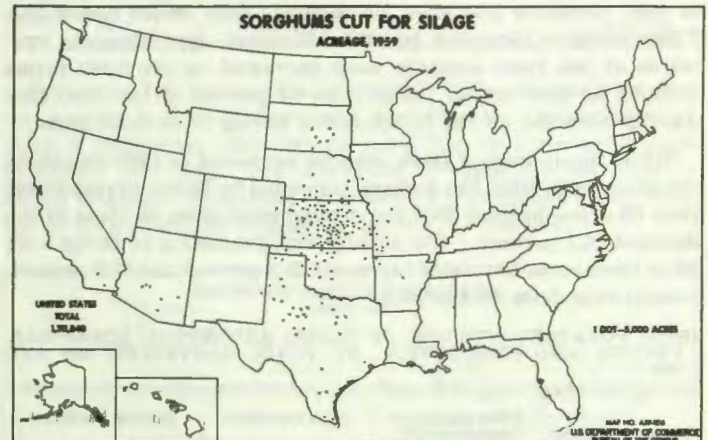


The acreage of sorghums for grain or seed in 1959, 14.6 million acres, was the highest reported for any census year. Texas was the leading sorghum producing State with nearly half (46.2 percent) of the total acreage of sorghums harvested for grain. The 1959 production of 508 million bushels of sorghum grain in the United States was more than double the previous census record set in 1954, and nearly 10 times the number of bushels harvested in 1939. The record yield of 34.9 bushels of sorghums for grain per acre was due not only to favorable



weather conditions during the growing and harvesting seasons in the Great Plains area where the bulk of the sorghum crop is produced, but also to the increased use of hybrid seed and the increased acreage of sorghums grown under irrigation. While there were large increases in acreage in southern Texas and Nebraska in particular, there were large decreases in acreage in western Kansas, and the panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas.

In 1959, more than 81.2 percent of the sorghum crop was harvested for grain. Sorghums for silage, forage, hay and grazing comprised 18.7 percent and sorghums for sirup accounted for 0.1 percent of the total acres. More than 75 percent of the sorghums harvested for grain and seed were sold. The sorghums for hay, silage, and for grazing were, for the most part, fed on the farms on which they were grown.



Sorghums harvested for sirup were harvested on 15,750 farms in 1959. This number was less than 7 percent of the number of farms reporting sorghums for sirup in 1934, while the 1959 acreage was only one-eighth that of 1934.

Irish potatoes.—Irish potatoes, the ninth most important field crop from the standpoint of value, accounted for 3 percent of the value of all field crops harvested, but the acreage represented less than one-half of 1 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested. Approximately 86.5 percent of the 1959 production of Irish potatoes was sold.

The commercial production of Irish potatoes was highly localized. More than a third of the production was concentrated in 11 counties, Aroostook, Maine; Bingham, Booneville, and Mindoka counties, Idaho; Suffolk County, New York; Kern County, California; Grand Forks, Walsh, and Pembina counties, North Dakota; Polk County, Minnesota; and Rio Grande County, Colorado.

