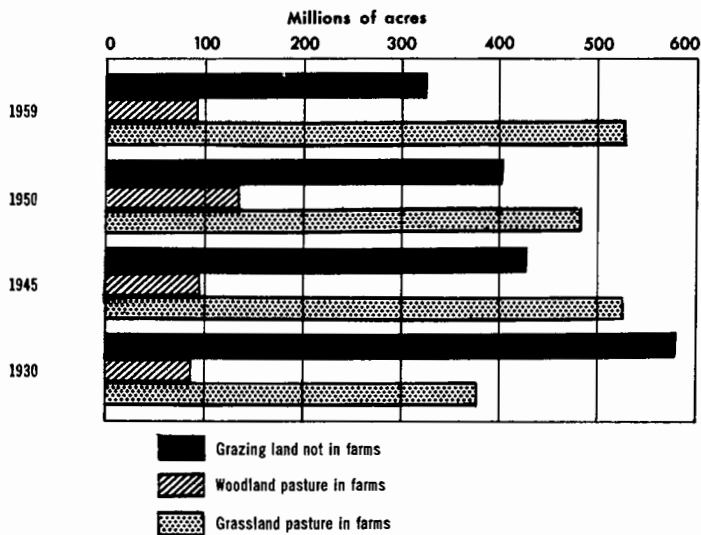


The decline of cropland harvested in the North occurred largely in the Northeastern States, Missouri, Michigan, and Ohio. The abandonment of cropland in the face of competition from more productive midwestern areas and the industrial expansion into agricultural areas have contributed significantly to the decline of cropland harvested in the North. The acreage of cropland harvested in the more productive areas of the Corn Belt has remained unchanged since World War I.

In the West, the acreage of cropland harvested was 10 million acres or 36 percent more in 1959 than at the end of World War II. Much of this increase was the result of increase in irrigated land. In Montana and Arizona, the acreage of cropland harvested in 1959 was more than twice as large as at the end of World War I.

**PASTURE AND GRAZING LAND FOR THE UNITED STATES:  
1930 TO 1959**



Since 1900, the total area (farm and nonfarm) used for pasture and grazing has declined 180 million acres or about 16 percent. Since 1920, the decline has been 114 million acres or 11 percent.

At each successive census, more of the rangeland in the Western and Southern States has been included as land in farms. This accounts to a large extent for the decrease of grazing lands not in farms and the increase of pastureland in farms.

For the 48 conterminous States, the acreage of pastureland in farms was 25 million acres less in 1959 than in 1954. There was a decrease of three-fourths of a million acres of cropland used for pasture, and 29 million acres of woodland used for pasture. Pasture that was not cropland and not woodland increased 5 million acres. Most of the increase in pasture that was not cropland and not woodland resulted largely from the reporting of woodland pasture, in Texas and other parts of the Southwest in 1954, as other pasture in 1959. About two-thirds of the decrease in pastureland was in the Eastern and Southern States, where a considerable acreage of land was taken out of agriculture.

For the conterminous United States, there was a decrease of 33 million acres or 17 percent in the acreage of woodland in farms from 1954 to 1959. Nearly three-fourths of this decrease occurred in Northeastern and Southern States where, over the last three decades, there has been a reversion of considerable acreage of pastureland and cropland to forest lands. About one-fifth of the decrease in woodland in farms occurred in Texas where more of the brushland area was reported as other pasture, not cropland and not woodland. The decline of land in farms in the forested regions during the 5-year period resulted from the transfer of an appreciable amount of woodland in farms to forest lands not in farms.

The acreage of improved pasture increased nearly 6 million acres or 34 percent from 1954 to 1959. More than three-fifths of the increase occurred in Texas and Oklahoma, where pasturelands were improved largely through brush control and reseeding.

