

correctly reported as managed. For 1954 and 1950, specific criteria, similar to those for 1959, were used to distinguish bona fide managers from mere caretakers, hired workers, or relatives. Prior to 1950, the processing instructions generally called for the exclusion of such places but provided no specific criteria for their determination.

Comparability of Tenant Subclasses.—The subclassification of tenants in 1954 and in 1950 was the same as in 1959 and the determination was made on the same basis. The subclassification of tenants for earlier censuses differed from that of 1959 primarily in the number of subclasses.

For 1945, no inquiries relating to rental arrangements, other than for workpower furnished, were included. Instead, enumerators were asked to specify the kind of rent as cash, share, share-cash, or other. This procedure may have resulted in an understatement in the number of share-cash tenants and an overstatement in the numbers of cash and share tenants.

From 1920 to 1940, the kinds of tenants were determined in the office processing on the basis of a description of the rental arrangement. For 1940 and 1930, rental payments closely akin to cash payments, such as payment of taxes, repairs, and upkeep of farms, were considered as representing cash rentals. Tenants paying a fixed quantity of farm products as rent, however, have been excluded from cash tenants beginning with 1930. For 1920, tenants paying a fixed quantity of farm products as rent (standing renters) were classified separately for the South but with cash tenants for the northern and western States. In subsequent censuses, standing renters have been classed as other tenants, hence the 1920 figures for standing renters in the South have been combined with other and unspecified tenants. Prior to 1920, tenants paying a fixed quantity of farm products as rent were classed as cash tenants.

The most important difference between croppers and tenants other than croppers lies in the greater degree of supervision by the landlord. Traditionally, a copper (*a*) provides labor (his own and that of his family); (*b*) works under close supervision of his landlord who provides land, management, workpower, equipment, and makes advances of food and other items; (*c*) shares with his landlord the risk of production; and (*d*) receives a share of the crop in return for his labor and risk.

For 1920, the first census for which croppers were separately identified, the census report states "as a convenient means of classification, however, croppers were defined as share tenants to whom the landlord furnished the necessary work stock." The furnishing of workpower has continued as the basis for the determination of croppers at each census. In 1920, 1925, and 1930, tenants paying, or receiving, a share of the crops were classed as croppers if the landlord furnished the work animals. In 1935, no information was secured as to method of rental, hence all tenants whose work animals were furnished by the landlord were classed as croppers. The furnishing of tractor power was first taken into account in the 1940 census. In that year and in 1945, the classification took into account that some croppers pay cash rent for items other than the cash crop while continuing to pay or receive a share of the crop. Beginning with 1950 only the single criterion, all workpower furnished by the landlord, has been used for the classification of croppers.

Croppers, as traditionally defined, represent an outgrowth of the changeover of the plantation system following the Civil War. The landowner continued to provide direction and subsistence for his workers and the workers were paid a share of the crops. This type of tenancy was particularly suited to the production of cotton and tobacco, both of which crops required large amounts

of hand labor. Since for census purposes each tenant operation has always been considered a separate farm, the land worked by each cropper was considered a farm in the census enumeration.

The relationship of croppers to the larger operational units represented by the lands supervised by their landlords has been recognized in the census reports covering "multiple-unit" or plantation operations. In order to indicate more fully the organization of southern agriculture, statistics for multiple units or plantations were published for the 1954, 1950, 1945, 1940, and 1910 censuses supplementing the basic reports of the census of agriculture. Because of their declining importance, no similar report for multiple units was made for 1959.

Croppers are not of importance outside of the 16 Southern States except for the adjoining cotton-growing counties of southeastern Missouri. Beginning with the 1940 census, data for croppers have also been published for Missouri. In publishing the data for Missouri, comparative figures compiled for 1935 and 1930, but not previously published, were included in the 1940 report. These data for Missouri, however, have not been included in the presentation of summary data for the United States, regions, divisions, and States in the general reports for agriculture. At each of the censuses, the summary data for croppers have been restricted to the 16 Southern States. Table 3, however, presents the number, total acres, cropland harvested, and value of land and buildings for cropper farms in Missouri, 1930 to 1959. In volume I, part 17, Missouri, croppers are shown for the State as a whole. In prior censuses croppers for Missouri were restricted to the 7 southeastern counties. Table 3 shows 1959 totals for the State and for the 7 counties. Croppers in the 7 counties are similar to croppers elsewhere in the South averaging 39 acres with 34 acres of cropland harvested as compared with 42 acres with 24 acres of cropland harvested for the South. Those in Missouri outside the 7 southeastern counties averaged 219 acres with 91 acres of cropland harvested.

Table 3.—FARMS AND FARM ACREAGE OF CROPPER FARMS, FOR MISSOURI:¹ 1930 TO 1959

[Croppers for Missouri are not included, in this chapter, in the totals for croppers for the United States or the South, but are counted with crop-share tenants. Data in italics are based on only a sample of farms.]

Census year	Number of cropper farms	All land in farms (acres)	Cropland harvested		Value of land and buildings	
			Farms reporting	Acres	Average per farm (dollars)	Average per acre (dollars)
All cropper farms:						
1959, State.....	2,533	206,077	2,533	119,486	12,917	152.97
1959, 7 counties.....	1,938	76,032	1,938	66,179	2,134	262.37
1954.....	3,457	120,625	3,449	110,771	6,061	177.98
1950.....	5,226	179,463	5,179	160,648	5,004	132.00
1945.....	5,569	216,167	5,554	188,088	3,578	92.46
1940.....	4,369	149,712	NA	114,983	1,762	51.42
1935.....	6,065	186,829	NA	154,572	1,212	39.34
1930.....	7,181	238,639	NA	185,165	2,159	64.96
Commercial farms:						
1959, State.....	2,258	196,752	2,258	115,386	14,007	154.41
1959, 7 counties.....	1,793	73,702	1,793	63,674	9,592	264.20
1954.....	3,473	132,081	3,478	117,843	6,159	178.32
1950.....	4,851	169,694	4,846	151,825	5,286	144.39

¹Data for 1930 to 1954 are for 7 southeastern counties.

The use of workpower furnished as a criterion for the determination of croppers tends to include some tenants not typical of the traditional cropper.

Comparability of Land Owned, Rented, and Managed.—For 1959, 1954, and 1950, information was obtained for the total land owned by the farm operator, the total land rented from others, and the total land managed. The acres of owned land in farms and the acres of rented land in farms can be only approximated for these years.