

CHAPTER VII
FIELD CROPS AND VEGETABLES

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Chapter VII.—FIELD CROPS AND VEGETABLES

Introduction.—This chapter presents information for field crops and vegetables harvested in 1959, together with comparable data from prior censuses of agriculture.

Data for each crop usually include the number of farms on which the crop was harvested, the acreage harvested, the quantity harvested, the quantity sold—if enumerated—and the value of both production and sales. No information on quantity harvested is given for vegetables. Units of measure are so varied for vegetables that it is difficult or impossible to obtain from farm operators satisfactory figures on vegetable production. For that reason, no attempt was made to gather production statistics for vegetables. Acreage data are not available for home gardens.

For several crops, such as corn, sorghums, soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts, information was obtained on the acreage and the quantity harvested for their most important uses. The acreage for soybeans, cowpeas, and similar annual legumes for important producing States includes acres not harvested but plowed under for green manure.

Source of Data.—The data presented are from the 1959 Census of Agriculture with comparative data for earlier censuses. The totals for farms reporting, acres harvested, quantity harvested, and quantity sold represent a summation of the replies to inquiries on questionnaires filled for each farm in the United States. Some of the data on the number of farms reporting by acres harvested or quantity harvested were obtained by tabulating data for a sample of approximately 20 percent of the farms. A headnote to the table indicates the data are estimates based upon reports for only a sample of farms. A description of the sampling procedure and tables giving sampling errors appear on pages XVIII–XXIII of the Introduction.

The Introduction to this volume contains a description of (a) the procedures used in the enumeration, (b) the methods used in processing statistics, and (c) definitions and explanations.

Presentation of Statistics.—Statistics are presented as totals for the United States, for the conterminous United States (Alaska and Hawaii excluded), for major geographic areas, and for each of the 50 States. An outline map showing the States, geographic divisions, and regions appears in the Introduction. Averages, percentages, and other derived data are provided as aids in using and analyzing the statistics. Graphic presentation of the data through the use of charts and maps supplements the tabular presentation.

Statistics for the United States include available comparable data from previous censuses for all items, whereas, for regions, divisions, and States, comparable data are confined to selected items and selected census years.

Any lack of comparability due to changes in wording of the inquiries and in definitions or in procedures followed in collecting data is explained in the text or by means of headnotes and footnotes to the tables.

For the more important crops or widely grown crops including most of those under government control programs, both current and historical data by States have been included in the tables. The table containing current data shows farms reporting, acreage, quantity harvested, and value for the censuses of 1959 and 1954.

This table is followed by a table which shows farms reporting, acreage, and quantity harvested for several censuses. Because of space limitations, no crop data are shown for years prior to 1899. Historical State data for years before 1899 can be obtained from the general reports of prior censuses.

For the less important crops, data are presented only for the most recent census. For minor crops, data are not presented by States. For the less important crops and for the minor crops, data for each census from 1920 to 1959 will be found for each State in State table 8, of volume I of the reports of the 1959 Census of Agriculture.

For some crops, separate data have not been obtained for every State for each census. Totals are presented only for the specified States for which data are available. In most cases these totals usually are approximate totals for the United States or for regions.

The headnotes, footnotes, etc., to the tables indicate any significant lack of comparability resulting from a change in questionnaire wording, instructions to the enumerators, or in definitions or procedures used for collecting and compiling the data.

Other Published Data.—Information similar to that contained in this chapter is given in chapter VIII for berries and other small fruits, and tree fruits, nuts, and grapes. Chapter VIII also contains tables showing data on production and value of horticultural specialties and forest products. Detailed data on farms reporting, acres harvested, quantity harvested, and quantity sold may be found for each county in county table 11 of volume I of the reports of the 1959 Census of Agriculture. State totals for each crop harvested will be found in State table 8 of volume I of the reports of the 1959 Census of Agriculture for each census from 1920 to 1959.

Information on crops harvested on irrigated land for the 17 Western States, Louisiana, and Hawaii are published in county table 11a in volume I of the reports of the 1959 Census of Agriculture, and totals for the 17 Western States and Louisiana in Volume III: Irrigation of Agricultural Lands.

Chapter IX: Value of Farm Products, contains a summary of data for the value of production and the value of sales for each field crop.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

The definitions that are given here are limited to those necessary for the understanding of data for field crops and vegetables. For definitions that have general application, for a description of procedures, and for a statement of the completeness of the census, see the Introduction to this volume.

Farms Reporting.—The term, "farms reporting," represents the number of farms harvesting a given crop. A crop planted but not harvested would not be included in the count of farms reporting. When an individual questionnaire contained separate questions for more than one type or variety of a crop, a farm count was not obtained for farms reporting the crop. For example, in the case of spring wheat, the questionnaire in North Dakota included "durum wheat" and "other spring wheat" as separate questions and a count of farms reporting any spring wheat was not obtained in North Dakota. The farm counts for these two types of

spring wheat can be added together to obtain a total of farms harvesting both types of spring wheat but both types of spring wheat may be harvested on the same farm and such a procedure results in an overstatement of the number of farms reporting spring wheat. Other crops for which there were separate questions for types or varieties of the same crop were tobacco, cherries, grapes, plums and prunes, and oranges.

Generally, "farms reporting" represent a count of the farms which report either acreage or quantity harvested, or both, for a given crop. In the case of vegetables, the number of farms reporting a given crop represents a count of the farms reporting acres harvested for sale. The total number of farms reporting vegetables includes only farms reporting sales of vegetable crops harvested in the open (not under glass). The count of farms reporting for Irish potatoes and sweetpotatoes includes farms that reported small quantities harvested but no acreage. In the tables showing a breakdown of farms according to the number of acres harvested, the farms with small amounts harvested but no report for acres are included on the tables in the smallest acreage group.

Crops Harvested.—The 1959 agriculture questionnaire was similar to the questionnaire used in several prior censuses in that it provided for the collection of detailed information for each crop harvested on each farm. The variation in the crops listed on the questionnaires used in different States made possible the separate reporting of all important crops grown in a State. Each State questionnaire contained several "all other crops" questions for reporting crops not specifically listed in separate questions.

Acres Harvested.—In most instances, the acres reported for individual crops represent the area harvested during 1959. The area harvested may be less than the area planted. For soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts the acreage grown for all purposes was reported as well as the acreage harvested for specific purposes. For velvetbeans, only the acreage grown was reported. A part of the acreage of corn, sorghums, peanuts, soybeans, and cowpeas was hogged off or grazed. Mature or almost mature crops grazed or hogged off by livestock were considered as harvested. The acreage for vegetables includes the acreage harvested for sale and excludes the area of small plots and gardens for home use.

Drought conditions in 1959 in the Northern Great Plains (primarily South Dakota) caused extensive abandonment of crop acreage and yields for many crops were extremely low. In some cases, farmers and census enumerators reported the entire acreage of a crop as harvested, even though only part of this acreage on the farm was actually harvested. It was not always possible to identify and correct such reports during census processing so, in this drought area, the acreage harvested may be somewhat overstated.

Because of drought and other climatic conditions, crops are not always harvested for the purpose for which they were planted. In the extensive drought area of South Dakota, considerable small grain acreage, normally harvested for grain, was cut for hay or pastured. Drought conditions resulted in heavy abandonment of crops in some areas so many farmers let their livestock graze on much of this acreage. Acres pastured would not appear with census statistics for a grain crop harvested but would be included under "root and grain crops hogged or grazed." If the crop was completely abandoned, i.e., not harvested for grain or cut for hay or pastured, the acreage would not appear in the data for any crop. Land planted to a crop that completely failed and not replanted to another crop during the same calendar year would not be included in the data for cropland harvested, but under the land-use classification "cropland not harvested and not pastured."

The acreage of land from which crops were harvested is not always the same as the total acres of all crops harvested, as more than one crop may have been harvested from the same land dur-

ing the same crop year. Farm operators were asked, "How many acres of land were in fields and tracts from which crops were harvested (including hay cut) this year?" The land for this question has been termed "cropland harvested." If two different crops were harvested from the same land during the year, the same land would be counted for both crops and the total acres of the two crops would be double the acreage of cropland harvested. In many areas, the total acres of all crops harvested exceed the acreage of cropland harvested.

For most field crops, census enumerators and farm operators were asked to report only whole acres and to omit reporting fractions of acres. The exceptions to this procedure included vegetables, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, tobacco, and sorghums (in States where the harvesting of sorghums for sirup is common). For these crops, tenths of an acre were to be reported. The acreage of land in fruit and nut trees, berries and other small fruits, and horticultural specialties was also to be reported in tenths of acres.

The acreage harvested represents the area harvested during the crop year 1959. For Hawaii, the acres of pineapples harvested represent the acres harvested for the year ending May 31, 1959. For south Florida, the data for vegetables and Irish potato crops relate to the acres harvested between October 1, 1958, and September 30, 1959.

Quantity Harvested.—The quantity harvested represents the total production, including amounts for home use; the amount sold; and the amount belonging to or delivered to the landlords. Except for vegetables and Irish potato crops in southern Florida and pineapples in Hawaii the data for quantity harvested relate to the crop year 1959. For vegetables and berries and other small fruits, the quantity sold and not the quantity harvested was obtained. Generally, the enumeration was made at the end of the harvest season. However, farm operators and census enumerators were asked to estimate the quantity of any crop not harvested at the time of the enumeration and to include this in the total quantity harvested.

The unit of measure in which quantity harvested or quantity sold was to be reported varied for some crops, not only from State to State, but also from census to census. The purpose of varying units of measure has been to permit reporting in the units of measure currently in use by farm operators. The quantities harvested for each crop are published in the unit of measure most commonly given in the 1959 agriculture questionnaire. For corn and Irish potatoes, the questionnaire for 1959 provided more than one unit of measure for reporting quantity harvested in some States. To provide readily comparable information, data published in earlier reports in different units of measure generally have been converted to the units used for 1959.

Value of Crops Harvested.—The total value of crops harvested represents the estimated value of all crops harvested during the crop year 1959. It includes the value of quantities used for feed, seed, home use, etc., as well as quantities sold. Farmers were not required to report the values of crops harvested; the values were calculated during the processing operations. For individual crops, the quantity harvested was multiplied by an estimated average price for each State. State average prices were furnished to the Bureau of the Census by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quantities harvested for vegetables were not obtained so the value of sales was used in lieu of the value of production in the calculation of total value of all crops harvested.

Value of Crops Sold.—For most crops, the value of sales was calculated by multiplying the State average prices by either the quantity sold or the quantity harvested. Reports of quantity sold were obtained during the enumeration only for some of the major field crops. Quantity harvested was used in the calculation of value of crops sold for such crops as cotton, tobacco, etc.,

customarily grown only for sale. The value of sales for vegetable crops was obtained from the farm operator. Procedures similar to those followed in 1954 were used for determining the value of various crops and are described in detail in Chapter IX: Value of Farm Products.

CROPS HARVESTED

Corn.—The 1959 agriculture questionnaire provided for the reporting of corn according to use. The total acreage was classified into (1) corn for grain, (2) corn for silage, and (3) corn hogged or grazed or cut for green or dry fodder. The questions were uniform for all States in the conterminous United States. Except for minor variations in the wording of the questions and for a difference in the units of measure, the questions for 1959 for corn were identical with those used for 1954 and 1950, and the results are directly comparable. For most States, bushels was the only unit specified for corn for grain. In the States of New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia, however, where all farmers were not accustomed to using bushels as the unit of measure, the questionnaire contained a provision for the quantity of corn for grain to be reported either in bushels (shelled basis) or in baskets of ear corn. As in former censuses, some farm operators and census enumerators reported the quantity harvested in units of measure other than bushels or baskets. Prior to tabulation, all reports were converted to bushels (shelled basis) on the basis of the following factors: 70 pounds of ear corn, or two baskets of ears, or 56 pounds of shelled corn, equal one bushel. A barrel of ear corn was usually considered equal to five bushels of shelled corn. In southern Michigan and, to some extent, in other areas, the quantity harvested reported in baskets often represented bushels. In instances where there was doubt as to the unit reported, letters were written to farmers to establish the facts in the case and the necessary corrections were made on the basis of the replies to those letters.

The value of corn sold for 1959 and 1954 represents only the value of the corn sold for grain. The amount of corn silage and fodder sold is very small except in a few counties in some Western States (primarily California). Even in these few Western States, the value of corn silage and fodder sold comprised only a relatively small part of the value of the corn crop sold. The value of corn sold for 1959, as in 1954, was calculated by multiplying the bushels sold by an estimated State average price per bushel.

Sorghums.—The agriculture questionnaire used in 25 of the more important sorghum-producing States contained questions regarding the utilization of the sorghum crop harvested. The total acreage was classified into (1) sorghums for grain or seed, (2) sorghums for silage, and (3) sorghums for sirup (on questionnaires for 14 States: Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and North Texas). The same detailed questions, except the question on sorghums for sirup, were asked in the following sorghum-producing States: Illinois, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, and South Texas. In other States, sorghums harvested were to be reported in the space provided for "All other crops."

The agriculture questionnaire for a State or a combination of adjoining States provided for the reporting of the quantity harvested and quantity sold in the unit of measure most commonly used in the State or group of States. The units of measure for sorghums were bushels or pounds in all except two States. In Arizona and California the unit of measure was hundredweights.

Sorghums for both silage and forage production were reported in tons. Silage production was reported on a green-weight basis and forage, on a dry-weight basis. The question for sorghums

cut for dry forage or hay, or hogged or grazed, was provided on the questionnaire for 25 States. No information was obtained by the enumerator or farm operator for the production of the acreage hogged or grazed. Therefore, the figures for the quantity of sorghums harvested for hay or forage do not include the total production for the acreage of sorghums harvested for dry forage or hay, or hogged or grazed.

Small Grains.—The agriculture questionnaire for 1959 contained several questions for the acreage and quantity of small grains harvested. There were separate questions for the most important small grains harvested in each State.

Some small grains were to be reported under "Other grains" in every State except Hawaii. The number of small grain crops for which a separate question appeared on the agriculture questionnaire varied from State to State so the kinds of small grains included in "Other grains" were not the same for all States. Rice was the only small grain harvested in Hawaii.

Table 55 of this chapter shows farms reporting, acreage, and quantity harvested for "Other grains" for both 1959 and 1954. In Texas, the kinds of small grains included under "Other grains" differed for North Texas and South Texas because of differences in the questionnaires used.

Wheat.—Questions on the agriculture questionnaire on wheat provided for acres harvested, bushels harvested, and bushels sold. Separate questions also were included for each type of wheat in States where production of more than one type was important. In States where spring wheat and winter wheat were both important crops, separate questions were provided for both types. Three separate types of wheat were listed in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana: (a) winter wheat, (b) durum wheat, and (c) other spring wheat. Where a separate question was not provided, spring wheat was included under all "wheat." "Durum wheat" produced in States other than the four listed above was included as spring wheat.

A count of farms reporting any wheat was not made in 1959 for States where different types of wheat were reported. A total for the farms reporting wheat at the United States, region, or State level can only be approximated by adding the number of farms reporting the several types. Duplication would occur when two or more types of wheat were harvested on the same farm as the farm would be counted as a farm reporting each type of wheat harvested. A separate question for wheat was provided on the questionnaires for all States, except South Texas, Alaska, and Hawaii. Any wheat in South Texas and those two States was to be enumerated as "Other grains." The amount of wheat grown in South Texas and those States was small.

Mixtures of wheat and other small grains were to be reported as "Mixed grains" and not to be reported as wheat. The same procedure was used for the 1954 and 1950 censuses. For the 1945, 1940, and 1935 censuses, one-half of the acreage of a mixture, such as wheat and flax, was to be reported as wheat and the other half as flax.

Oats for Grain.—All questionnaires, except for Oregon and Hawaii, listed one question for reporting acres, production, and sales of oats harvested. In Oregon, in addition to a separate question concerning oats grown alone, a second question was used to obtain the amount of oats cleaned out of vetch and peas. In Oregon, considerable acreages of oats and peas, or oats and vetch, are grown together and harvested at the same time. The acreage of oats and peas grown together was included under the acreage for peas and the oats and vetch, under the acreage for vetch. Oats cleaned out of vetch and peas in Oregon was added to the production of oats grown alone in that State. In Oregon, 783 farms reported 590,013 bushels of oats cleaned out of vetch and peas in 1959. For 1959, oats cut when ripe or nearly ripe were to be reported under "Oats, wheat, barley, rye, or other small grains cut for hay."

Barley.—A separate question for barley appeared on the State agriculture questionnaires for all States except New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana, and Hawaii.

Bushels was the unit of measure used for reporting quantity harvested for all States except Arizona, California, and Alaska where the unit was 100-lb. bags. The 100-lb. bags were converted to bushels on the basis of 48 pounds per bushel.

Rye.—Rye was included on the agriculture questionnaire for 42 States and for the north part of Texas. However, data for rye have been tabulated and are published for all States in which rye was harvested.

A considerable acreage of rye is used for grazing, plowed under for manure, or cut for hay. Rye used for grazing was to be reported under "Root and grain crops hogged or grazed" but rye turned under for soil improvement was not to be reported as a crop harvested. Mixtures of rye and other grains were included as "mixed grains," while rye cut for hay was reported under "Small grains cut for hay."

Flaxseed.—Questions for flaxseed were on the agriculture questionnaire in 1959 for nine States: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Montana, Texas, Arizona, and California. Flaxseed was enumerated as "Other grains" in all other States, but flax was tabulated and published for 12 States in which this crop was harvested in 1959.

Rice.—The question on rice, providing information on acres harvested, quantity harvested, and quantity sold, appeared on the questionnaires for seven States: Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, California, South Texas, and Hawaii. The unit of measure varied by State. The unit of measure was bushels in Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas; 162-lb. barrels in Louisiana and South Texas; and 100-lb. bags in California and Hawaii.

Buckwheat.—Buckwheat was included as a separate question on the agriculture questionnaire for ten States: Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, and Minnesota. Buckwheat is grown in small amounts and the data have been tabulated and published for the States in which this crop was harvested.

Other Grains.—Separate questions were included on the agriculture questionnaire for the most important small grain crops grown in each State. All other small grain crops were reported as "Other grains" in all States except Hawaii. Rice was the only small grain for which a question was asked in Hawaii.

Table 55 lists the acreage, production, and sales of other small grains harvested in 1959 and 1954. The data for these two years, however, are not directly comparable, as the small grains included in the grouping "Other grains" differed in 1954 and 1959. Table 55 lists the small grain crops excluded from other grains for both 1959 and 1954.

Annual Legumes.—For soybeans, cowpeas, and peanuts, the acres and quantity grown or harvested for specific purposes, as well as the total acreage grown for all purposes, were obtained for areas where those crops were grown extensively. For velvetbeans, only the total grown for all purposes was obtained. For all those crops, except possibly peanuts, the total acreage grown for all purposes includes some acreage that was plowed under for green manure. In a few southern States separate figures were obtained for the acres grown alone and the acres grown with other crops. In 1959, as in 1954, enumerators were instructed to report green soybeans and blackeyes and other green cowpeas harvested for sale as vegetables and not as annual legumes.

Soybeans.—The agriculture questionnaire contained a separate question for soybeans for all States except the six New England States, 13 Western States, and 48 counties in South Texas. In the States where a separate soybean question did not appear on the questionnaire the acreage of soybeans plowed under for green manure is not available as it was not to have been reported as a harvested crop.

The separate questions on the questionnaire called for the acreage of soybeans for all purposes, soybeans for beans, soybeans for hay, soybeans hogged or grazed or cut for silage, and soybeans plowed under for green manure.

For 11 Southern States, the acreage grown alone and grown with other crops was to be reported separately on the questionnaire. In most areas, the acreage grown with other crops is interplanted for a cover crop or for later hogging off or grazing. In some important producing areas, soybeans are grown in alternate rows and are harvested for beans. The quantity harvested represents the total for the acres grown alone and those grown with other crops. The average yield per acre for beans shown in table 57 was calculated on the total acreage for beans (acres grown alone plus acres grown with other crops).

Soybeans for beans were reported in bushels and soybeans cut for hay, in tons. The quantity of beans and hay sold was not obtained but was estimated on the basis of data supplied by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The estimated quantities sold, for both beans and hay, were multiplied by the average prices per unit to obtain the value of sales. The average value per acre for soybeans hogged or grazed or cut for silage was computed for each State.

Cowpeas.—Separate questions were on the agriculture questionnaire in 13 southern and southwestern States where cowpeas is an important crop.

The questions were similar to those for soybeans, except that the acres of cowpeas harvested for fresh market, or for sale to canners, freezers, or other processors were to be reported as vegetables harvested for sale. Because of the widespread interplanting of cowpeas, the questionnaires for Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana provided for reporting both the acres grown alone and acres grown with other crops. The quantity harvested represents the total harvested on both acres grown alone and acres grown with other crops.

Peanuts.—Separate questions on peanuts appeared on the agriculture questionnaire for the 12 most important producing States. These questionnaires required the enumerator or farm operator to report acreage for peanuts grown for all purposes, acreage and quantity of peanuts for picking and threshing, and peanut vines or tops which were saved for hay or forage. The acreage from which vines or tops are saved for hay is often the same as that from which nuts are harvested. Separate questions were not included on the agriculture questionnaire for the acreage hogged or grazed.

The difference between the total acreage for all purposes and the acreage from which nuts were picked or threshed provides an approximation of the acreage that was used for hogging and grazing.

The quantity of peanuts sold was estimated on the basis of crop disposition data as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The estimated quantities of nuts and hay sold were multiplied by the average price per unit to obtain the value of sales. In addition, an average value per acre of peanuts hogged or grazed was com-

puted for each State from information supplied by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Velvetbeans.—The 1959 agriculture questionnaire included a separate question on velvetbeans for only five States: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi. The question included the acreage for all purposes grown alone and grown with other crops, and bushels of velvetbeans harvested.

Other Annual Legumes.—Other annual legumes, such as dry field and seed beans, dry field and seed peas, dry lima beans, and mungbeans were on the questionnaire in States where the production of those crops was important. Mungbeans appeared only on the Oklahoma questionnaire and the question for dry lima beans appeared only on the California questionnaire. Dry lima beans were included with dry field and seed beans in all other States. Dry field and seed peas excluded Austrian winter peas and wild winter peas and the data for these crops were reported as field seed crops.

Hay Crops.—Separate questions reporting one or more kinds of hay appeared on the questionnaire for each State. The acreage harvested, tons harvested, and tons sold were to be reported. Specific questions for each important kind of hay were included on the questionnaire for each State. For each State, except Florida, Hawaii, and Alaska, the questionnaire had a single question for "All other hay." All kinds of hay, except sorghum, soybean, cowpea, and peanut, for which a separate question did not appear on the questionnaire, were to be reported under "All other hay."

