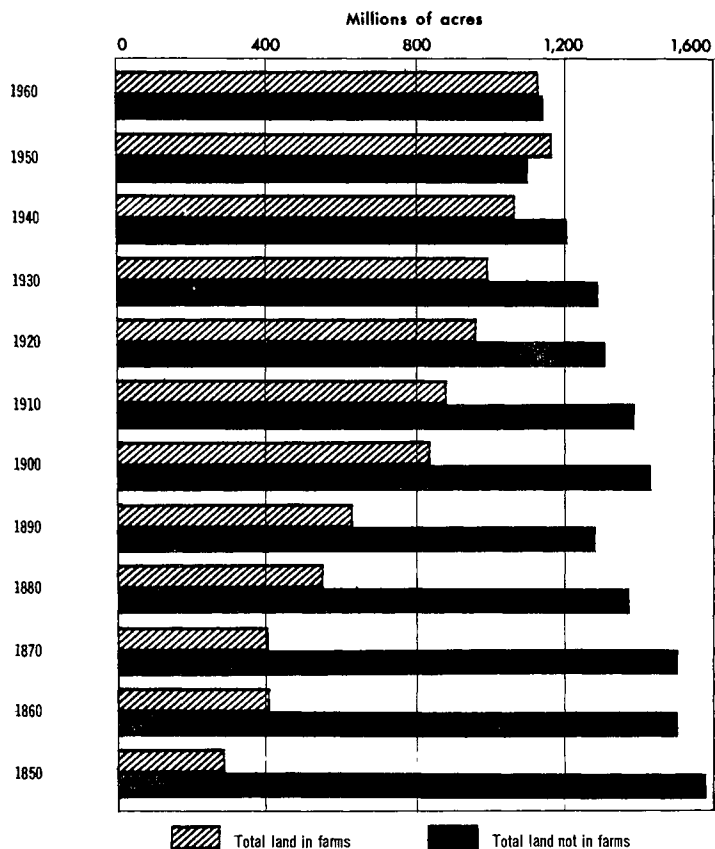


GENERAL REPORT

ACREAGE OF LAND IN FARMS AND NOT IN FARMS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1850 TO 1960



Land in Farms.—The land to be included in each farm was determined by inquiries on the questionnaire and by instructions to enumerators and farm operators. For the 1959 Census of Agriculture enumerators and farm operators were instructed to report for the farm operator, the number of acres owned, then the number of acres rented or worked on shares, and, lastly, the number of acres rented to others. This latter entry was subtracted from the sum of the two previous entries. The remainder was designated as “acres in this place” or “acres in the farm.” If the place was operated by a hired manager, the enumerator obtained the total acreage managed and the number of acres rented to others, or worked on shares by others. Again, the acres rented to others were subtracted from the gross acres managed to obtain the acres in the place.

The entry in “Acres in this place” often included land not under cultivation and land not used for grazing. Some of it was woodland, wasteland, etc. This acreage was retained as a part of the farm unless it was held for purposes other than agricultural, or the acreage was unusually large. If a farm contained 1,000 or more acres of nonagricultural land and less than 10 percent of the total acreage in the place was used for agricultural purposes, the nonagricultural land in excess of the number of acres used for agricultural purposes was excluded from the farm area during the office processing. In applying this rule, land used for crops, pasture, or grazing, and land rented to others were considered to be used for agricultural purposes. Open range and grazing lands used under Government permit were not included in farms. Grazing lands operated by grazing associations were to be reported in the name of the manager of the association. Land used rent-free was included with land rented from others.

