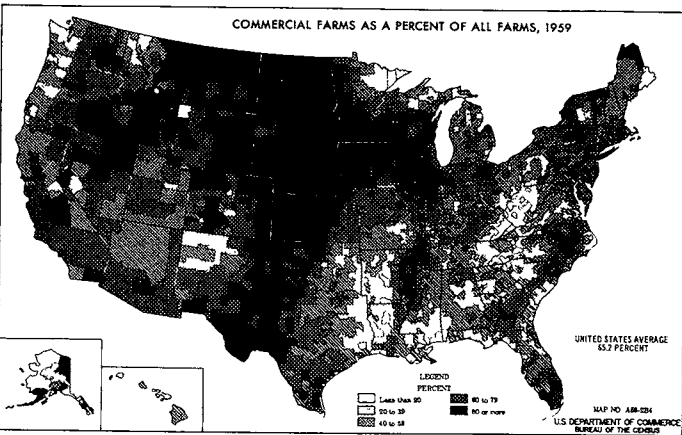
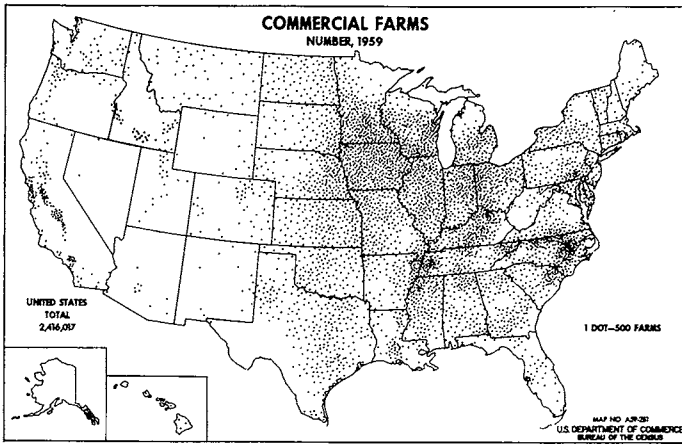


and States in the Northern Great Plains. In these areas, three-fifths or more of the farms are commercial farms. In the mountain areas of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Missouri, and Arkansas, and in other scattered areas of the South, and in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan a very low percent of the farms are commercial farms. Many farm operators in these areas work at nonfarm jobs or are semiretired and produce enough products for their places to qualify as farms.



The variations in the size of operations for the farms comprising these six classes were very great—the farms varied in value of farm products sold from \$50 to more than \$2,500,000. There are also great differences in the contribution of the various economic classes of farms to total agricultural production. For example, the sales of agricultural products from the 102,000 Class I farms exceed the sales of agricultural products from the more than 1,600,000 Class IV, V, and VI farms.

The relative importance for 1959 of the various classes of farms in terms of organization, resources used, and output is indicated by the following data:

The differences in the quantities of resources used and in sales of agricultural products among economic classes were very large in 1959.

Economic class of farm	Average per farm						
	Land in farms (acres)	Cropland harvested (acres)	Hired farm-workers (persons)	Tractors (other than garden) (number)	Fertilizer used (tons)	Expenditures for 6 items ¹ (dollars)	Value of all farm products sold (dollars)
Commercial farms, total.....	404.5	122.3	0.6	1.6	7.5	5,549	12,195
Class I.....	2,465.7	434.6	5.4	3.9	41.5	51,626	94,531
Class II.....	791.1	243.4	1.3	2.6	14.9	12,317	26,842
Class III.....	444.9	170.8	0.6	2.1	8.9	5,513	13,882
Class IV.....	288.3	109.0	0.3	1.6	5.3	2,759	7,223
Class V.....	191.9	59.3	0.2	1.2	3.7	1,446	3,683
Class VI.....	106.3	25.6	0.1	0.6	2.2	525	1,321

¹ Includes feed for livestock and poultry; purchase of livestock and poultry; machine hire; hired labor; seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees; and gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.

There are large variations for 1959 among economic classes in the rate and frequency of use of resources and in the production and sales per unit of resources used.

Item	Economic class of farm						
	All commercial farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI
Acres of cropland harvested per tractor (other than garden).....	75	112	94	81	67	51	43
Average acres of corn harvested for grain per corn picker.....	89	163	121	90	72	71	118
Average tons of hay harvested per pick-up baler.....	158	390	186	145	128	127	138
Percent of farms reporting—							
Regular hired workers.....	12.5	67.7	37.6	17.0	7.3	3.5	0.8
More than 1 regular hired worker.....	4.5	43.5	14.0	4.1	1.4	0.7	0.2
Expenditure of \$100 or more for gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....	81.9	98.0	96.9	96.1	92.1	76.9	38.2
Use of commercial fertilizer.....	71.7	73.5	75.5	75.5	71.0	69.0	70.1
Tractors (other than garden).....	81.4	91.9	92.6	93.1	89.0	77.9	47.1
Purchase of \$100 or more for feed for livestock and poultry.....	70.0	72.6	80.2	83.1	77.7	65.0	39.2
Expenditure of \$500 or more for hired labor.....	25.5	88.8	66.6	37.2	20.4	10.6	2.3
Pounds of fertilizer used per acre fertilized:							
Total.....	292	357	274	255	270	321	369
Hay and cropland pasture.....	322	312	333	319	312	335	355
Corn for all purposes.....	260	280	263	244	252	283	304
Sorghums for all purposes.....	131	143	129	115	115	135	147
Wheat.....	156	114	149	159	164	192	226
Irish potatoes.....	1,033	1,043	1,088	976	901	931	968
Tobacco.....	1,602	2,382	1,691	1,659	1,584	1,531	1,534
Cotton.....	375	325	336	379	436	448	456
Value of milk and cream sold per milk cow.....dollars.....	255	433	340	279	208	144	69
Value of eggs sold per chicken 4 months old and over.....dollars.....	3.33	4.81	4.09	3.25	2.58	2.13	1.19
Yield per acre of—							
Corn for grain.....bushels.....	54.3	67.0	63.9	58.0	49.4	41.8	30.3
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for hay and dehydrating.....tons.....	2.4	3.4	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.6
Clover, timothy, and mixtures of clover and grasses cut for hay.....tons.....	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3
Irish potatoes.....bushels.....	313	348	307	276	230	200	172
Cotton.....bales.....	1.0	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7

Economic class of farm	Number of farms, total	Percent distribution by economic class							
		Number of farms	Land in farms	Cropland harvested	Hired farm-workers	Tractors (other than garden)	Fertilizer used	Expenditures for 6 items ¹	Value of all farm products sold
Commercial farms, total.....	2,416,017	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Class I.....	102,099	4.2	25.8	15.0	37.5	10.0	23.4	39.3	32.8
Class II.....	210,402	8.7	17.0	17.3	18.4	13.8	17.3	19.3	19.1
Class III.....	483,004	20.0	22.0	27.9	18.8	25.8	23.5	19.9	22.8
Class IV.....	653,881	27.1	19.3	24.3	14.3	27.1	19.3	13.5	16.0
Class V.....	617,677	25.6	12.1	12.4	8.8	18.1	12.5	6.7	7.7
Class VI.....	348,954	14.4	3.8	3.0	2.1	5.2	4.2	1.4	1.6

¹ Includes feed for livestock and poultry; purchase of livestock and poultry; machine hire; hired labor; seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees; and gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.