For most States, separate questions were on the questionnaire for alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for hay; clover, timothy, and mixtures of clover and grasses for hay; oats, wheat, barley, rye, or other small grains cut for hay; and any other hay. Separate questions for lespedeza hay, wild hay, and grass silage were not listed on the questionnaires for all States. (The composite questionnaire in the appendix to this volume indicates the kinds of hay that appeared on the questionnaire for each State.)

The data for all hay does not include the acreage, production, or value of sorghum, soybean, cowpea, or peanut hay. These hays were reported separately and are published with the other data on crops. The quantity of hay harvested was to be reported on a dry-weight basis. Green silage was reported on a green-weight basis. If two or more cuttings of hay were made from the same acreage, the acres were to be reported only once, but the total production was to be reported from all cuttings.

Grass silage was defined as silage made from grasses, alfalfa, clover, or small grains, including silage made from crops cut from land used primarily for pasture. It did not include silage made from corn or sorghums. Separate questions for grass silage were included on the questionnaire for 28 States. In the other States grass silage was included in the "catch-all" question provided for reporting crops not listed elsewhere on the questionnaire. Data were tabulated and published for those States also. A considerable proportion of grass silage was cut from the same acreage from which a hay crop was cut. If both hay and grass silage were cut from the same land, the acres from which hay was cut and the acres from which grass silage was cut were to be included for each crop.

The wording of the alfalfa hay question was different for 1959 and 1954 from that for prior censuses. For 1959, the inquiry was "Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for hay and for dehydrating." For 1950, the question read "Alfalfa for hay or for dehydrating." For censuses prior to 1950, the question was similar to 1950 except that *dehydrating* was not mentioned. Instructions on the questionnaire for the 1950 and previous censuses stated that mixed hay was to be reported under the kind of hay that made up the

largest part of the mixture. Some of the change in acreage of alfalfa cut for hay from 1949 to 1959 resulted from the change in the wording of the question, rather than from an actual change.

Alfalfa hay for 1959, 1954, and 1949 includes the acreage and production of alfalfa used for dehydrating. Sweetclover hay was not to be reported under clover and timothy but under "other hay."

In Washington and Oregon, the questionnaire included a question on "vetch or peas, alone or mixed with oats or other grains, cut for hay." This vetch or peas for hay has been included in "other hay" in table 85. The acreage, production, and quantity sold for this kind of hay are shown below.

VETCH OR PEAS, ALONE OR MIXED WITH OATS OR OTHER GRAINS,
CUT FOR HAY: 1959

State	Farms reporting	Acres	Production (tons)	Quantity sold (tons)
Oregon.....	1,545	23,838	45,123	6,894
Washington.....	258	7,259	8,488	2,195

Table 74 of this chapter contains data on the total acreage of land from which hay was cut. Acres of sorghum, soybean, cowpea, and peanut hay are not included with this total. The table also shows the total quantity of hay cut. This total includes the production of grass silage converted to a dry-weight basis by multiplying tons of silage by 0.33.

In 1959, total land from which hay was cut was obtained by adding the acreage of the various hay crops including grass silage. The same procedure was followed in all prior censuses except in 1950, when the acreage of all hay land was obtained from the farm operator.

The value of production for hay crops was obtained by multiplying the State average price by tons harvested for each of the several kinds of hay. The value of all hay also includes the value of grass silage. The value of each kind of hay sold was computed for 1959 by multiplying the State average price per ton by the tons sold for each kind of hay.

Field Seed Crops.—The field seed crops for which a separate inquiry appeared on each version of the questionnaire were limited to those considered most important within a given State. Each State questionnaire in the conterminous United States contained space for listing other field seed crops in order to insure the reporting of all field seed crops harvested. Quantity harvested was to be reported in pounds of clean seed for most field seed crops. The unit of measure varied by States and the unit used in a State can be determined from reference to the composite questionnaire in the appendix.

Bluegrass or Junegrass seed was to be reported on a green-weight basis for Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Tennessee. However, a check of the enumerated data in Minnesota indicated that most farm operators reported the quantity harvested in terms of "clean seed." This was the result of the increased production of the new Park strain of Kentucky bluegrass, as the growers of this variety combined the crop from the windrow and did not know the production on a green-weight basis. The data on bluegrass production in Minnesota, therefore, is provided on a clean-seed basis.

Cotton.—A separate question appeared for cotton on the agriculture questionnaire for 17 States where cotton was considered an important crop. The crop was to be reported in the "all other" questions for States such as Illinois, Kansas, and Nevada. The questionnaire called for acreage harvested and the production in number of bales of lint cotton.

The production of cottonseed per se was enumerated only in the 1930 Census of Agriculture. Cottonseed production for all other years was computed on the basis of the production of lint cotton. In 1959, the total production (in tons) of cottonseed for each State was calculated by using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Total net weight of lint cotton} \times \text{percentage seed is of seed cotton}}{2,000 \text{ lb.} \times \text{percentage lint is of seed cotton}}$$

The factors used in these calculations for each State are given in the following table.

FACTORS USED FOR CALCULATING COTTONSEED PRODUCTION, BY STATES: 1959

State	Average net weight per running bale (pounds)	Percent lint cotton is of seed cotton	Percent cottonseed is of seed cotton
Alabama.....	487.8	37.2	62.8
Arizona.....	474.0	36.3	63.7
Arkansas.....	483.1	37.0	63.0
California.....	473.3	37.8	62.2
Florida.....	481.0	36.2	63.8
Georgia.....	478.0	36.5	63.5
Illinois.....	487.4	36.7	63.3
Kentucky.....	471.7	37.0	63.0
Louisiana.....	482.6	36.5	63.5
Maryland.....	491.6	37.0	63.0
Mississippi.....	484.2	37.0	63.0
Missouri.....	470.4	36.5	63.5
Nevada.....	483.0	37.8	62.2
New Mexico.....	478.2	37.1	62.9
North Carolina.....	466.4	36.5	63.5
Oklahoma.....	479.1	37.5	62.5
South Carolina.....	471.4	36.0	64.0
Tennessee.....	488.1	37.0	63.0
Texas.....	483.5	36.3	63.7
Virginia.....	491.6	37.0	63.0

The value of production and value of sales are identical and were computed by multiplying the number of bales by the State average price per bale. (The State average price included the value of both the lint and the seed.)

Tobacco.—The agriculture questionnaire included one or more questions for 17 leading tobacco-producing States. Respondents were asked to report separately the acres and tenths of an acre and quantity harvested for each type of tobacco listed on the questionnaire. In 11 States the crop was to be reported as "tobacco" regardless of type. Figures for types of tobacco were asked in six States: Binder and wrapper types in Massachusetts and Connecticut; flue-cured and burley and other tobacco in Virginia; flue-cured and burley tobacco in North Carolina; and burley, dark fired, and dark air-cured tobacco in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Irish Potatoes.—The total quantity harvested was reported in all cases, whether harvested for home use or for sale. However, the acreage harvested was to be reported only when the quantity amounted to 20 or more bushels (or the approximate equivalent in terms of hundredweights or barrels, as specified on the different State questionnaires). The procedure of not reporting acres or fractions of an acre when the quantity harvested was less than 20 bushels, was designed to facilitate the enumeration of potatoes harvested on small plots or gardens for home consumption. The same procedure was followed for both 1954 and 1950. In earlier censuses, however, the acreage of Irish potatoes was to be reported in all cases, even when production was solely for home use. Therefore, the data on acres for censuses prior to 1950 are not fully comparable with those for the last three censuses, especially in States where production is largely for home use.

The unit of measure for reporting quantity harvested varied by State in order to provide for the use of the unit most commonly used in each State. In 27 States, the questionnaire pro-

vided for reporting in one of two units of measure, i.e., bushels or hundredweights. "Barrels" was used as the unit of measure for Maine (barrel = 165 lb. or 2¾ bushels). Quantities published in this report are in bushels.

The quantities sold were estimated on the basis of data supplied by the Agricultural Marketing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Sweetpotatoes.—Sweetpotatoes were listed on the agriculture questionnaire for 26 States in which they are an important crop. In the remaining States, sweetpotatoes were to be reported under "all other crops." The quantity harvested was to be reported in all cases, whether harvested for home use or for sale or whether used for livestock feed. The acreage harvested was to be reported where the quantity amounted to 20 or more bushels. In censuses prior to 1950, the acreage of sweetpotatoes was to be reported in all cases, even when the total production was small. Therefore, acres harvested for censuses prior to 1950 are not fully comparable with those of the last three censuses.

The unit of measure for reporting quantity harvested was bushels, or pounds, or hundredweights. The quantity of sweetpotatoes sold and the value of sales were computed using the same procedure used for Irish potatoes.

Sugarcane.—The 1959 agriculture questionnaire included a question on the acreage and production of sugarcane for sirup for the following six States: South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The acreage of sugarcane for sirup was reported in acres and tenths of an acre. For Louisiana, in 1959 as in 1954, two additional questions on sugarcane were provided on the questionnaire: Sugarcane for sugar and sugarcane for seed.

In Hawaii, the principal sugarcane-producing State, questions were provided for the acreage and production of sugarcane for sugar. Although no separate question on sugarcane for sugar was asked for Florida, data are included for that State.

Popcorn.—A separate question for popcorn appeared on the agriculture questionnaire for only ten States—Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee. In all other States, information concerning popcorn was reported under the question in the space provided for "all other crops." Data were obtained for whole acres and production in pounds of ear corn harvested. In cases where small quantities of popcorn were harvested from fractions of acres, only the quantities harvested have been tabulated and included in this report. Therefore, the calculated yield per acre is too high in States where a considerable part of the popcorn production is from farms with a small quantity harvested.

Minor and Miscellaneous Crops.—The agriculture questionnaire provided space for reporting other field seed crops, other vegetables, and other miscellaneous crops.

Vegetables Harvested for Sale.—The agriculture questionnaire contained questions asking for the whole acres and tenths of acres for each vegetable crop harvested for sale in 1959. Separate questions were provided for the most important vegetables for each State and space was provided for writing in the names and acres of other vegetables harvested for sale. Vegetables grown for human consumption; for sale on the fresh market; and for sale to canners, freezers, dehydrators, or other processors were to be reported. Enumerators were required to include vegetables sold from home gardens and all vegetables grown under contract.

The entire acreage of each vegetable crop harvested was to be reported. For example, if two plantings of the same crop were

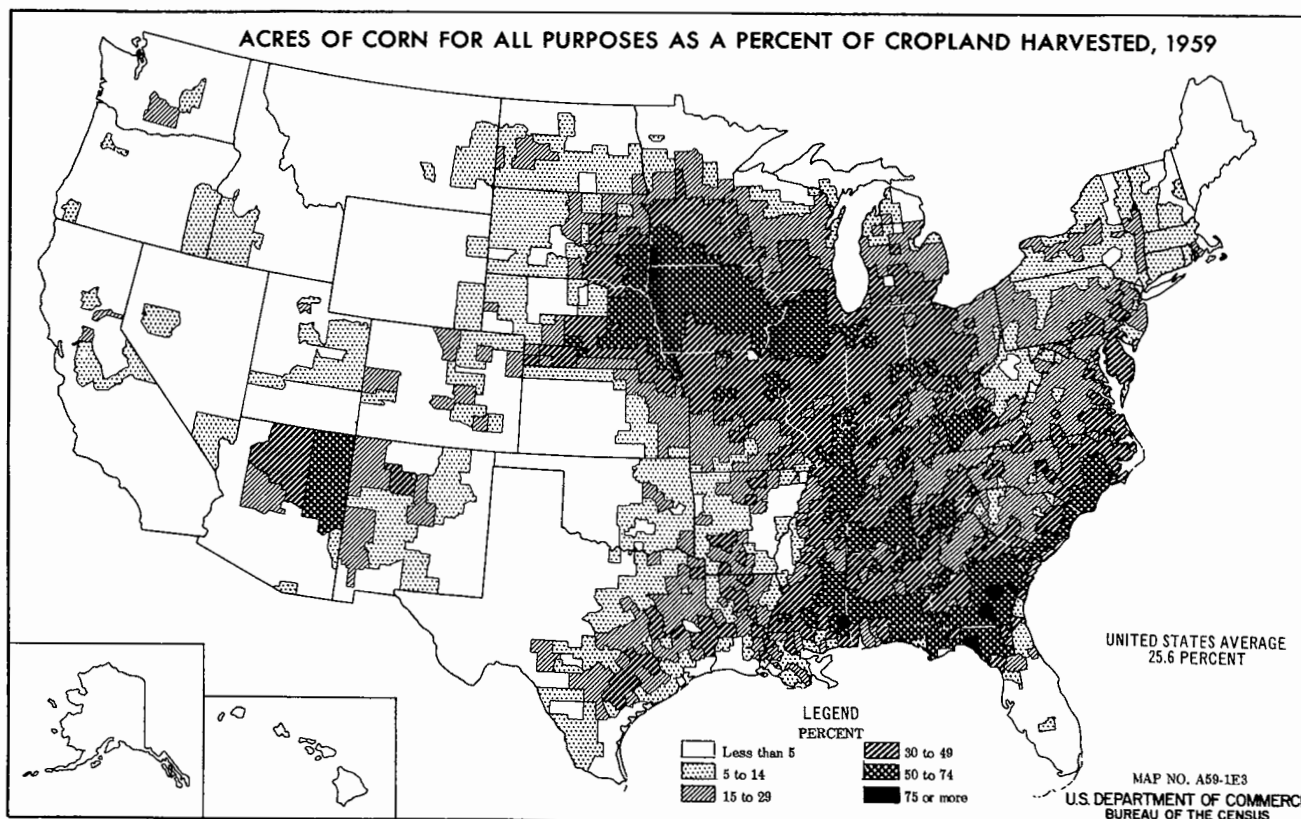
harvested from a 3-acre field during 1959, the enumerator was instructed to report six acres as harvested. Likewise, if the same land was used for one or more vegetable crops followed by a field crop, the land was to be reported for both the vegetable crop and the field crop.

The value of vegetables sold was obtained for all the vegetables harvested for sale for each farm, but not for each vegetable crop harvested. In Alaska and Hawaii, the value of sales for each vegetable crop was enumerated.

Acreage and Production of Principal Crops.—In 1959, more than 308 million acres of field crops other than vegetables, small fruits and berries, and fruit and nut crops were reported as harvested. The total value of all field crops harvested was \$16.1 billion. Field crops accounted for 94 percent of the value of all crops harvested in 1959. However, only 19 field crops accounted for as much as one-half of 1 percent of the total value of all field crops harvested and value of production of these 19 field crops accounted for 97 percent of the value of all field crops harvested in 1959. The acreage of these 19 field crops represented 86 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested in 1959.

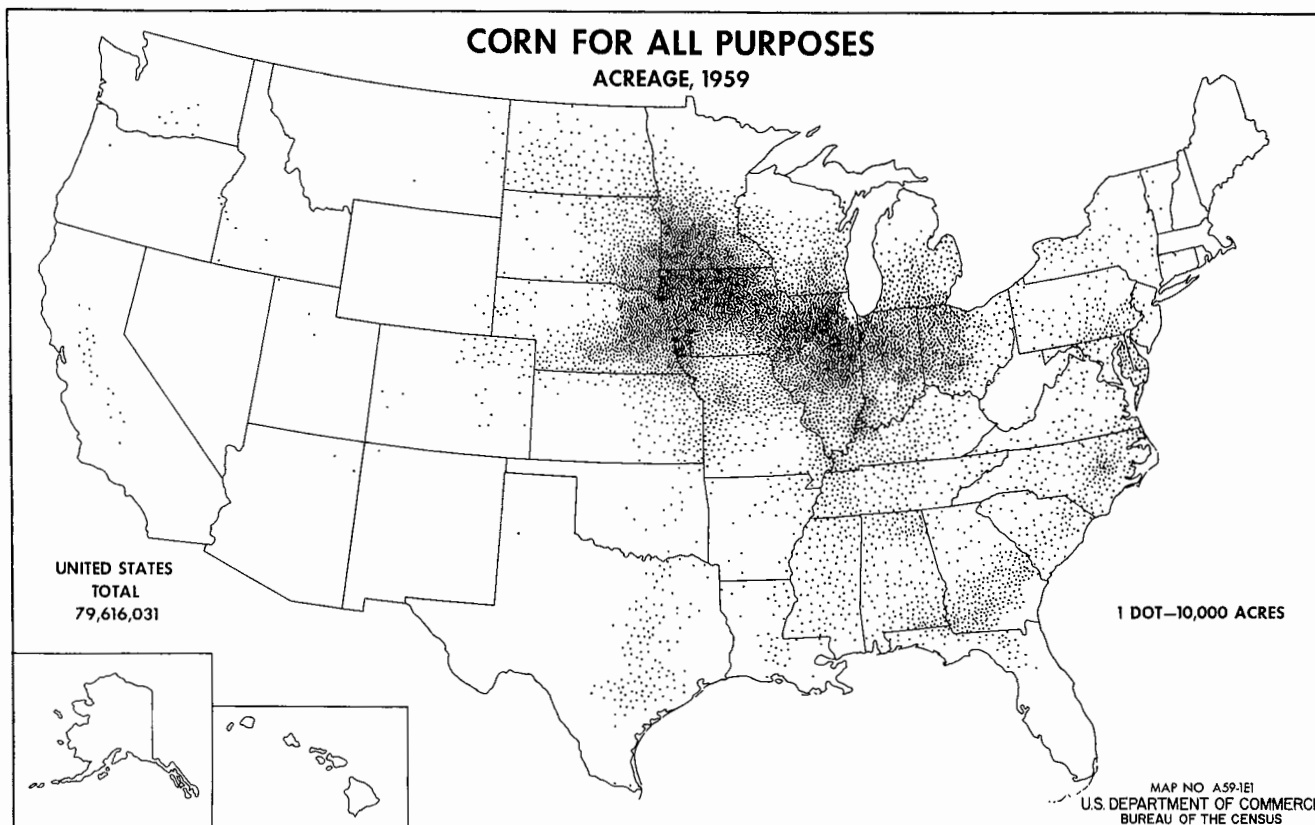
VALUE OF PRODUCTION FOR PRINCIPAL FIELD CROPS: 1959

Item	Percent of all farms	Acres harvested as a percent of cropland harvested	Total value of production		
			Total (millions of dollars)	Percent of value of all field crops harvested	Average per farm reporting (dollars)
All field crops.....	NA	98.9	16,084	100.0	NA
Corn for all purposes.....	57.8	25.6	4,384	27.3	2,045
Cotton.....	13.7	4.7	2,343	14.6	4,598
Wheat.....	25.1	15.9	1,872	11.6	2,010
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures cut for hay.....	26.2	8.4	1,270	7.9	1,309
Soybeans for all purposes.....	15.6	7.3	1,036	6.4	1,791
Tobacco.....	11.2	0.4	948	5.9	2,274
Oats for grain.....	27.7	8.5	639	4.0	622
Sorghums for all purposes.....	8.9	5.8	577	3.6	1,756
Irish potatoes.....	18.5	0.4	480	3.0	700
Clover, timothy, and mixtures of clover and grasses cut for hay.....	17.3	4.5	437	2.7	682
Barley.....	7.8	4.6	343	2.1	1,183
Rice.....	0.3	0.5	249	1.6	23,876
Sugar beets for sugar.....	0.6	0.3	187	1.2	7,890
Wild hay.....	5.1	3.4	144	0.9	765
Peanuts for all purposes.....	2.8	0.5	141	0.9	1,351
Dry field and seed beans.....	0.9	0.5	138	0.9	3,978
Sugarcane for sugar.....	0.1	0.1	121	0.8	39,410
Other hay.....	6.7	1.6	119	0.7	476
Lespedeza hay.....	6.7	1.0	80	0.5	324



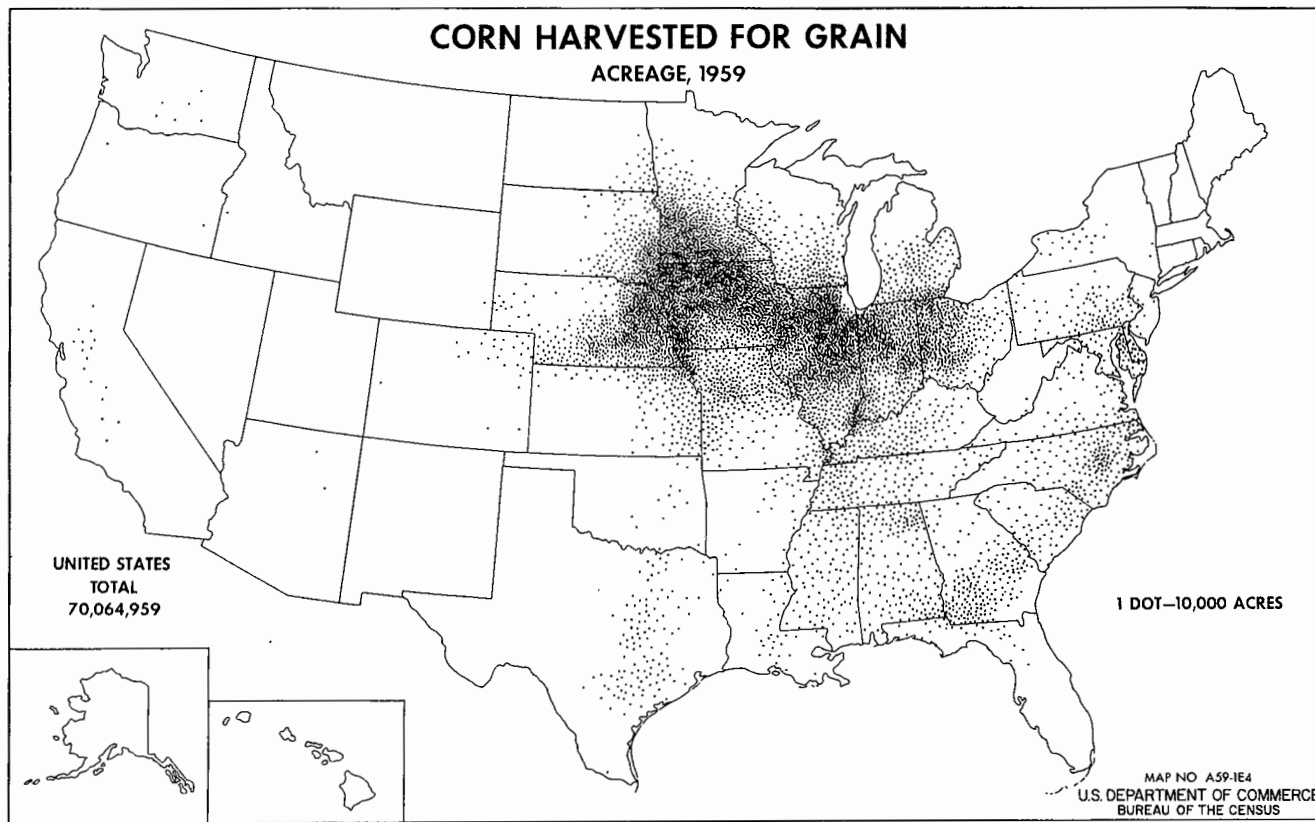
Corn is the most important crop grown in the United States. It was grown in 1959 on almost three-fifths of all farms; its acreage was equivalent to more than one-fourth of the acreage of land from which crops were harvested. Corn production is concentrated in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. More than

