

More than 91 percent of the production of clover and timothy hay was fed on the farm on which it was produced in 1959. Both the number of farms reporting and the acreage of this kind of hay have been declining. From 1944 to 1959, the number of farms reporting decreased almost 50 percent and the acreage declined more than one-third.

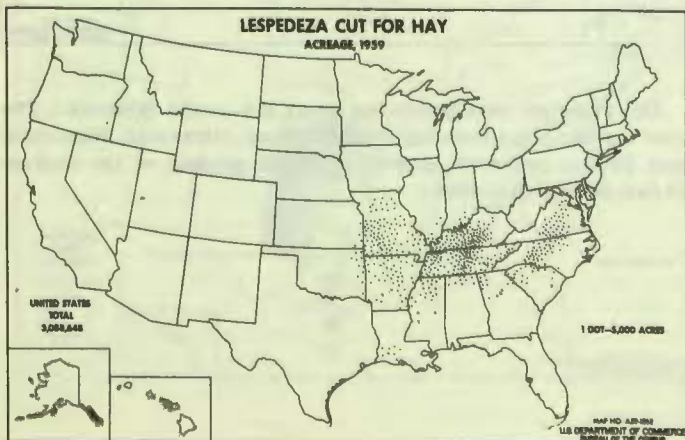
Wild hay was the fourteenth most important field crop and the third most important hay crop in 1959. The value of the wild hay produced was 0.9 percent of the value of all field crops, but its acreage represented 3.4 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested. Wild hay is important as a field crop in North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska. More than 90 percent of the crop was fed on the farms on which it was produced.



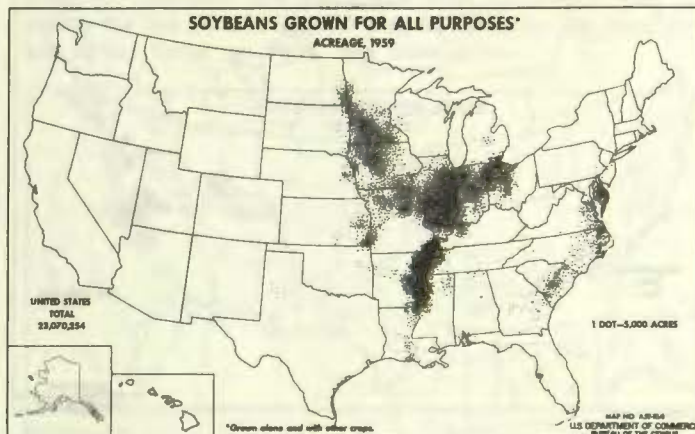
The number of farms reporting, acreage, and production of wild hay have been declining. Less than half as many farms reported wild hay in 1959 as in 1944. The acreage and production for 1959 were approximately 68 percent and 60 percent, respectively, of those for 1944.

Other hay comprised the eighteenth most important field crop and the fourth most important hay crop. Other hay includes such hay grasses as Bermuda, orchard, bent, bluegrass, millet, and Sudan. The acreage of other hay represented 1.8 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested. Other hay crops were distributed throughout the United States with no significant area of concentration. Of the nine geographic divisions, the West South Central States had the largest number of farms reporting and the highest acreage of other hay crops harvested in 1959.

On the basis of the value of production, lespedeza hay was the nineteenth most important field crop in 1959. Lespedeza was limited to the northern part of the South and to the Northern States bordering on the South. Approximately 94 percent of the lespedeza hay was used on the farms on which it was produced. In 1959, the number of farms reporting and the acres of lespedeza for hay were less than half those for 1949.



Soybeans.—The fifth leading crop in 1959 on the basis of value of production was soybeans. The acreage in soybeans for all purposes accounted for 7.4 percent of the cropland harvested in 1959. Of the harvested acres of soybeans for all purposes, 95.7 percent was harvested for beans, approximately 1.4 percent was cut for hay, 1.8 percent was used for forage (silage or grazing), and 1.1 percent was plowed under for green manure. The principal areas of production were Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, and the Upper Mississippi River Delta. In 1959 the value of sales was approximately 96 percent of the crop harvested for beans.



Soybeans is a relatively new crop. In 1909, the census showed less than 2,000 acres harvested. The 23 million acres grown for all purposes in 1959 were more than seven times the acreage 30 years earlier, and was almost twice the acreage in 1949. The acreage for all purposes in 1959 was 26 percent greater than the acreage in 1954. Significant increases in acreage occurred

