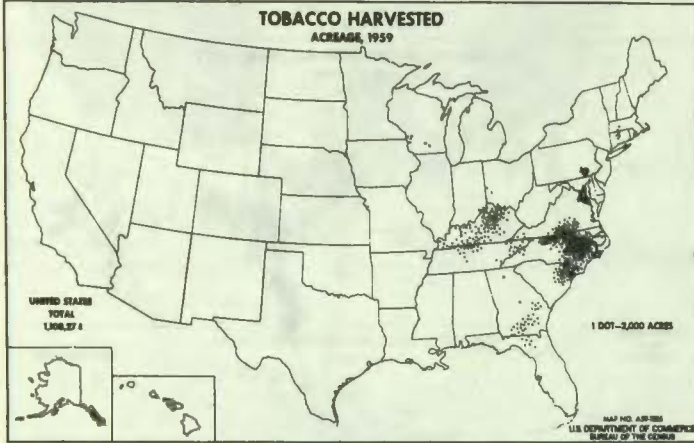


between 1954 and 1959 in the principal soybean producing areas and in the southeastern States. A large area of increase has been in the Mississippi Delta area although there have been other important areas of increase in the Corn Belt and along the South Atlantic Coastal Plains.

Tobacco.—Tobacco was the sixth leading field crop harvested in 1959. Although the acreage in tobacco was less than one-half of 1 percent of the acreage of all field crops harvested, it accounted for 5.9 percent of the value of all field crops harvested.



Tobacco production is highly localized due primarily to the influence of climate and soil on the properties of the leaf. Flue-cured tobacco is produced in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia; dark fire-cured and dark air-cured, in Kentucky and Tennessee; burley, in Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee; Maryland type, in Maryland; and cigar type, in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

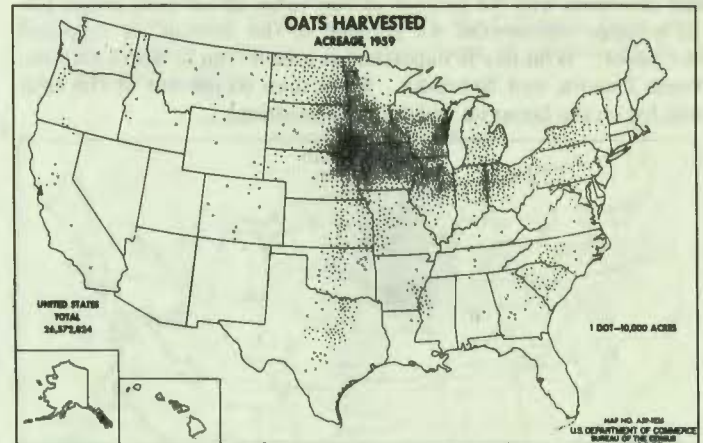
The average acreage of tobacco per farm reporting is small. More than half the farms harvested less than two acres each in 1959.

TOBACCO—FARMS REPORTING BY ACRES HARVESTED: 1959

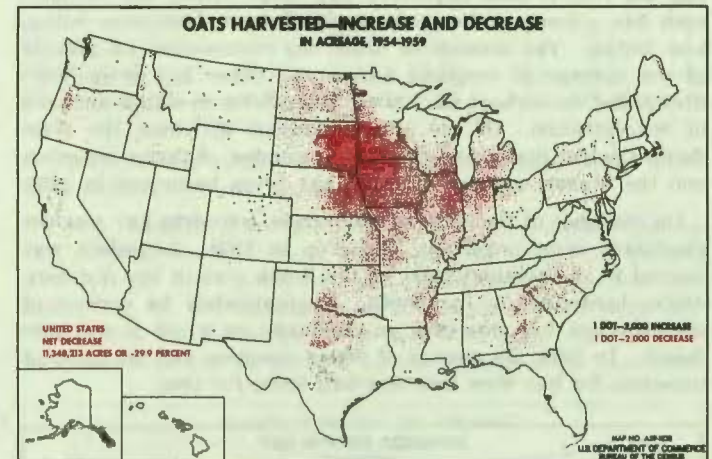
Farms with acres harvested of—	Number of farms harvesting tobacco					
	Total	Flue-cured	Burley	Dark fire-cured	Dark air-cured	All other types
Total.....	416, 634	159, 491	197, 368	10, 559	14, 157	35, 059
Under 0.5 acre.....	34, 187	2, 251	24, 676	465	4, 567	2, 228
0.5 to 0.9 acre.....	102, 406	5, 811	82, 169	1, 155	4, 682	8, 589
1.0 to 2.4 acres.....	123, 794	41, 584	64, 067	4, 861	4, 033	9, 249
2.5 to 4.9 acres.....	93, 021	63, 302	19, 624	3, 105	762	6, 228
5.0 to 9.9 acres.....	51, 558	39, 144	5, 796	867	107	5, 644
10.0 or more acres.....	11, 668	7, 399	1, 036	106	6	3, 121

The acreage of tobacco, as a result of the government acreage control program, was 28.8 percent less in 1959 than in 1954, and the total production was 16.7 percent less than in 1954. Yield per acre in 1959 was 1,486 pounds, the highest average ever recorded by a census. Yield per acre in 1959 was more than 62 percent greater than in 1939. Increased use of fertilizer and improved cultural practices and varieties have contributed significantly to the increase in yield per acre.

Oats.—Oats for grain was the seventh most important field crop harvested in 1959 from the standpoint of value of production. Oats accounted for 4 percent of the value of all field crops harvested, but its acreage was equivalent to 8.5 percent of the acreage of land from which crops were harvested. A large proportion of the oats is fed on the farms on which produced. In 1959, only 28 percent of oats harvested was sold.



Twenty-seven percent fewer farms produced oats for grain in 1959 than in 1954, and the 26.6 million acres of oats harvested for grain was the smallest acreage reported by any census since 1934. The reduction of 42.7 percent in acreage since 1954 resulted from unfavorable weather conditions in many areas and the replacing of oats with corn, especially in the Corn Belt States, as a result of the removal of corn acreage allotments. The yield per acre, however, was three bushels higher than in 1954 and was the highest yield recorded by any census.



The principal oats producing areas are in the Midwest. The four leading oats producing States of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois produced approximately 55 percent of the bushels of oats harvested in 1959.