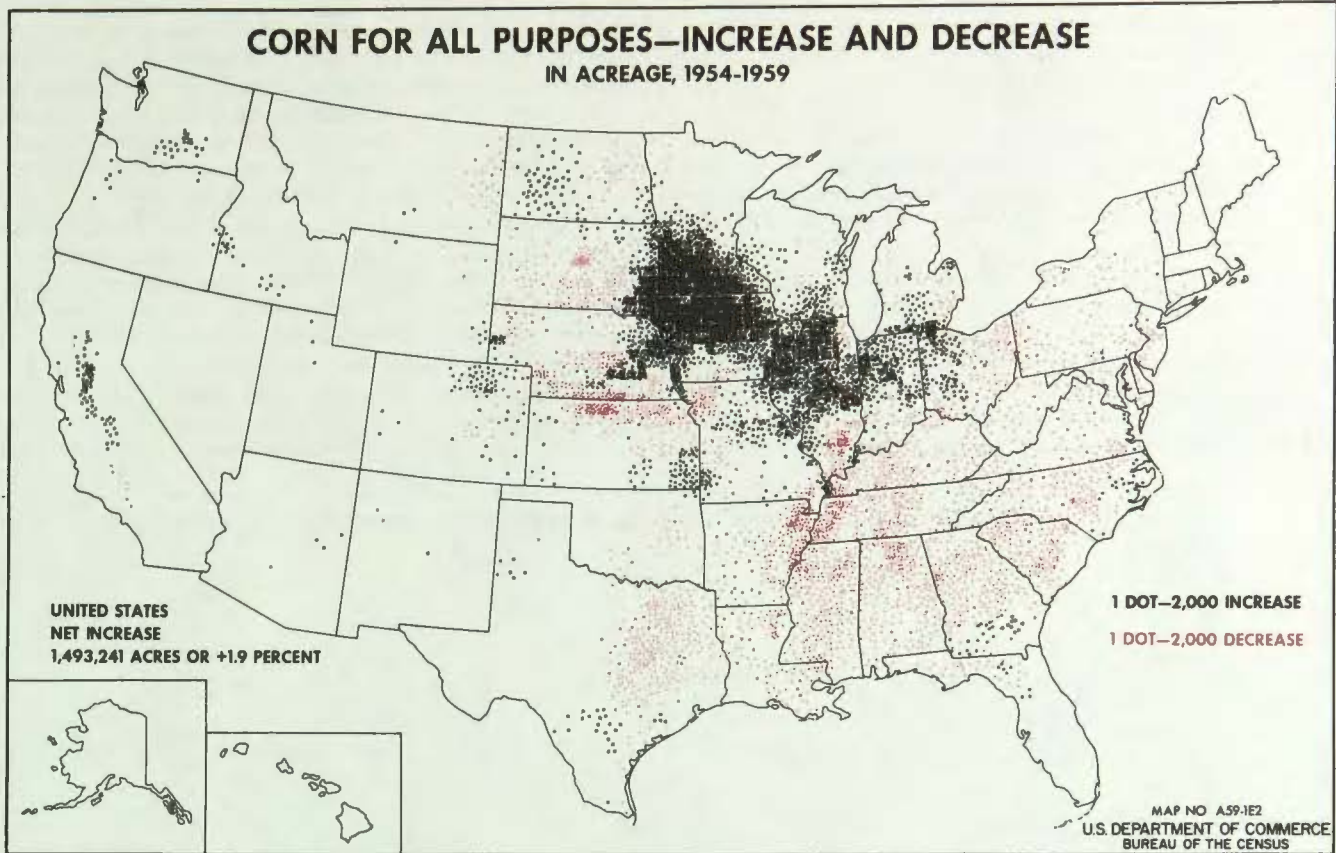
70 percent of the corn acreage and nearly 80 percent of the corn produced in 1959 was concentrated in the nine States of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Missouri, and South Dakota.



The 79.6 million acres of corn harvested in 1959 represent a 2 percent increase above the acreage harvested in 1954. Favorable weather conditions, the removal of government acreage al-

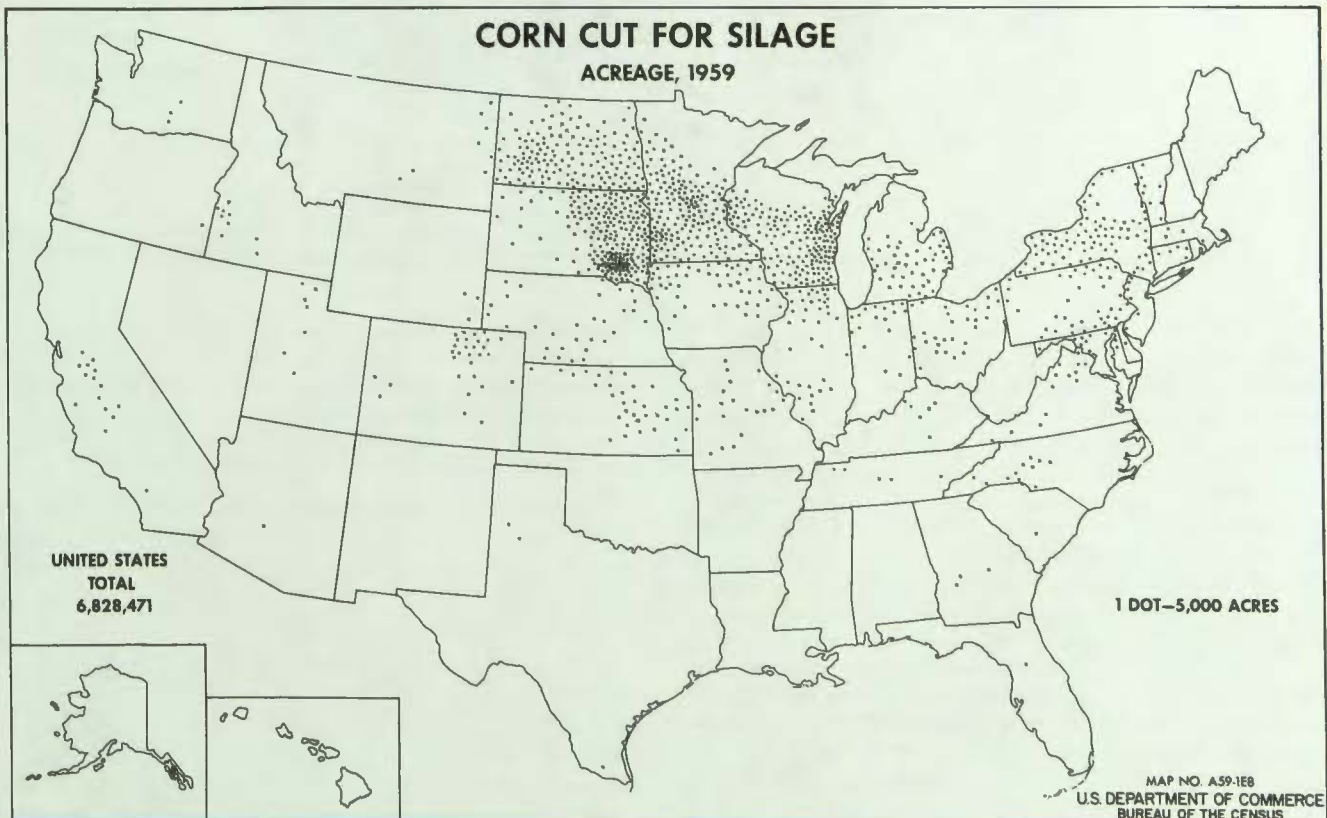
lotments in commercial producing areas, and an increase in government support prices were the principal reasons for the increase in acreage.





The production of corn for grain, 3.7 billion bushels, was the largest reported in any census and represents a 41 percent increase over that of 1954. In 1959, favorable weather conditions, increased use of commercial fertilizer and hybrid seed, and improvement in tillage and harvesting methods resulted in the

highest yield ever recorded by a census (52.8 bushels per acre). The 6.8 million acres of corn cut for silage in 1959 was down only slightly from the census record of 6.9 million acres reported in 1954.



Significant changes have occurred in the number of farms which harvested corn, the acreage harvested, and the production of corn for grain during the last 30 years. Corn was grown on less than half as many farms in 1959 as in 1929. More than half of the decrease in the number of farms growing corn occurred during the last 10 years. Of the 1.3 million decrease from 1949 to 1959 in the number of farms growing corn, more than three-fifths was accounted for by the decrease in the number of farms growing 10 acres or less.

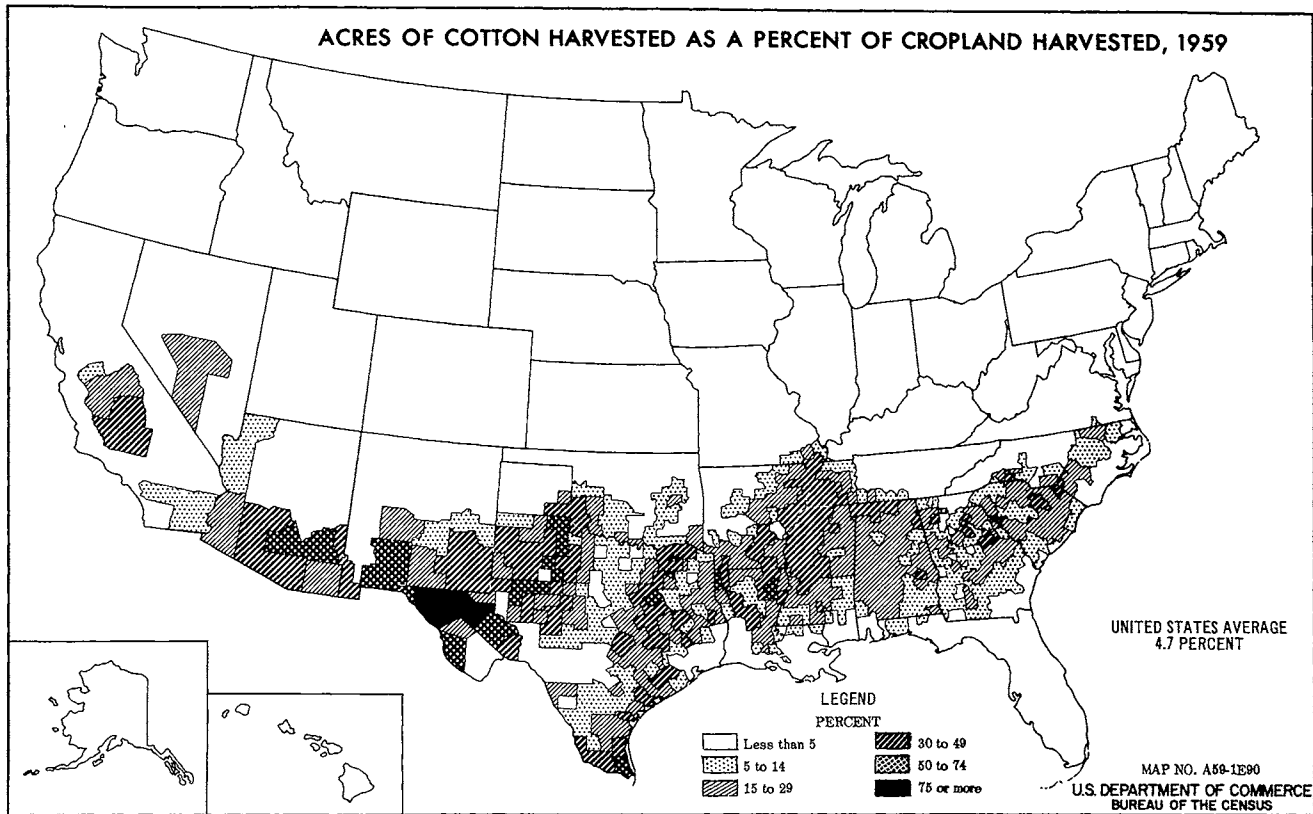
The 79.6 million acres of corn harvested for all purposes in 1959 were 40.8 percent less than the 97.7 million acres harvested in 1929.

Approximately 90 percent of the corn acreage is harvested for grain. The production of corn for grain for the two census years 1959 and 1954, was 91 percent greater than for the two census years 1929 and 1934, although the 1959 and 1954 acreage was less

than the 1929 and 1934 acreage. The weighted average yield per acre for the two census years 1954 and 1959, was 46.1 bushels compared with the weighted average of 22.7 bushels per acre for 1929 and 1934. The increased use of hybrid seed, fertilizers, improved tillage and harvesting equipment, and the discontinuance of corn production on small farms and less productive lands account for the significant increase in corn yield.

On the basis of value, cotton is the second most important crop harvested in the United States. While cotton accounts for almost 15 percent of the value of all field crops harvested, the acreage of cotton harvested in 1959 represented less than 5 percent of the acreage of land from which crops were harvested.

Cotton was harvested from 14.6 million acres in 1959, the smallest acreage reported for any census since 1879, and 4.2 million below the acreage harvested in 1954. However, the 1959 crop of 14 million bales was 8 percent above the production of 1954. The



average yield of 0.95 bale per acre was the highest ever recorded for any census. This record high yield per acre was primarily due to better production practices, the diversion of land under governmental control programs, and the shift of cotton acreage from nonirrigated to irrigated areas.

All of the cotton is grown in the southern and western part of the United States. Approximately 22 percent of the acreage is irrigated; however, the production on irrigated land accounts for approximately 38 percent of the total.

Large-scale changes have occurred in the number of farms reporting cotton, acreage, and average yield per acre during the last 30 years. In 1929, cotton was grown on almost 2 million farms; in 1959, cotton was reported on only 509,000 farms. In 1929, cotton was harvested from 43.2 million acres; in 1959, 14.6 million acres were harvested. Notwithstanding the large reduction in acreage, the production of cotton in 1959 was only 4.5 percent less than in 1929. The increased use of fertilizers and

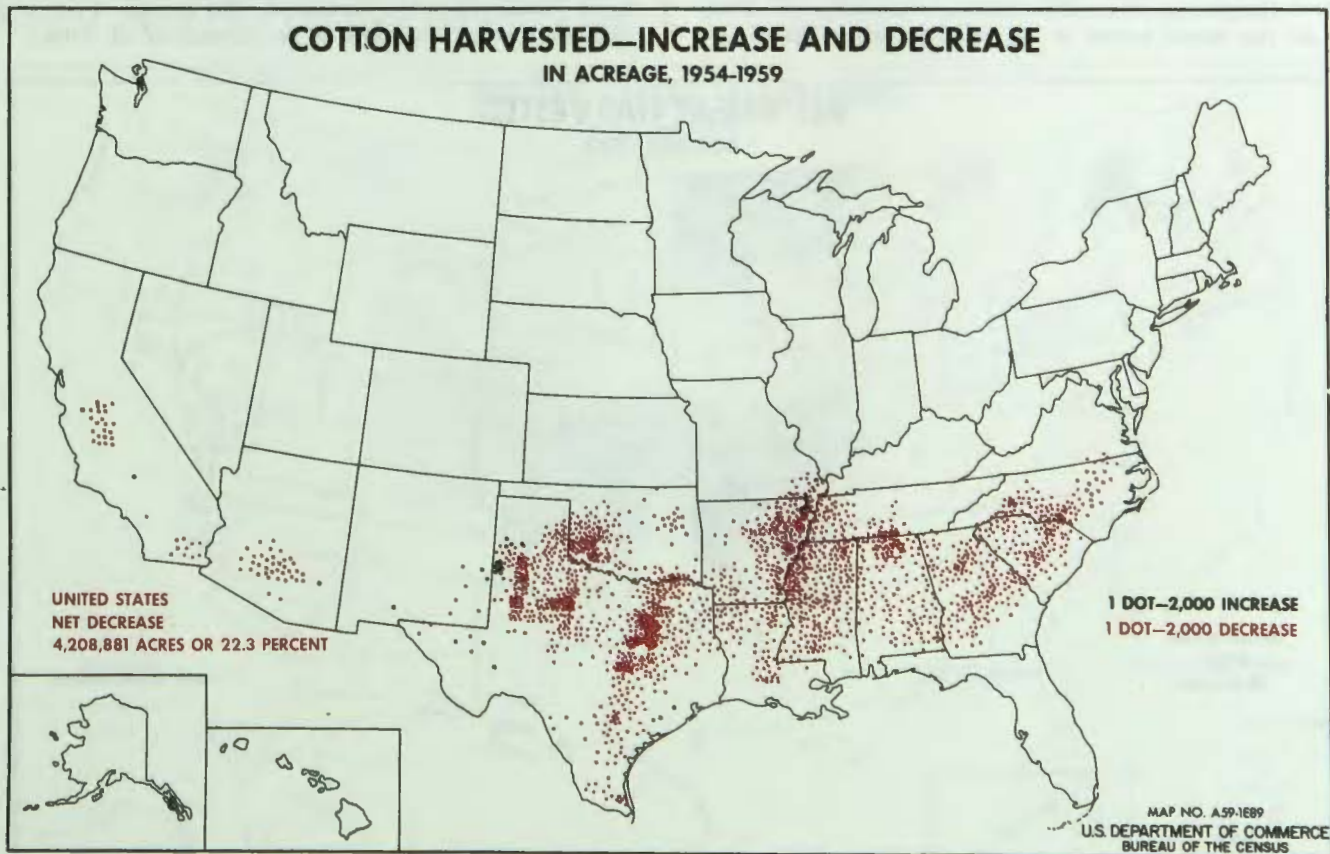
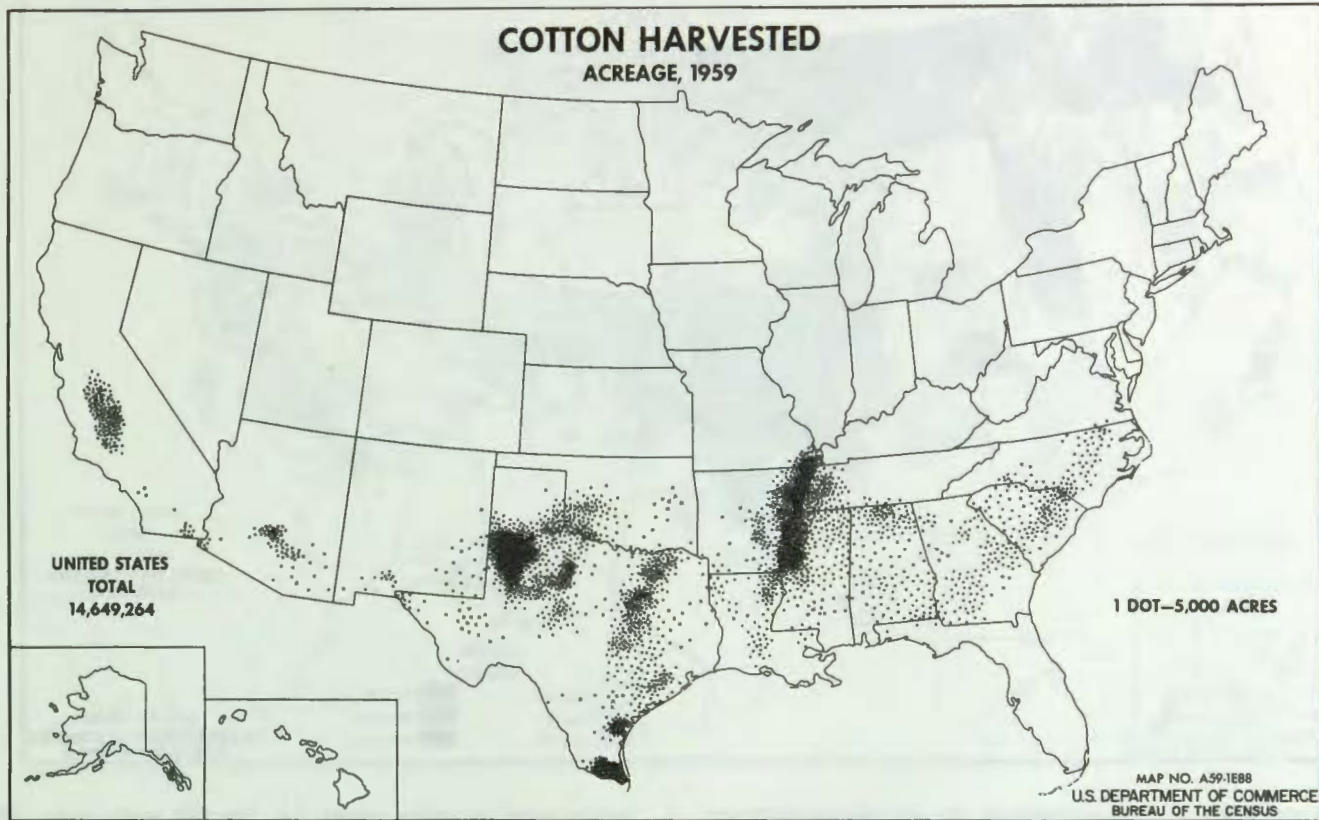
insecticides, the use of improved seed, improved cultural and harvesting practices, and the shift of cotton production from nonirrigated to irrigated lands have contributed greatly to the maintenance of cotton production at a level of 12 to 15 million bales while the cotton acreage has declined from more than 43 million to less than 15 million acres.

COTTON—FARMS REPORTING BY ACRES HARVESTED: 1959 AND 1949

Farms with acres harvested of—	Farms reporting	
	1959	1949
Total.....	508, 502	1, 110, 876
Under 5 acres.....	98, 138	172, 364
5 to 24 acres.....	289, 668	718, 208
25 to 49 acres.....	54, 446	116, 730
50 to 99 acres.....	34, 132	56, 677
100 to 199 acres.....	21, 191	29, 743
200 acres and over.....	10, 927	17, 154

From 1949 to 1959 the number of farms reporting cotton harvested declined more than one-half. Most of the decline was in farms reporting less than 25 acres.

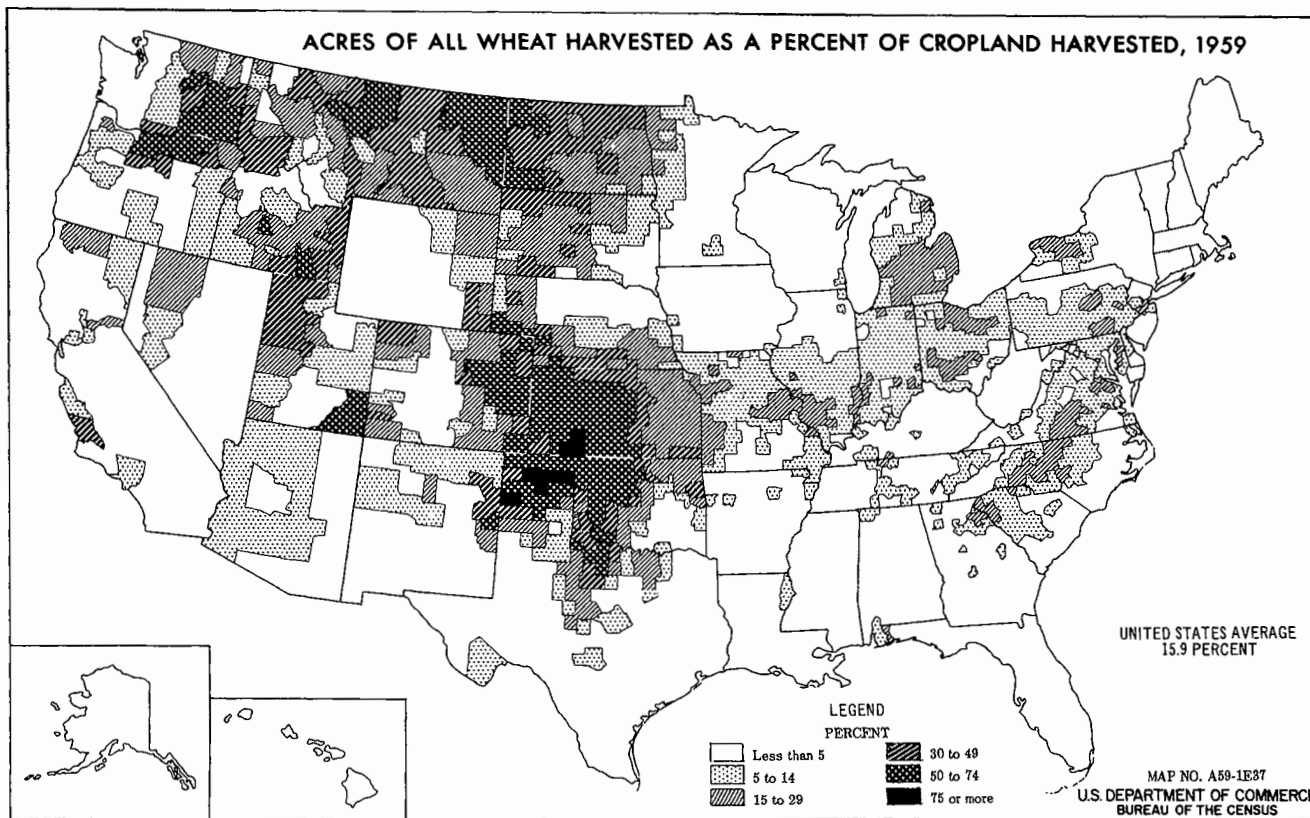
More than half of the cotton in 1959 was produced on the 28,648 farms which harvested 100 or more bales. Approximately one-fifth of the cotton was harvested on farms producing 500 or more bales.



GENERAL REPORT

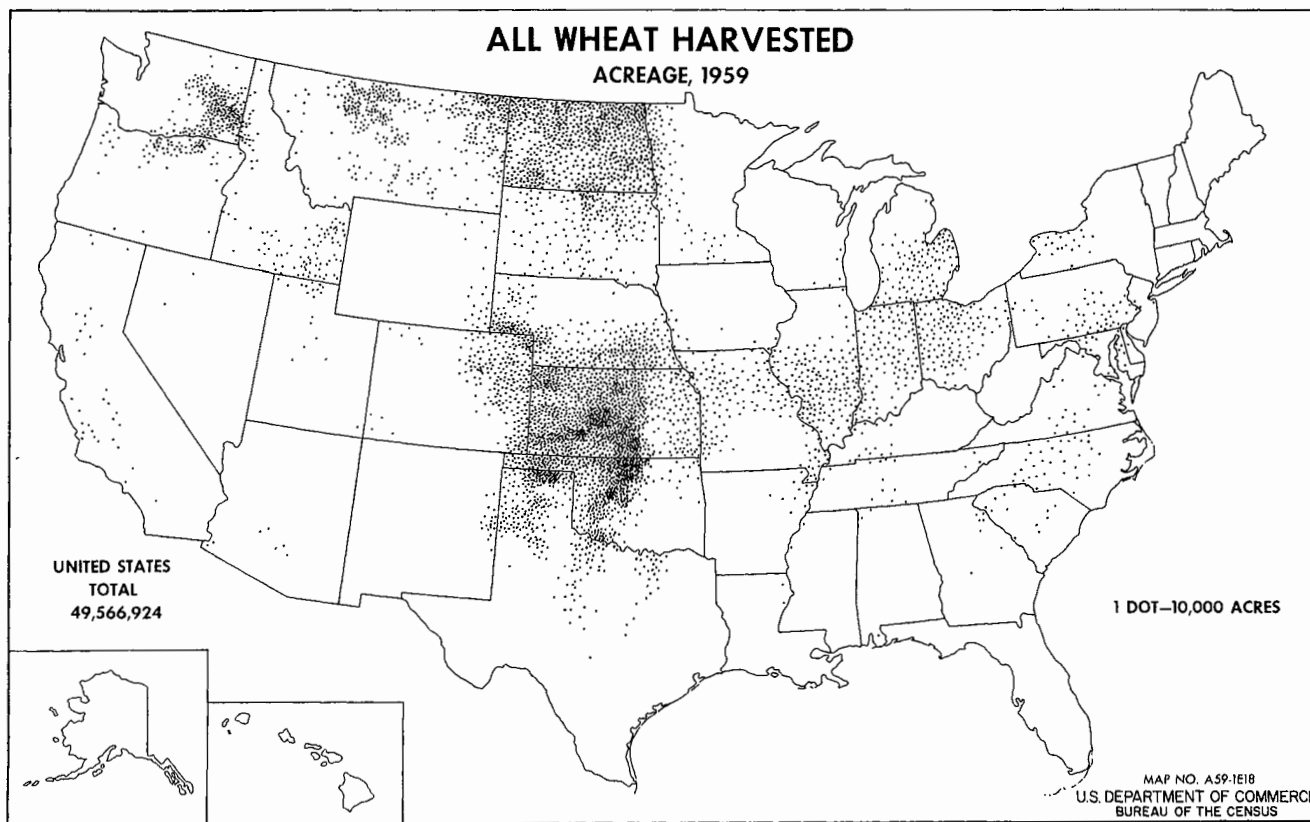
The value of wheat harvested in 1959 amounted to about one-eighth of the value of all field crops harvested and its acreage

was equal to approximately one-sixth of the acreage of land from which crops were harvested.



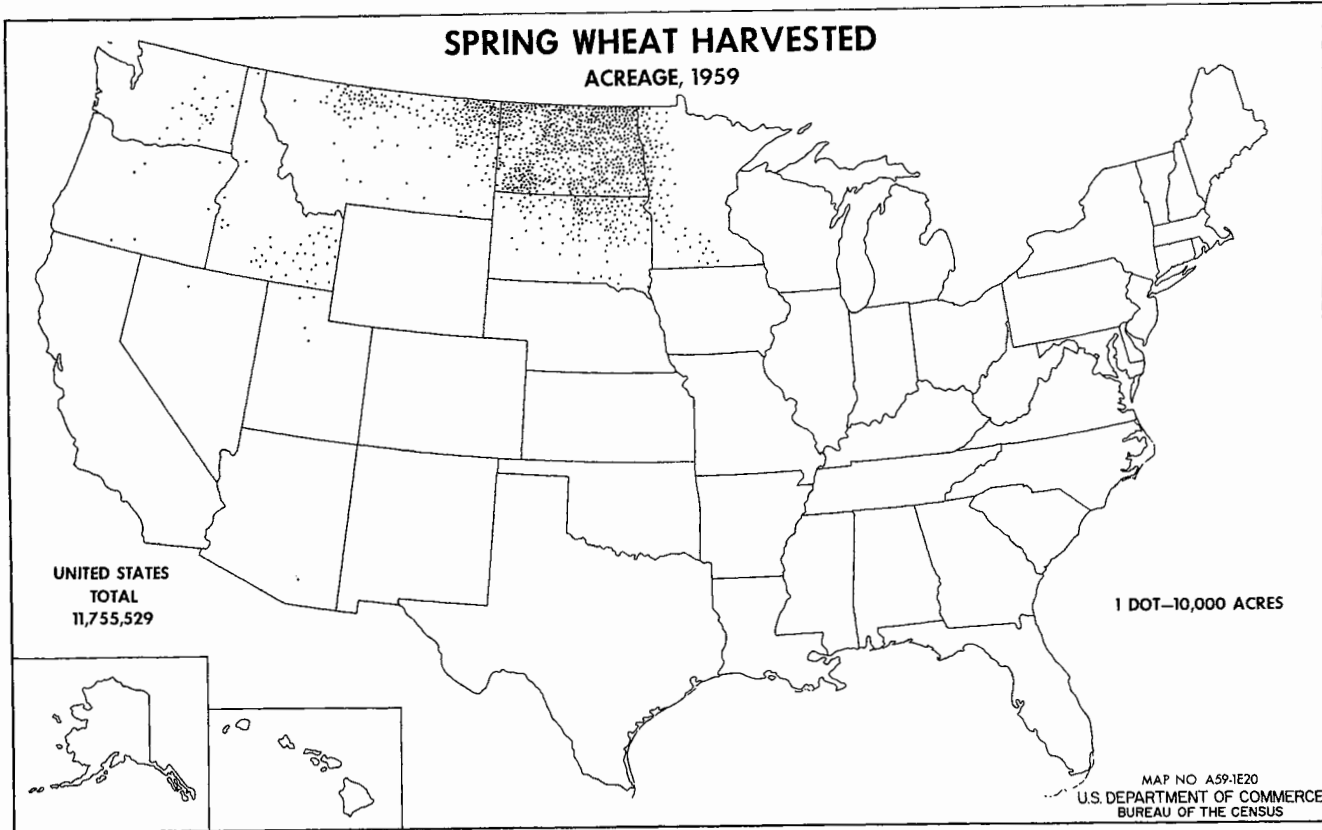
The wheat acreage is concentrated in the central and Northern Great Plains and in the Pacific Northwest, where rainfall is low and where there is considerable fluctuation in annual yield. Practically all the wheat grown in the southern Great Plains and

farther east is winter wheat, i.e., the fall sown type. Spring wheat, both durum and other spring, is produced in the northern Great Plains and in the Northwest. The acreage of spring wheat represents about one-fourth of the acreage of all wheat.



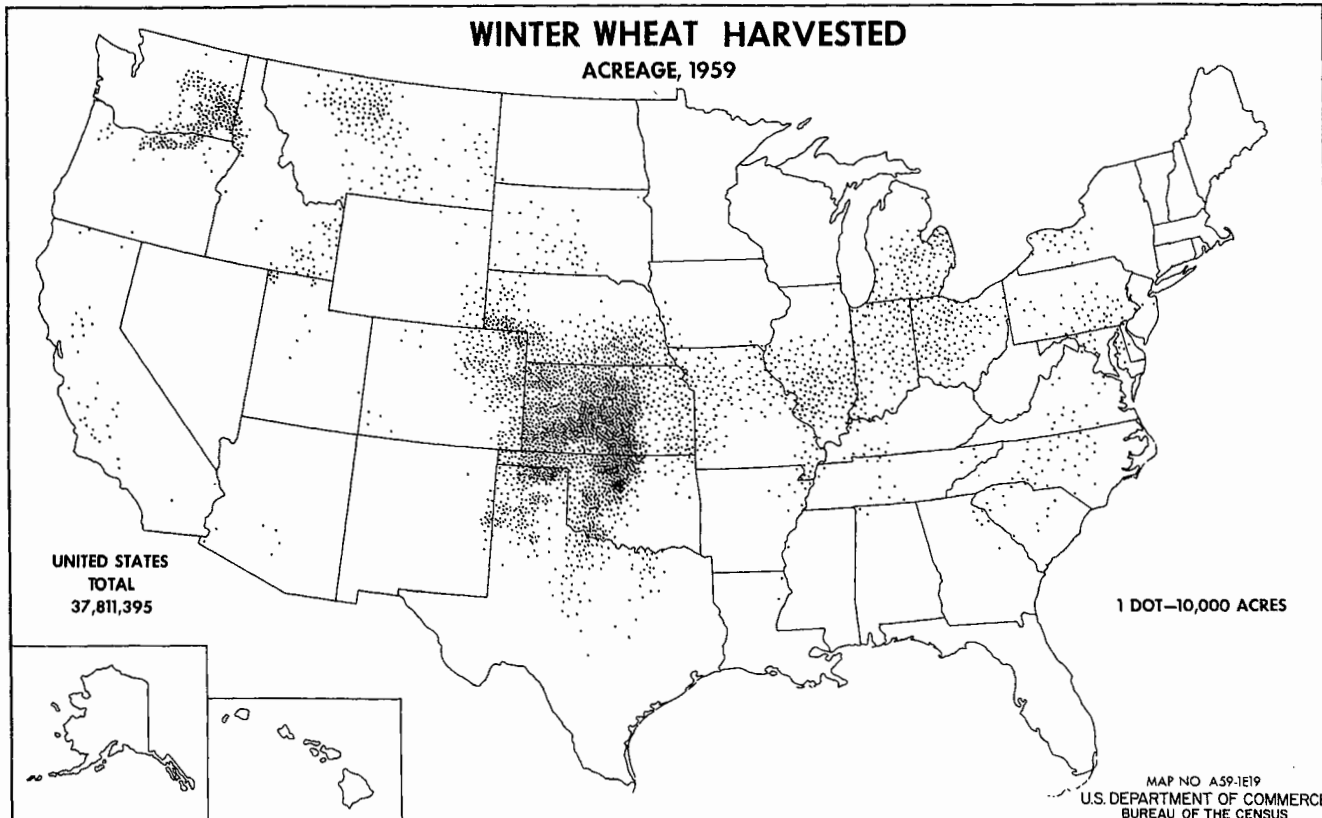
Wheat acreage in 1959 was 21.6 million acres less than in 1949, and 12.4 million acres less than in 1929. The reduction in acreage

has resulted largely from the governmental acreage control program.



Winter, spring, and durum wheat were grown on more than 900,000 farms. Although about three out of five farms harvested fewer than 25 acres of wheat, a significant part of the acreage

was on the farms that had 300 acres or more and on the 12,598 farms that harvested 10,000 or more bushels.

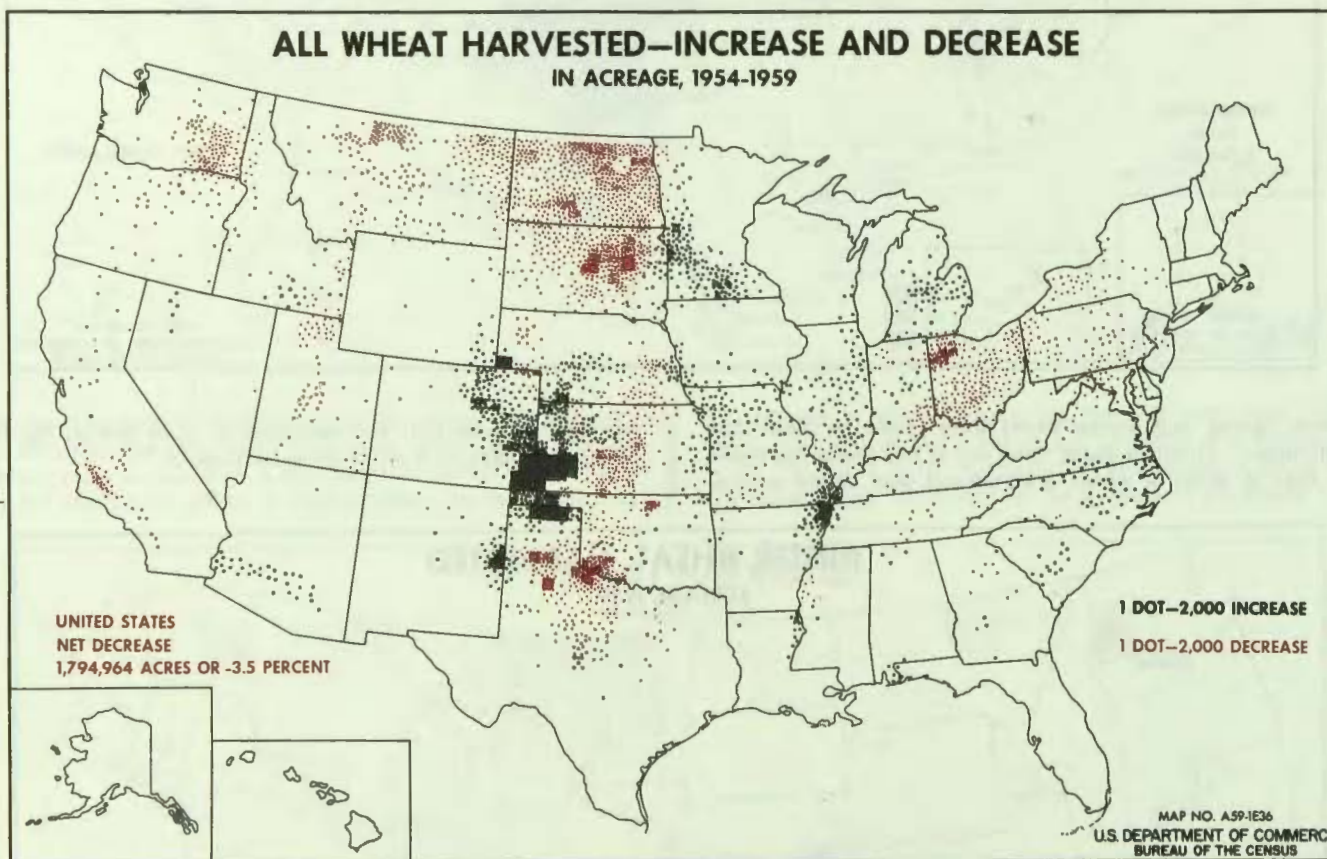


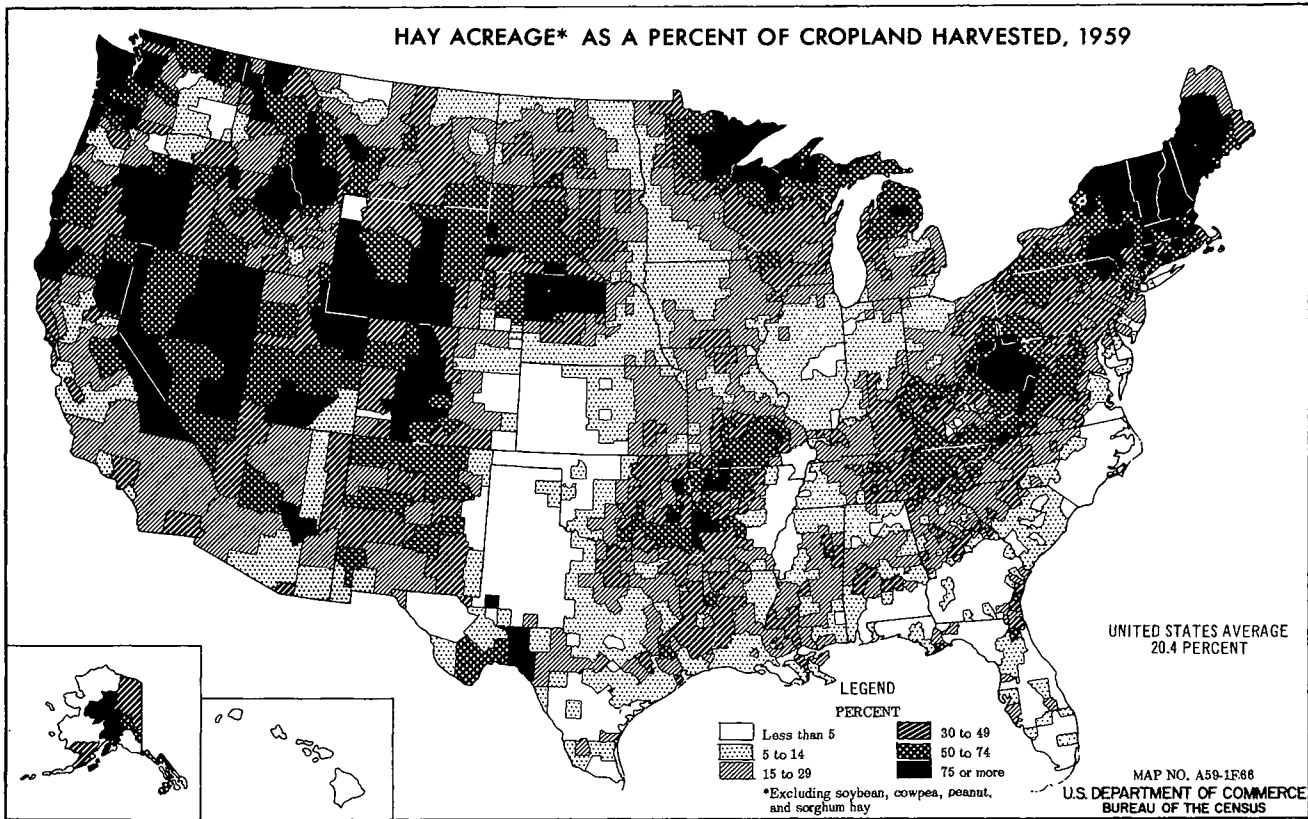
WINTER, SPRING (OTHER THAN DURUM), AND DURUM WHEAT—
FARMS REPORTING BY ACRES HARVESTED AND BY BUSHELS HAR-
VESTED: 1959

Item	Number of farms reporting, 1959		
	Winter wheat	Spring wheat other than durum wheat	Durum wheat
Farms reporting, total	780,425	113,267	16,793
Farms reporting by acres harvested:			
Under 15 acres	327,335	23,741	2,088
16 to 24 acres	163,125	16,010	2,340
25 to 49 acres	133,513	18,587	4,444
50 to 199 acres	114,421	42,381	7,036
200 to 299 acres	19,019	7,288	578
300 to 499 acres	14,516	3,864	256
500 acres and over	8,496	1,396	51
Farms reporting by bushels harvested:			
Under 100 bushels	81,877	8,255	1,388
100 to 499 bushels	366,985	43,698	5,698
500 to 999 bushels	148,975	20,515	3,524
1,000 to 4,999 bushels	148,717	36,344	5,688
5,000 to 9,999 bushels	22,112	3,783	428
10,000 bushels and over	11,759	772	67

Most of the wheat produced is sold. In 1959, 93.3 percent of the winter wheat, 89.9 percent of the durum wheat, and 89.8 percent of spring wheat, other than durum, was sold.

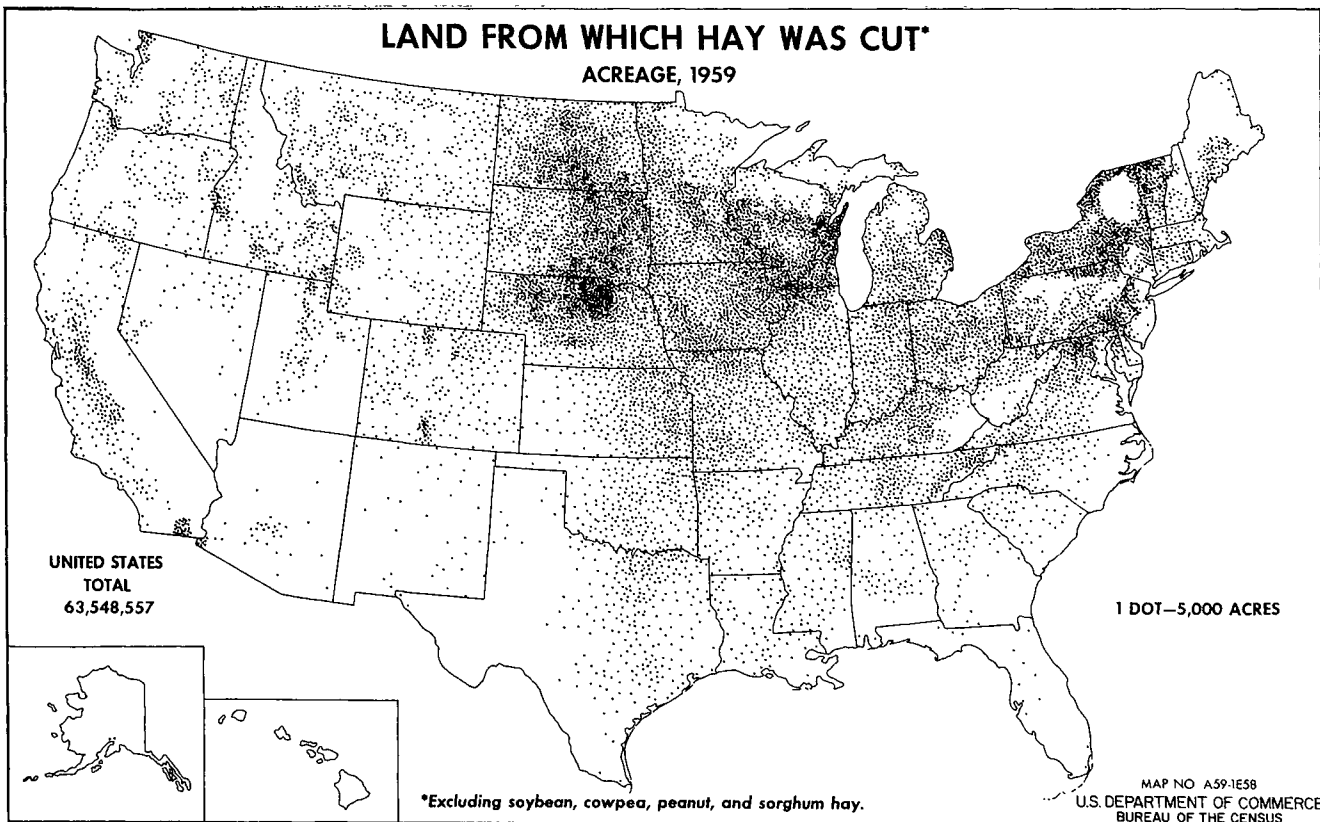
Although the 49.6 million acres of wheat harvested in 1959 was the smallest acreage harvested in any census since 1934, the production of 1.1 billion bushels of wheat in the United States was the largest ever reported for any census. In fact, the production of wheat was 11.7 percent larger in 1959 than in 1919 from the record census acreage of 73.1 million acres harvested. The reduction of approximately 2 million acres from 1954 resulted not only from acreage allotments but also from some abandonment of acres as the result of drought in parts of the Northern Great Plains States, primarily South Dakota. The record yield of 21.3 bushels per acre was nearly four bushels greater than the previous census record established in 1944, and approximately equaled in 1954.

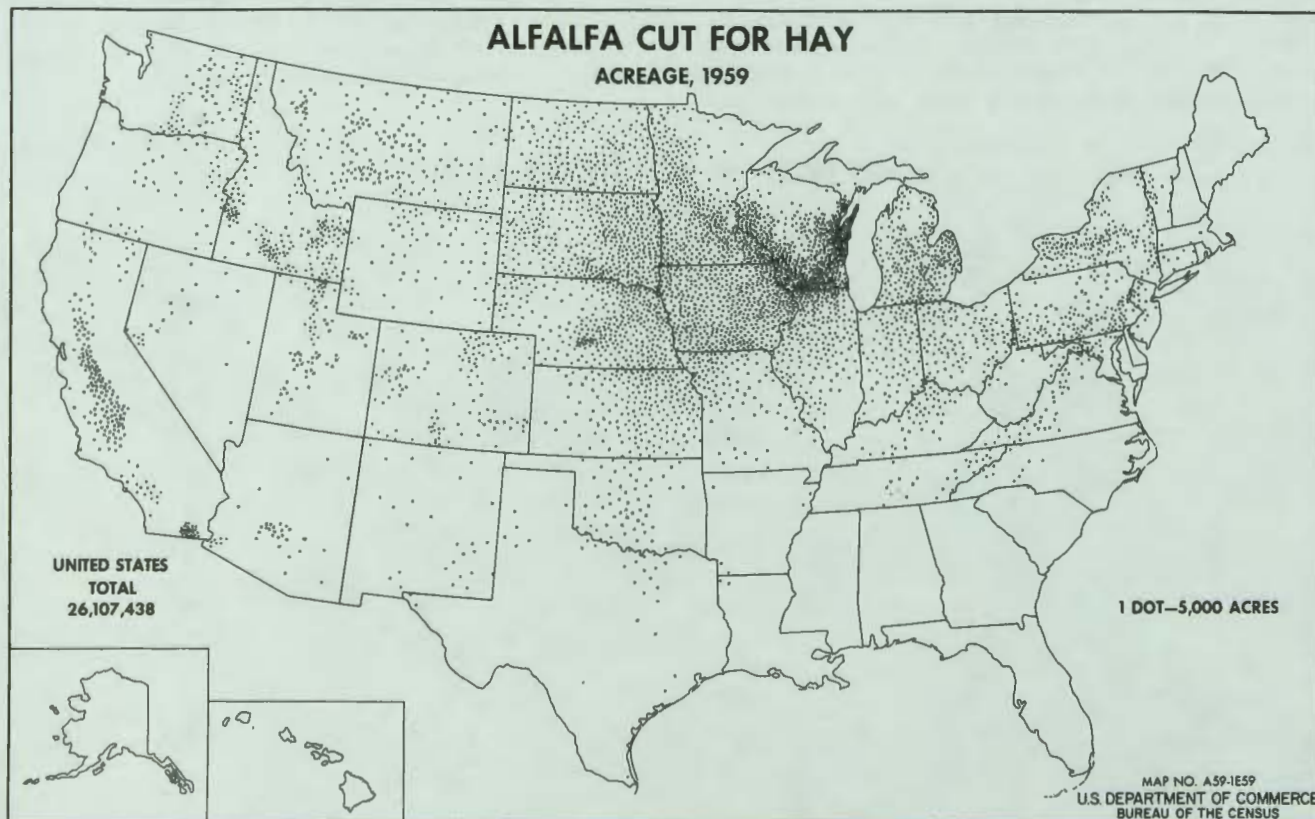
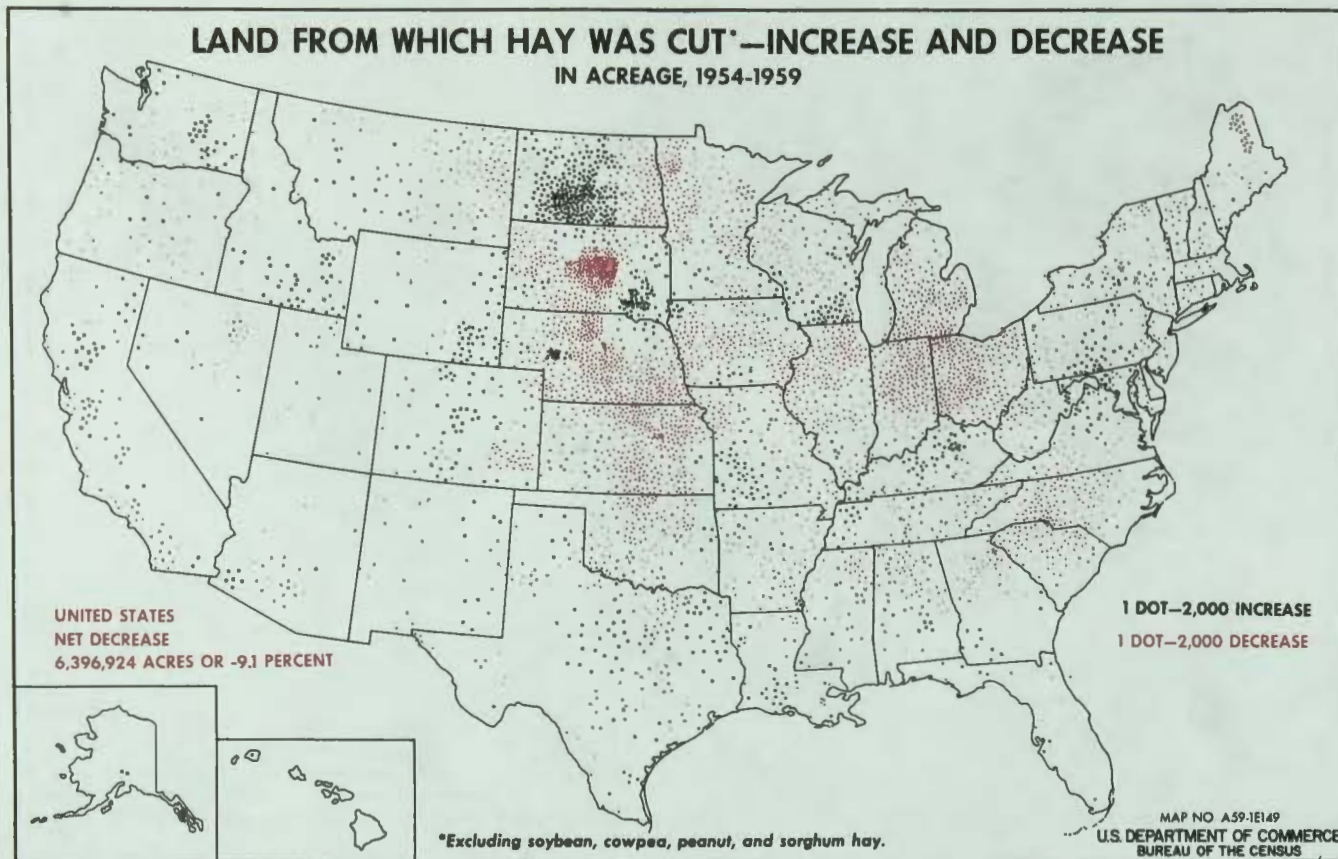




On the basis of acreage, hay (other than sorghum, peanut, soybean, and cowpea hay) is the second most important crop in the United States. The acreage in hay was equivalent to one-fifth of the area of land from which crops were harvested in 1959. In most counties in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and

the Mountain States, hay represented more than half of the acreage of cropland harvested. Most of the hay is used on the farm on which it is produced. In 1959, only 14.6 percent of the tons of hay and grass silage produced was sold.





Alfalfa is the most important hay crop and on the basis of value of production is the fourth most important crop in the United States. Alfalfa and other leguminous hay and leguminous hay mixed with other grasses comprise more than two-thirds of the acreage of hay harvested in the United States.

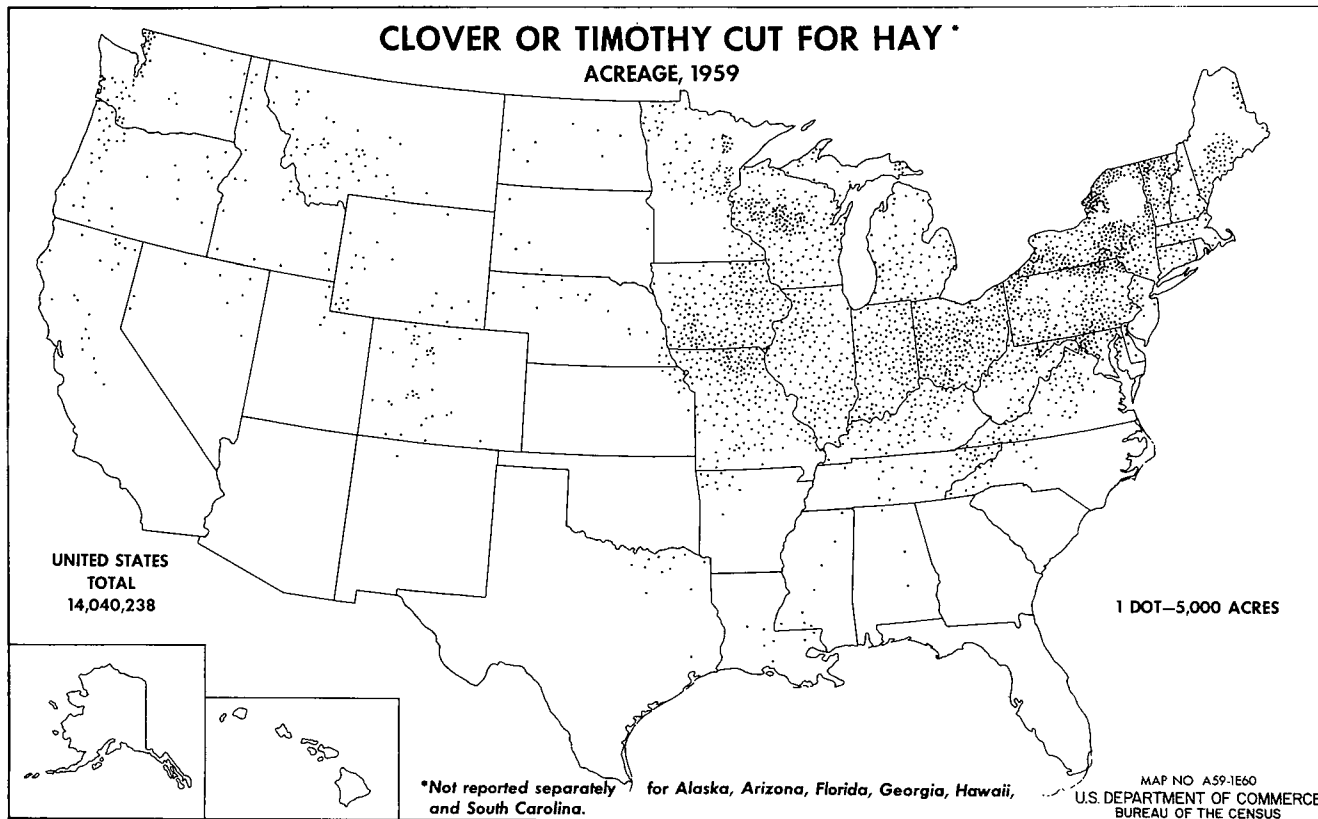
Alfalfa made up more than two-fifths of the acreage of all hay harvested in 1959. The proportion of the total acreage of hay represented by the total acreage of alfalfa was nearly twice as large in 1959 as in 1939. Alfalfa has accounted for an increasing part of total hay production since 1939. The data in the follow-

ing table indicate the change in the relative importance of various kinds of hay from 1939 to 1959.

Census year	Percent of land from which hay was cut represented by acreage of—					
	Alfalfa (and alfalfa mixtures) hay	Clover and/or timothy hay	Lespedeza hay	Small grain hay	Wild hay	Other hay
1959.....	41.1	22.1	4.9	5.6	16.5	9.8
1954.....	37.2	24.2	4.7	6.7	17.8	9.4
1949.....	25.0	28.3	10.6	4.6	21.8	9.7
1944.....	21.6	32.7	8.6	2.2	22.4	12.5
1939.....	21.8	29.4	8.0	6.3	20.3	14.2

The acreage of alfalfa is concentrated in irrigated areas in the West and in the North Central States.

Clover, timothy, and mixtures of clover and grasses cut for hay comprise the tenth most important field crop. The production of clover and timothy hay is concentrated in the Northern States and the five leading States in acreage in 1959 were New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Wisconsin. These States had approximately 43 percent of the total acreage harvested. 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.

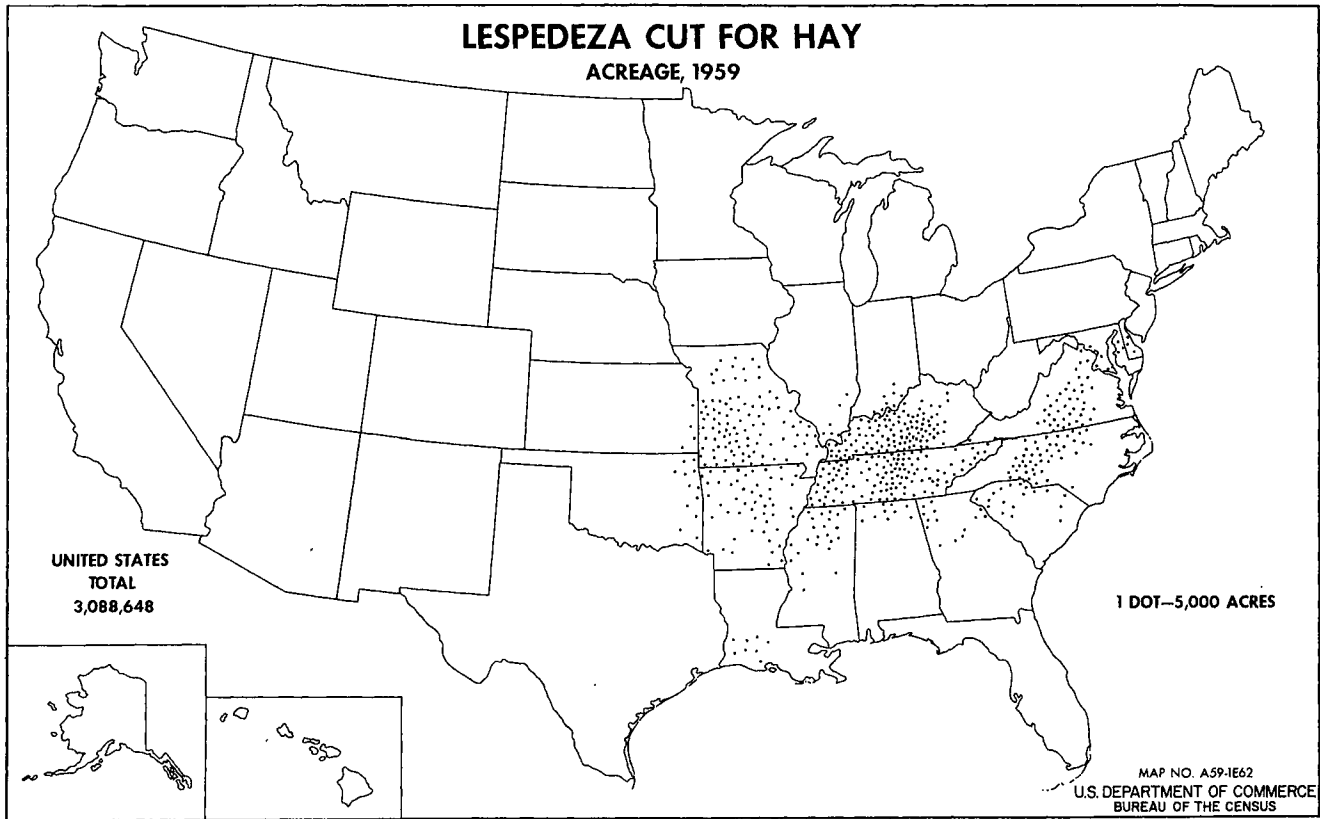
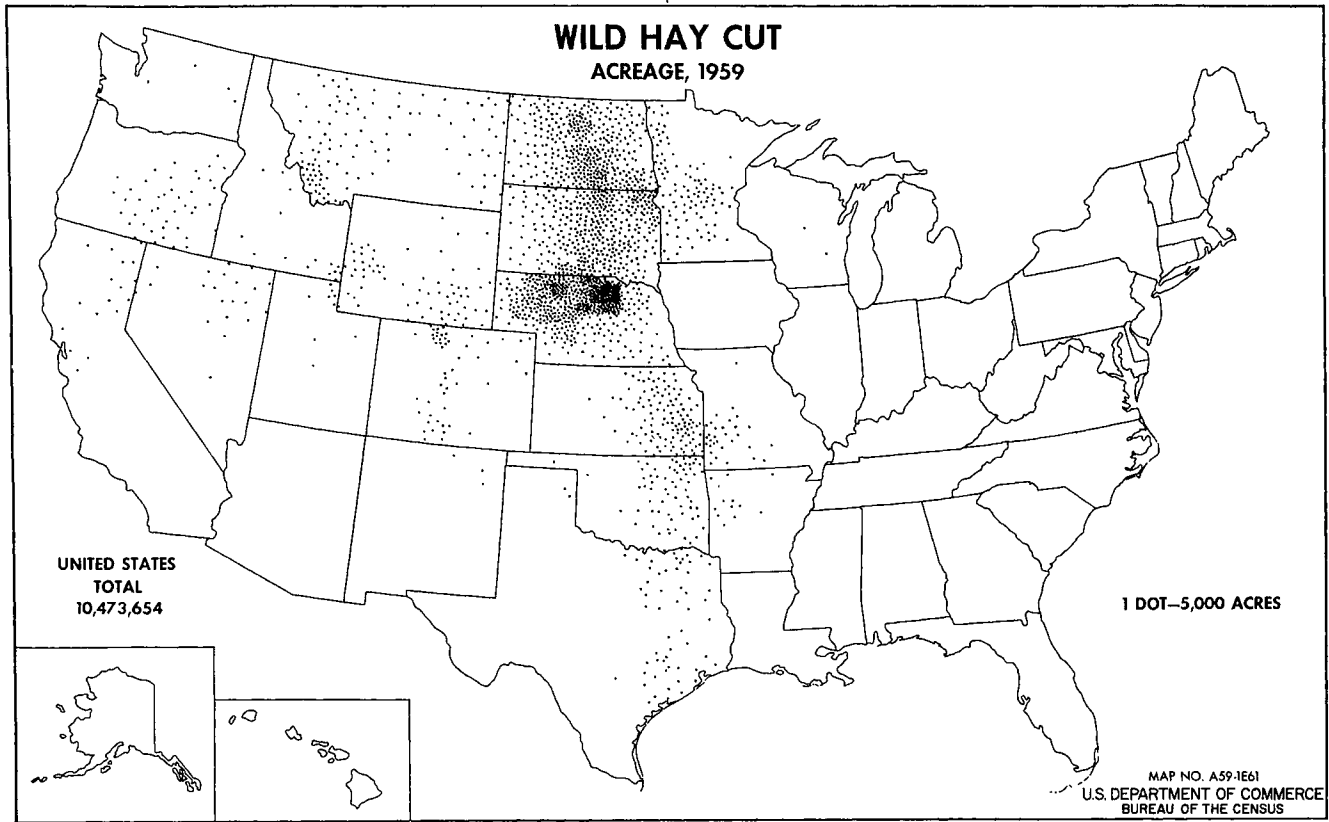


Wild hay was the fourteenth most important field crop and the third most important hay crop in 1959. The value of the wild hay produced was 0.9 percent of the value of all field crops, but its acreage represented 3.4 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested. Wild hay is important as a field crop 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

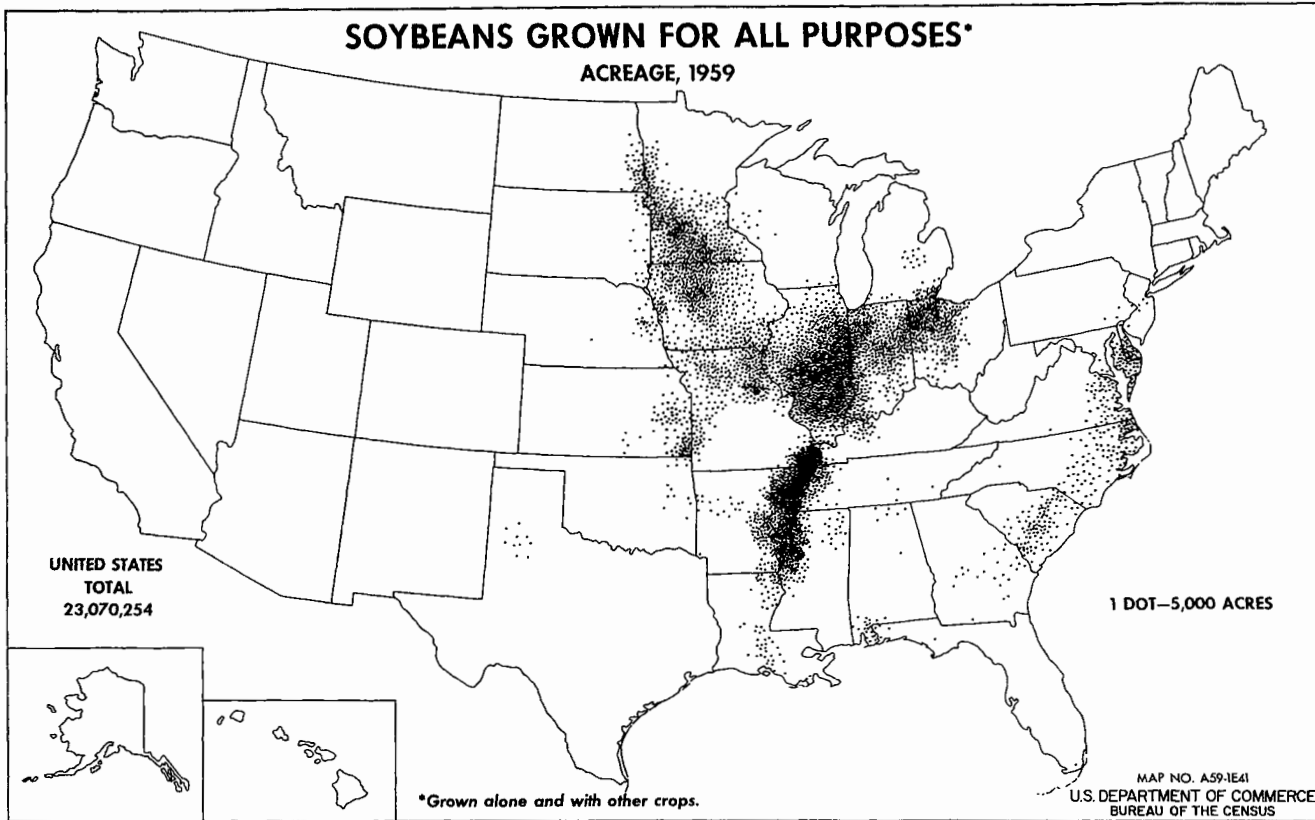
for 1959 were approximately 68 percent and 60 percent, respectively, of those for 1944.

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 1.6 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.



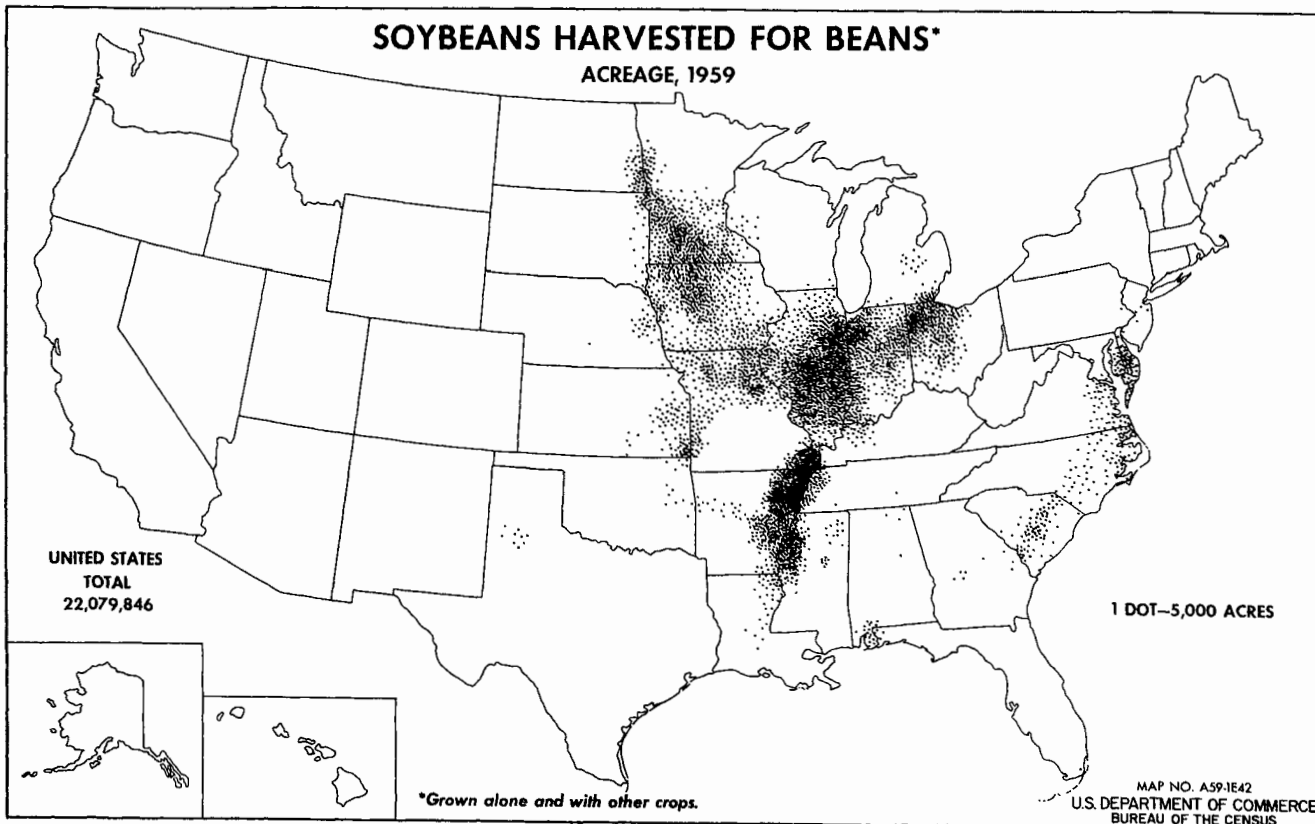
On the basis of the value of production, lespedeza hay was the nineteenth most important field crop in 1959. Lespedeza was limited to the northern part of the South and to the Northern States bordering on the South. Approximately 94 percent of the

lespedeza hay was used on the farms on which it was produced. In 1959, the number of farms reporting and the acreage of lespedeza for hay were less than half those for 1949.



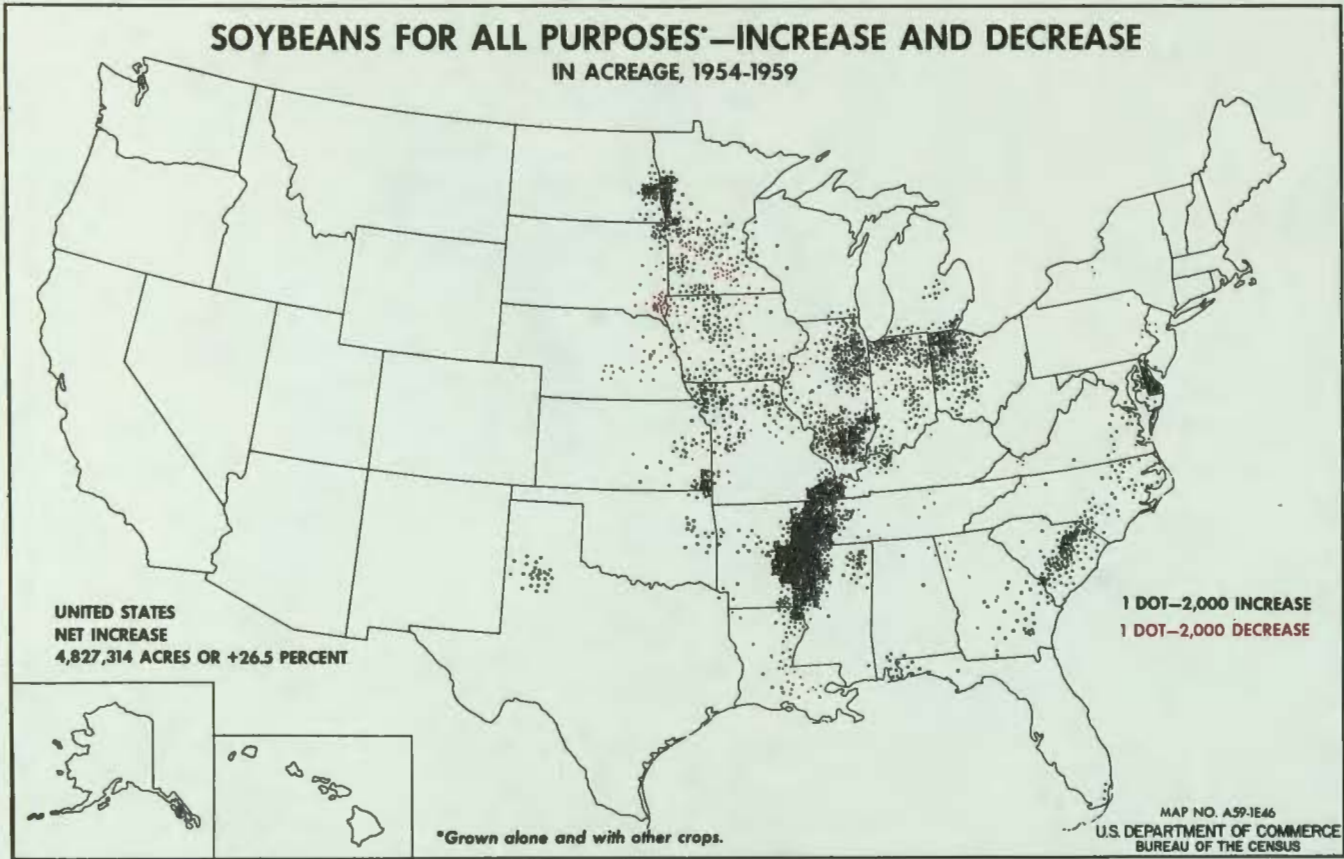
The fifth leading crop in 1959 on the basis of value of production was soybeans. The acreage in soybeans harvested for all purposes was equivalent to 7.3 percent of the area from which crops were harvested in 1959. Of the harvested acres of soybeans, 96.7 percent was harvested for beans, approximately 1.5 percent was cut for hay, and 1.8 percent was used for forage

(silage and grazing). The principal areas of production were Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, and the Upper Mississippi River Delta. More than 18.3 million acres, 83.1 percent of the total, were harvested for beans in a concentrated eight-State area. In 1959, more than 96 percent of the crop harvested for beans was sold.



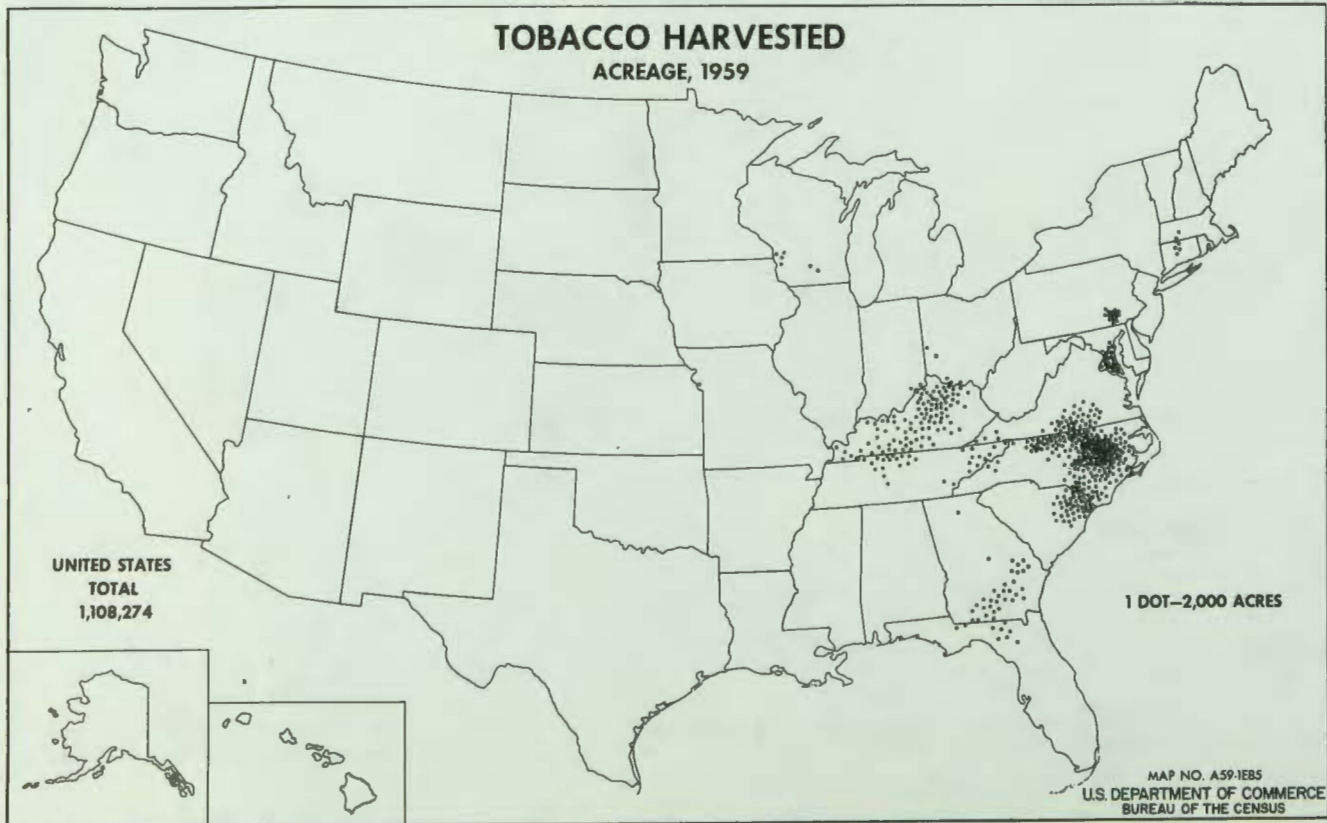
Soybeans is a relatively new crop. In 1909, the census showed less than 2,000 acres harvested. The 23 million acres harvested in 1959 were more than seven times the acreage harvested 30 years earlier, and were twice the acreage harvested in 1949. The

acreage harvested for all purposes in 1959 was 28 percent greater than the acreage harvested in 1954. Significant increases in acreage occurred between 1954 and 1959 in the principal soybean-producing areas and in the southeastern States.



Tobacco was the sixth leading field crop harvested in 1959. It accounted for 5.9 percent of the value of all field crops har-

vested. The acreage in tobacco was equivalent to only one-half of 1 percent of the acreage 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 was 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—	Total	Number of farms harvesting tobacco				
		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 acres.....	34,187	2,251	24,676	465	4,567	2,228
0.5 to 0.9 acres.....	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

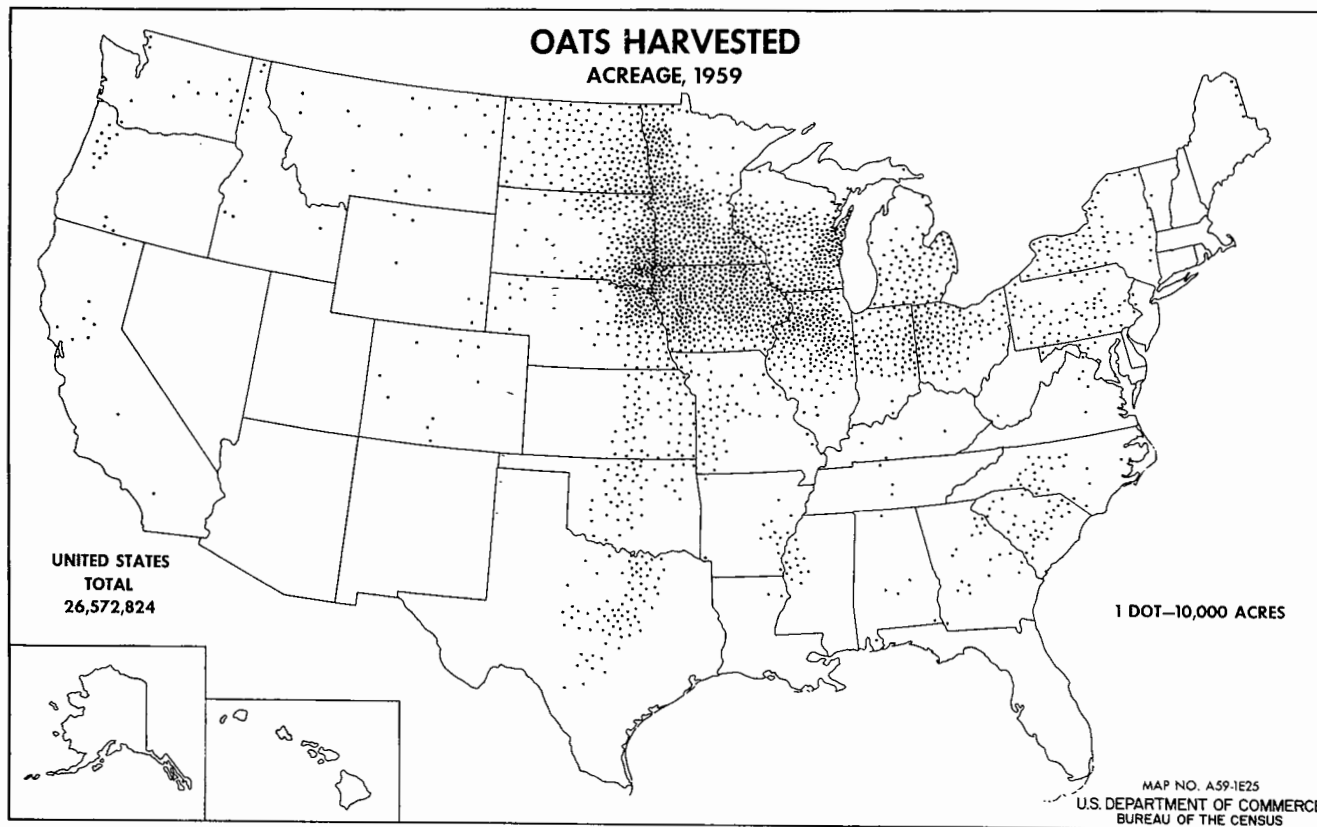
The acreage of tobacco, largely as a result of the government acreage control program, was 28.8 percent less in 1959 than in

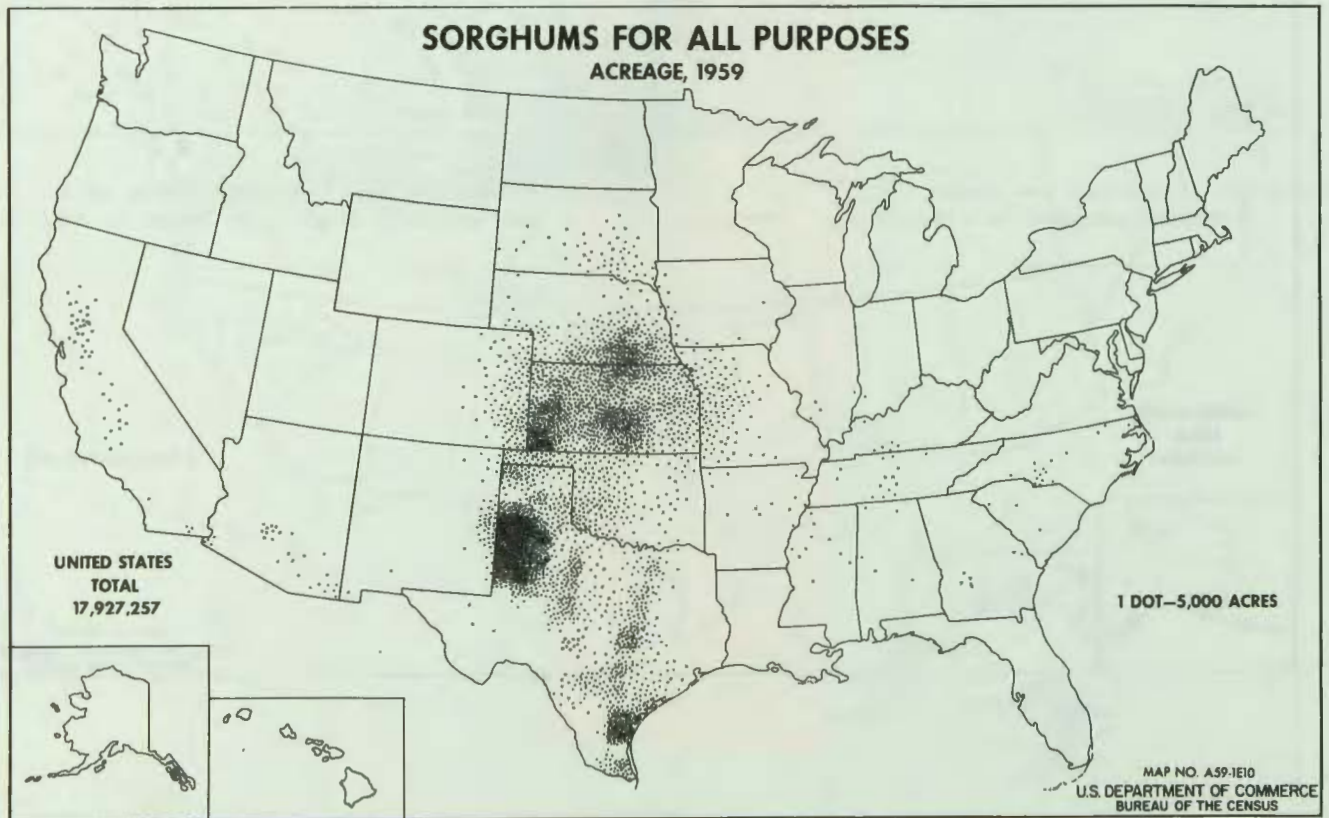
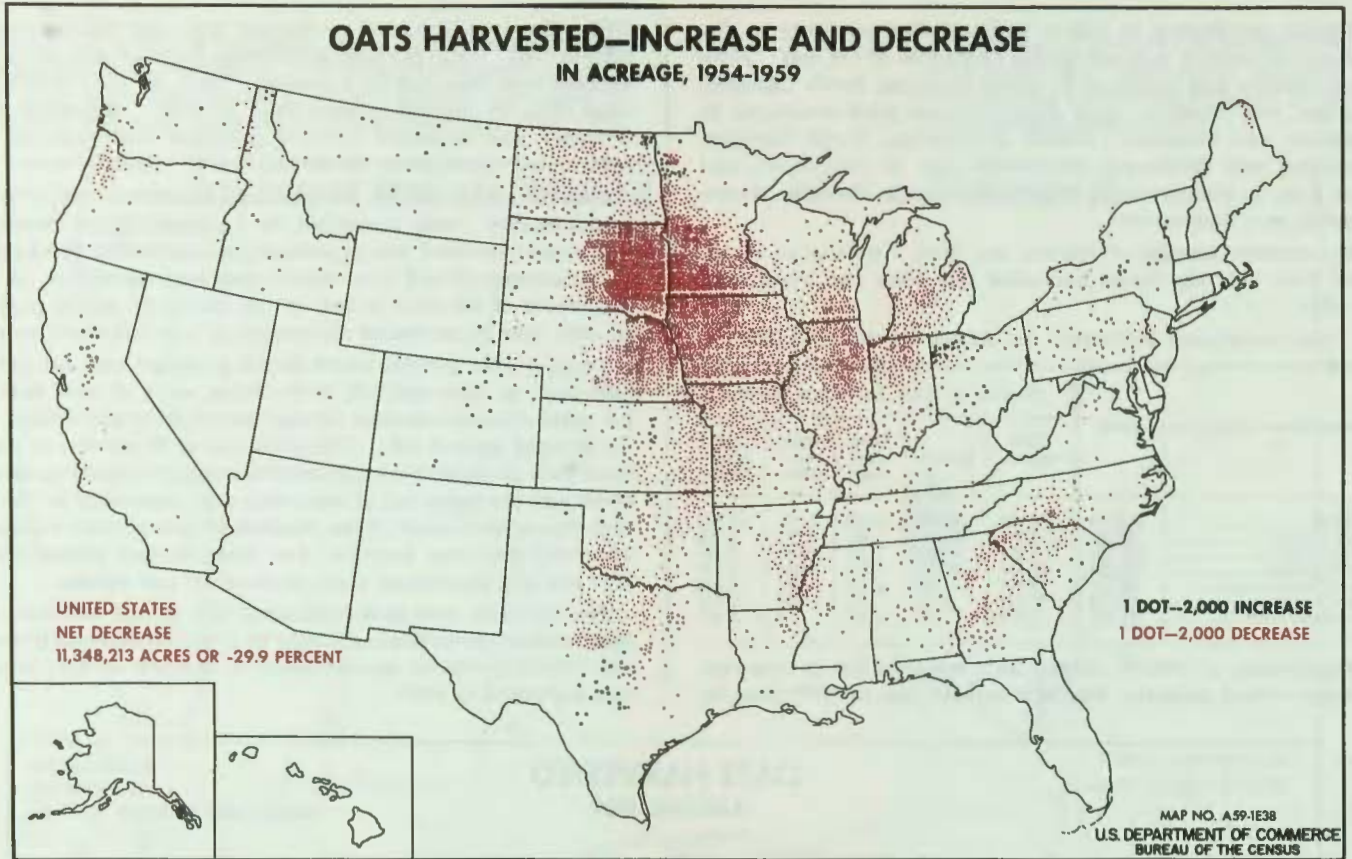
1954. However, the total production was only 14.3 percent less than in 1954. Yield per acre in 1959 was 1,486 pounds, the highest average ever recorded by a census. Yield per acre in 1959 was more than 62 percent greater than in 1939. Increased use of fertilizer and improved cultural practices and varieties have contributed significantly to the increase in yield per acre.

Oats for grain was the seventh most important field crop harvested in 1959. 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 26 percent of the bushels 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 the drought year of 1934. The reduction of 30 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.

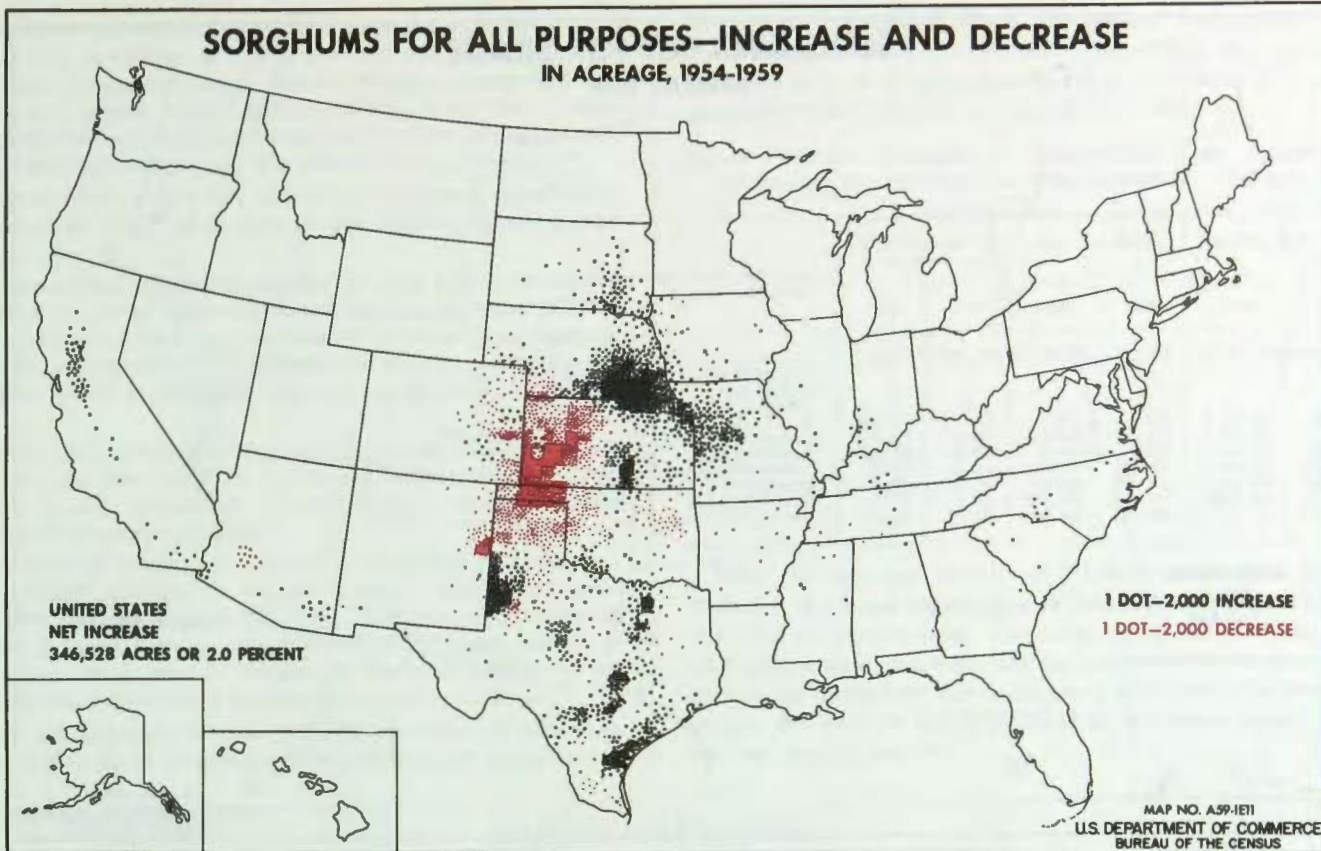
The principal oats-producing areas are in the Midwest. The four leading oats-producing States of Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois produced approximately 54 percent of the bushels of oats harvested in 1959.





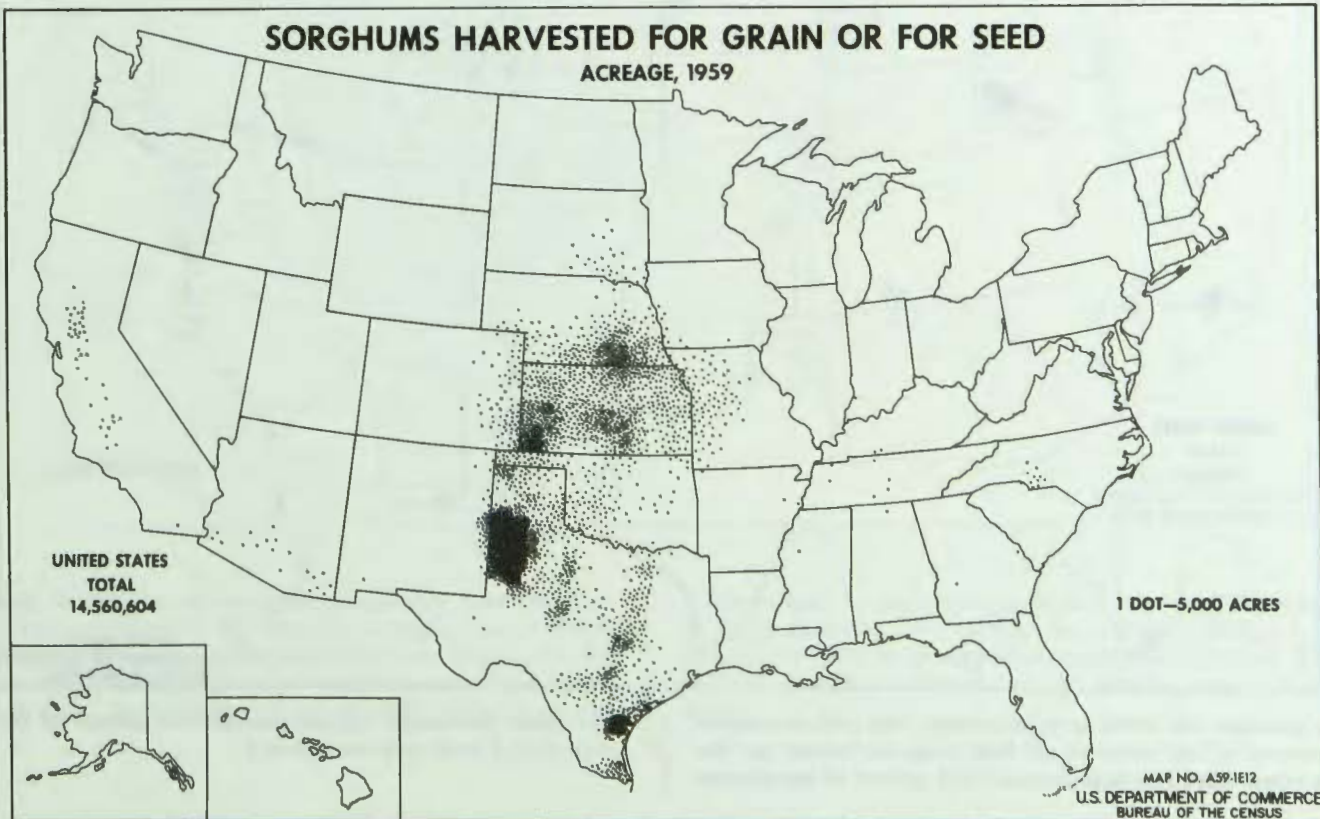
The 17.9 million acres of sorghums harvested for all purposes in 1959 was the largest ever reported for any census and represents a 2 percent increase over that for 1954. The 1959 acreage of sorghums for all purposes was slightly more than twice that of 1919 and more than 77 percent greater than the 1949 acreage. The acreage of sorghums for grain or seed in 1959, 14.6 million

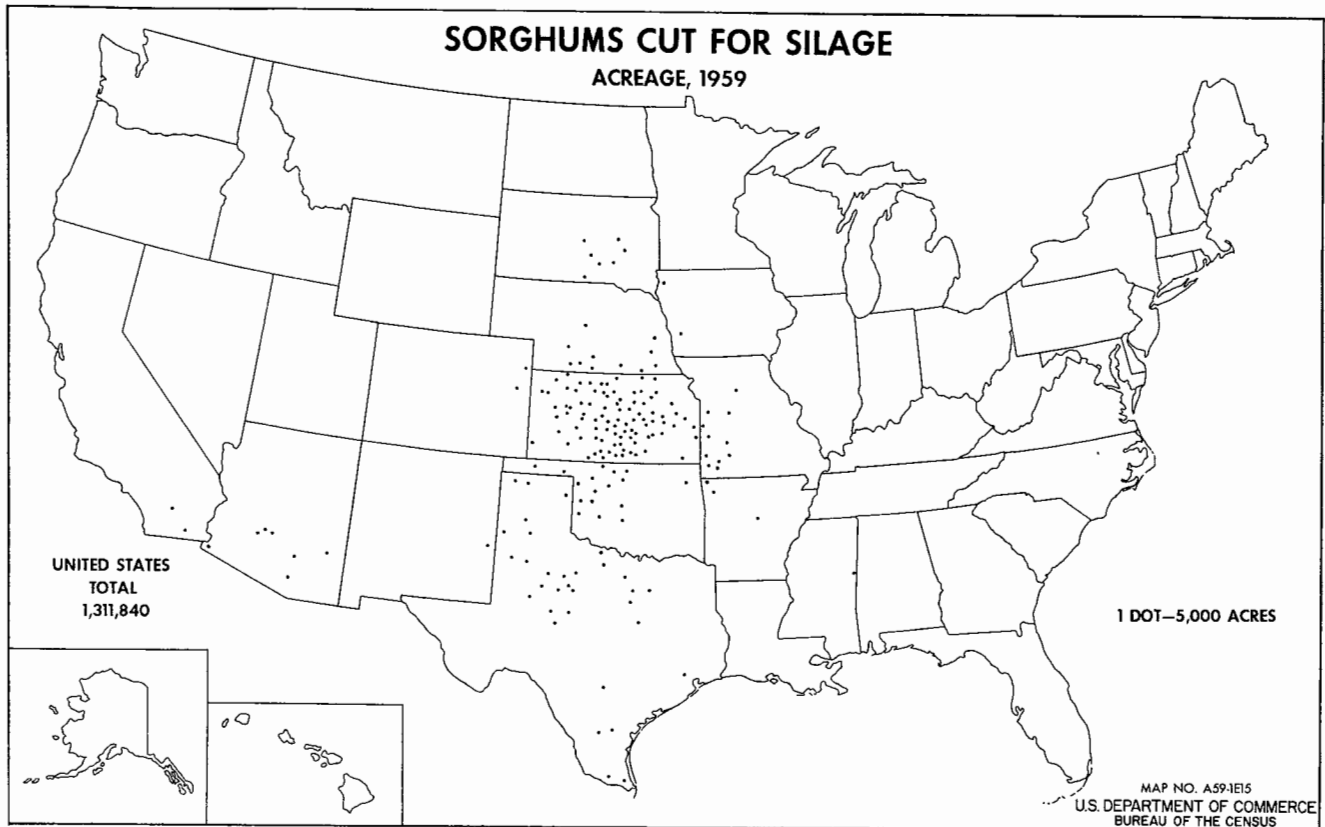
acres, was also the highest reported for any census year. Texas again was the leading sorghum-producing State with nearly half (46.2 percent) of the total acreage of sorghums harvested for grain. The 1959 production of 508 million bushels of sorghum grain in the United States was more than double the previous census record set in 1954, and nearly 10 times the number of



bushels harvested in 1939. The record yield of 34.9 bushels for sorghums for grain per acre was due not only to favorable weather conditions during the growing and harvesting seasons in the Great Plains area, where the bulk of the sorghum crop is produced, but also to the increased use of hybrid seed and the increased acreage of sorghums grown under irrigation.

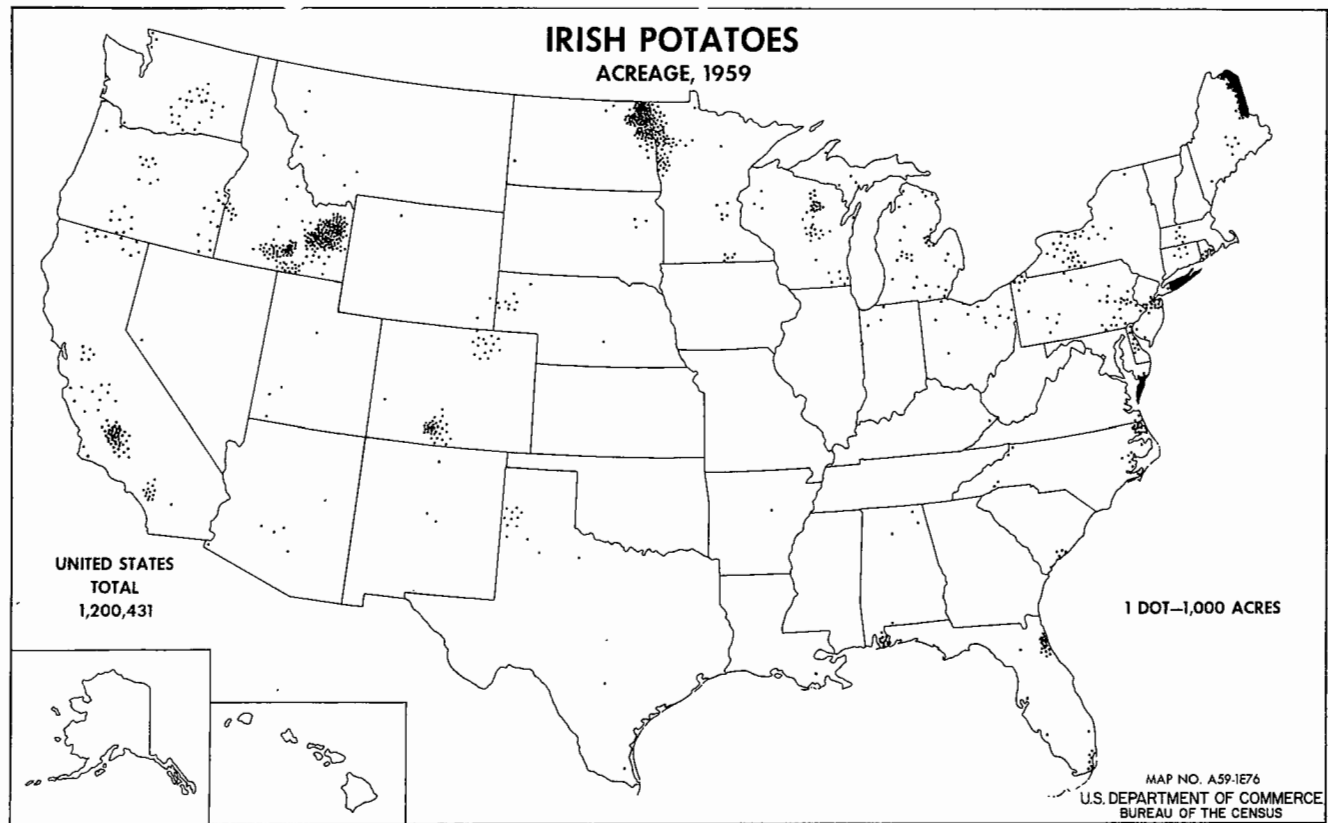
In 1959, more than 81.2 percent of the sorghum crop was harvested for grain or seed. Sorghums for silage, forage, hay, and grazing comprised 18.7 percent and sorghums for sirup accounted for 0.1 percent of the total acres. More than 75 percent of the sorghums harvested for grain and seed was sold. The sorghums for hay, silage, and for grazing were, for the most part, fed on the farms on which they were grown.





Sorghums harvested for sirup were harvested on less than 16,000 farms in 1959. This number was less than 7 percent of

the number of farms reporting sorghums for sirup in 1934, while the 1959 acreage was only one-eighth that of 1934.



Irish potatoes, the ninth most important field crop, accounted for 3 percent of the value of all field crops harvested, but the acreage represented less than one-half of 1 percent of the acreage

of cropland harvested. Approximately 86.5 percent of the 1959 production of Irish potatoes was sold.

The commercial production of Irish potatoes was highly localized. About two-fifths of the production was concentrated in ten counties, Aroostook County, Maine; Bingham, Booneville, and Minidoka Counties, Idaho; Suffolk County, New York; Kern County, California; Walsh and Pembina Counties, North Dakota; Polk County, Minnesota; and Rio Grande County, Colorado.

The commercial production of Irish potatoes was concentrated in a relatively small proportion of the farms harvesting Irish potatoes.

The three most significant changes in Irish potato production have been the large reduction in the number of farms growing small quantities of Irish potatoes mainly for home-farm consumption, the concentration of commercial potato production on specialized potato-producing farms, and the increase in yield per acre.

In 1959, Irish potatoes were produced on 685 thousand farms. This was less than half the number of farms reporting Irish potatoes in 1954 and less than one-fourth the number of farms reporting Irish potatoes in 1929.

More than 70 percent of the farms with Irish potatoes harvested in 1959 produced 20 bushels or less. Only 49,470 farms had 1 acre or more harvested in 1959. More than 60 percent of the Irish potatoes were harvested on the 6,492 farms with 50 or more acres. More than 94 percent of the total production occurred on the 19,988 farms having 10 or more acres.

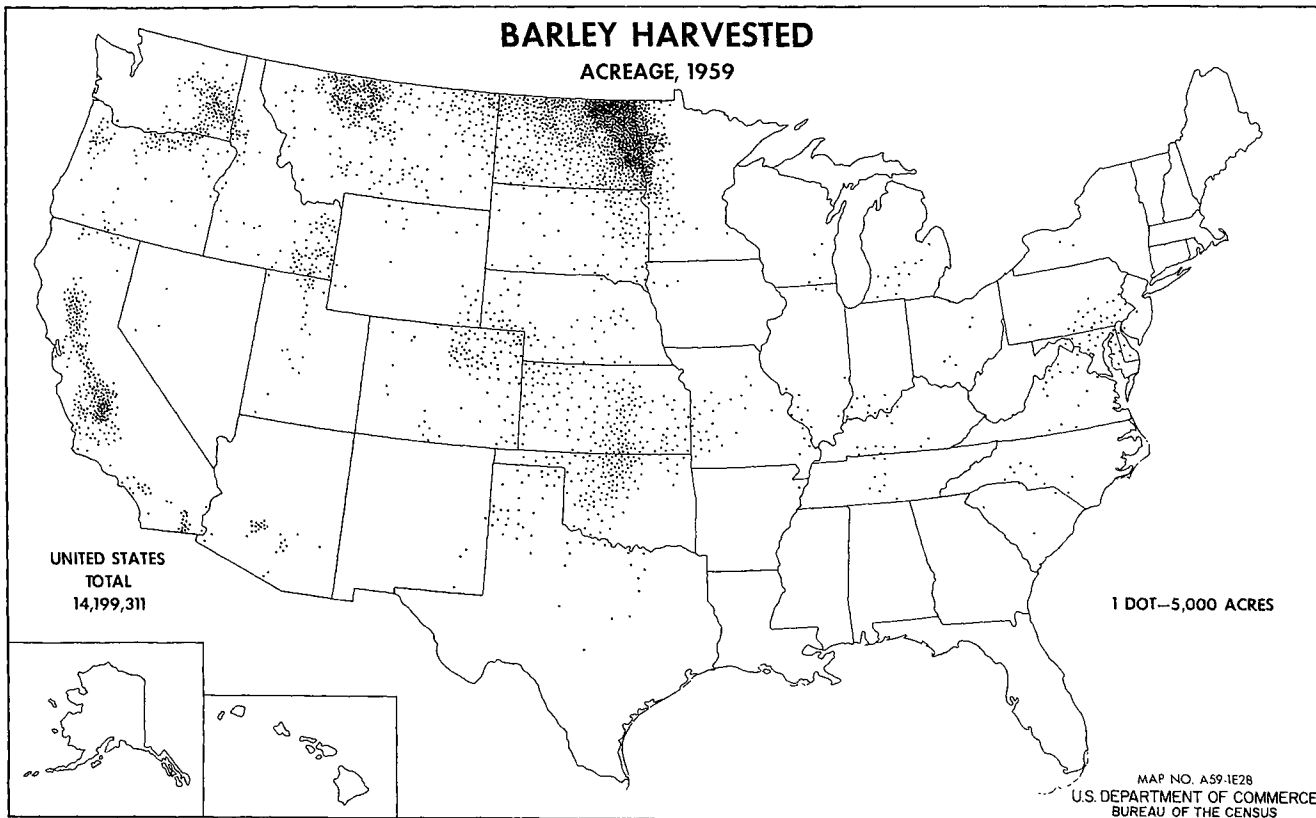
While the acreage of Irish potatoes harvested in 1959 was about the same as in 1954, the acreage harvested by farms having

fewer than 50 acres declined 30.0 percent and production on these farms declined 21.1 percent. The acreage and production of farms with 50 or more acres harvested increased 29.5 percent and 37.3 percent, respectively, from 1954 to 1959.

IRISH POTATOES—NUMBER OF FARMS REPORTING, ACRES HARVESTED, AND PRODUCTION, BY ACRES HARVESTED: 1959 AND 1954

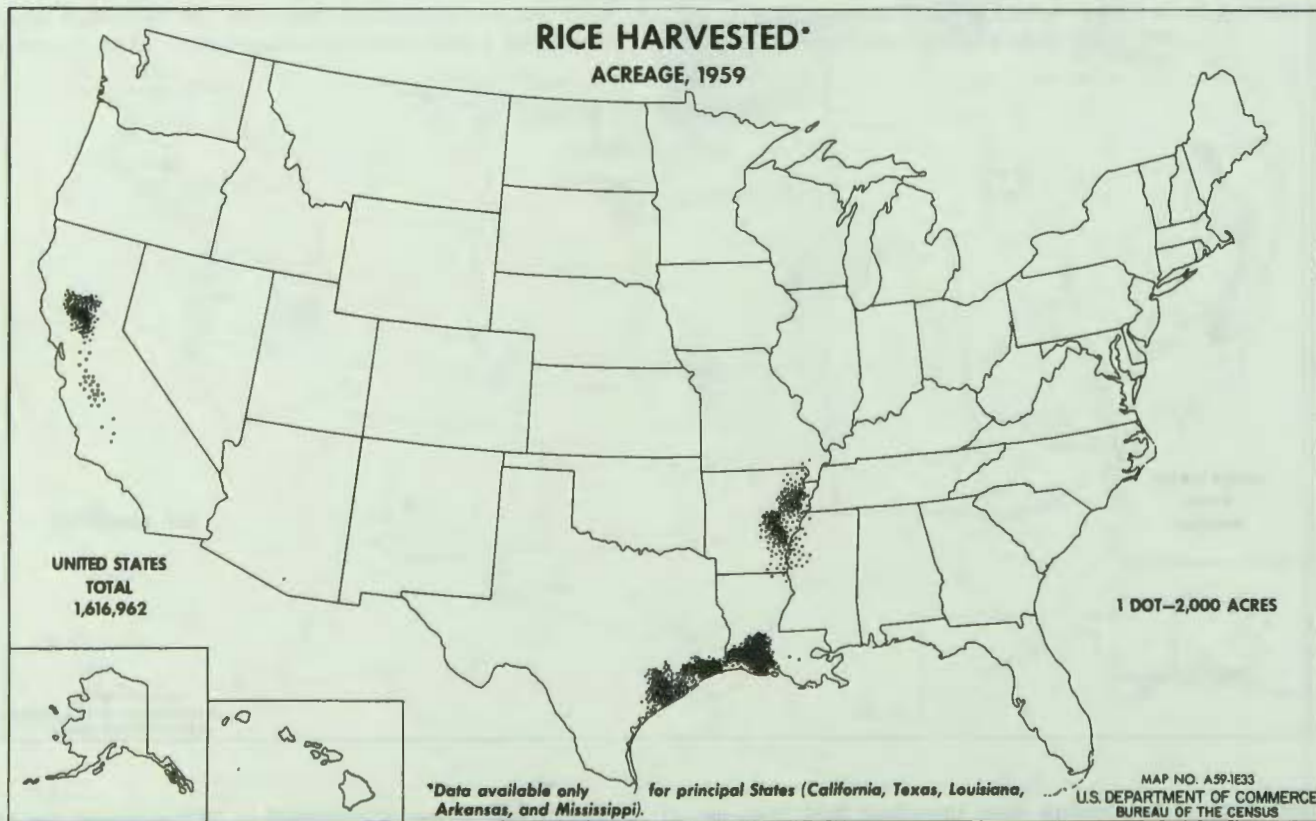
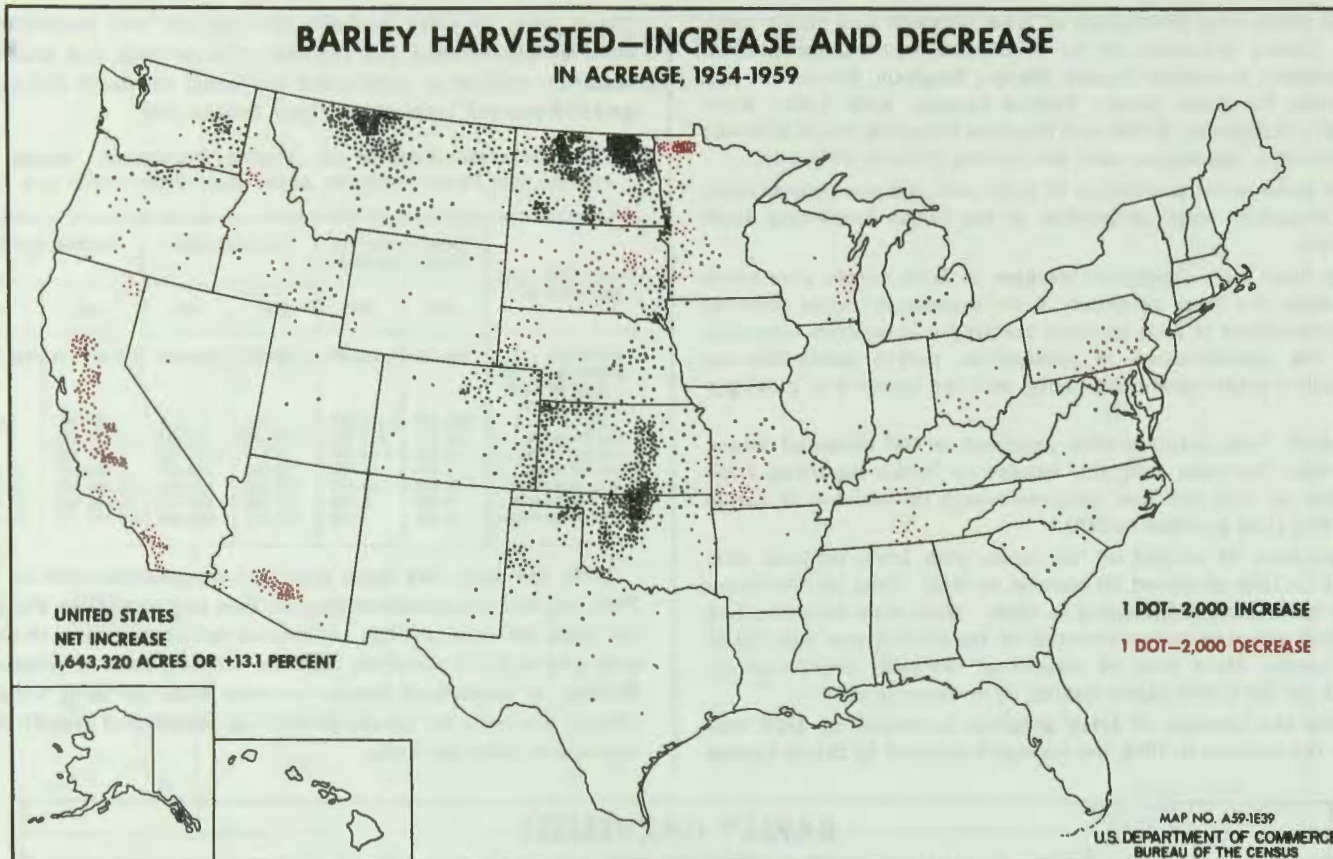
Farms with acres harvested of—	Total number of farms reporting		Acres harvested		Bushels harvested	
	1959	1954	1959	1954	1959	1954
All farms.....	684,853	1,432,466	1,200,431	1,210,872	373,567,119	340,187,662
Farms with less than 20 bushels harvested.....	483,806	1,137,507	NA	NA	4,129,803	9,875,982
0.1 to 0.9 acres.....	151,577	210,387	38,232	64,514	5,244,625	7,648,012
1.0 to 2.9 acres.....	21,538	44,743	26,870	55,728	3,087,420	5,559,350
3.0 to 9.9 acres.....	7,944	15,155	41,121	79,069	9,624,487	16,837,326
10.0 to 24.9 acres.....	7,868	12,359	120,746	188,801	37,394,559	53,255,406
25.0 to 49.9 acres.....	5,828	6,805	205,765	229,877	66,929,913	67,040,695
50.0 acres or more.....	6,492	5,510	767,697	592,883	247,156,312	179,970,891

Yield per acre was more than 311 bushels per acre in 1959. This was 10 percent higher than in 1954 and more than 2½ times the yield per acre in 1939. Increased use of fertilizer, improved seed and cultural practices, and the concentration of potato production on specialized farms in areas with the most favorable climate and soils for potato production contributed greatly to the increase in yield per acre.



In 1959, barley, the eleventh most important field crop, accounted for 2.1 percent of the value of all field crops harvested. Approximately 60 percent of the barley crop was harvested in the five States of Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Washington, and California. Only 69 percent of the 1959 barley crop was sold.

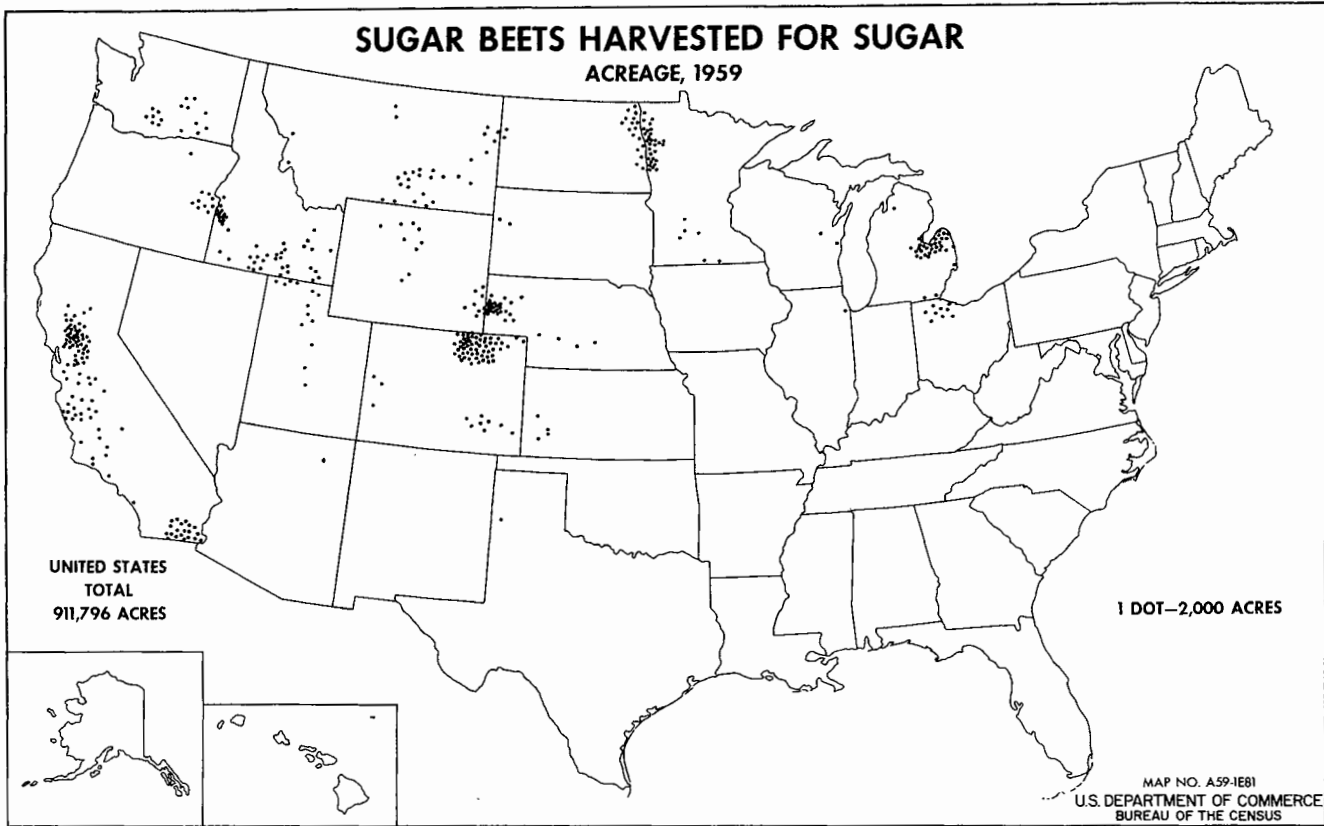
The acreage in barley harvested in 1959 exceeded that of 1954 by 13 percent and was the largest acreage reported for any census. In 1959, the acreage harvested was 55 percent greater and the quantity harvested was 80 percent greater than for 1949.



Rice, the twelfth leading field crop, accounted for 1.6 percent of the value of all field crops harvested in 1959. The acreage of rice harvested represented only one-half of 1 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested. All rice harvested was grown on irrigated land. Rice was produced only in five States: California, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi.

The acreage of rice harvested in 1959 was 35 percent less than the acreage in 1954 and 9 percent less than the acreage harvested in 1949. The number of farms producing rice has been between 10,000 and 12,000 during the last four censuses.

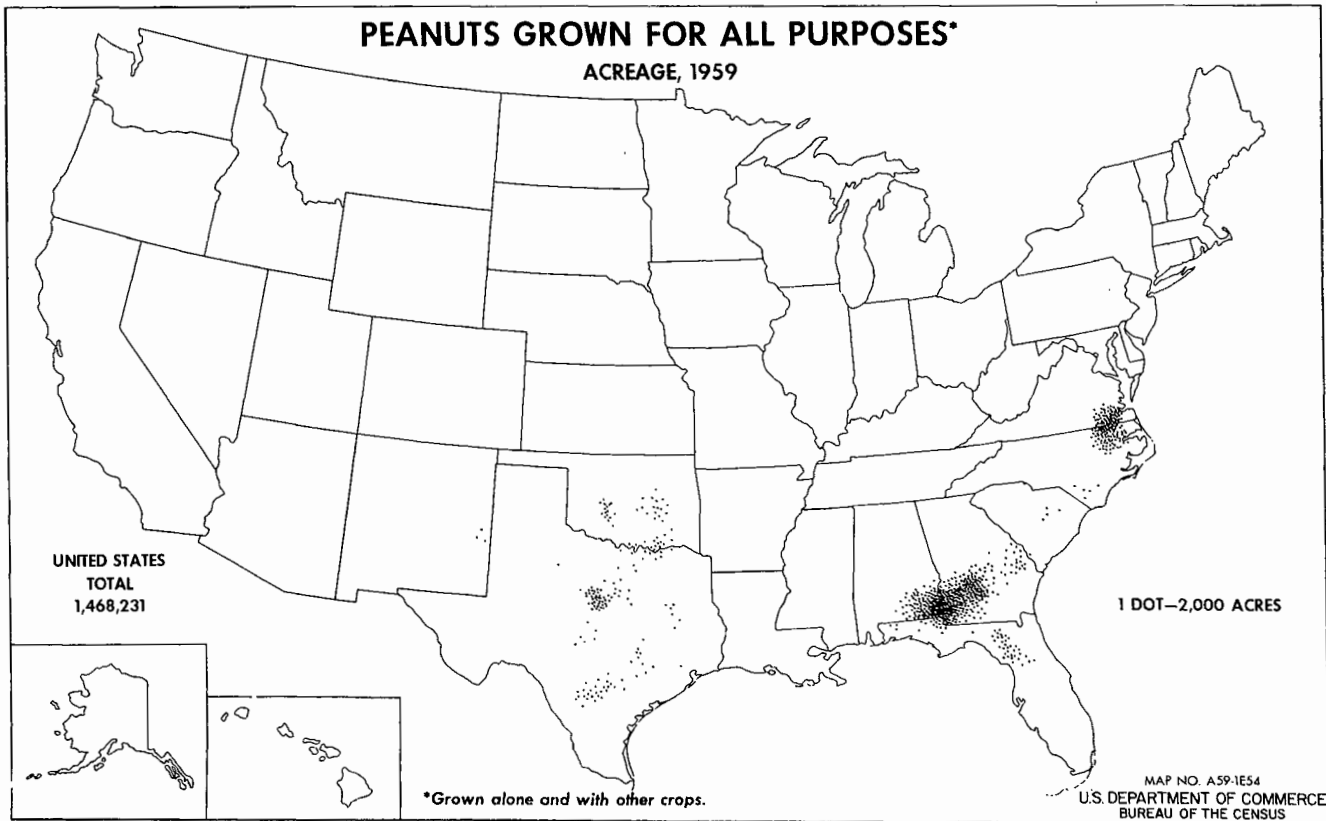
The thirteenth most important field crop was sugar beets. Sugar beets for sugar accounted for 1.2 percent of the value of



all field crops harvested and the acreage of sugar beets was equivalent to 0.3 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested in 1959. Over 76.8 percent of the acreage of sugar beets was irrigated in 1959. Sugar beet production is localized around processing factories. Nearly two-thirds of the acreage harvested was in the five States of California, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, and Michigan.

For the last four censuses, the number of farms reporting sugar beets has varied from 23,000 to 31,000. The 1959 acreage was 5.5 percent greater than that of 1954, and 37.8 percent greater than that of 1949.

The peanut crop was the fifteenth most important field crop in 1959. It represented 0.9 percent of the value of all field crops harvested. Peanuts were an important cash crop in southeastern

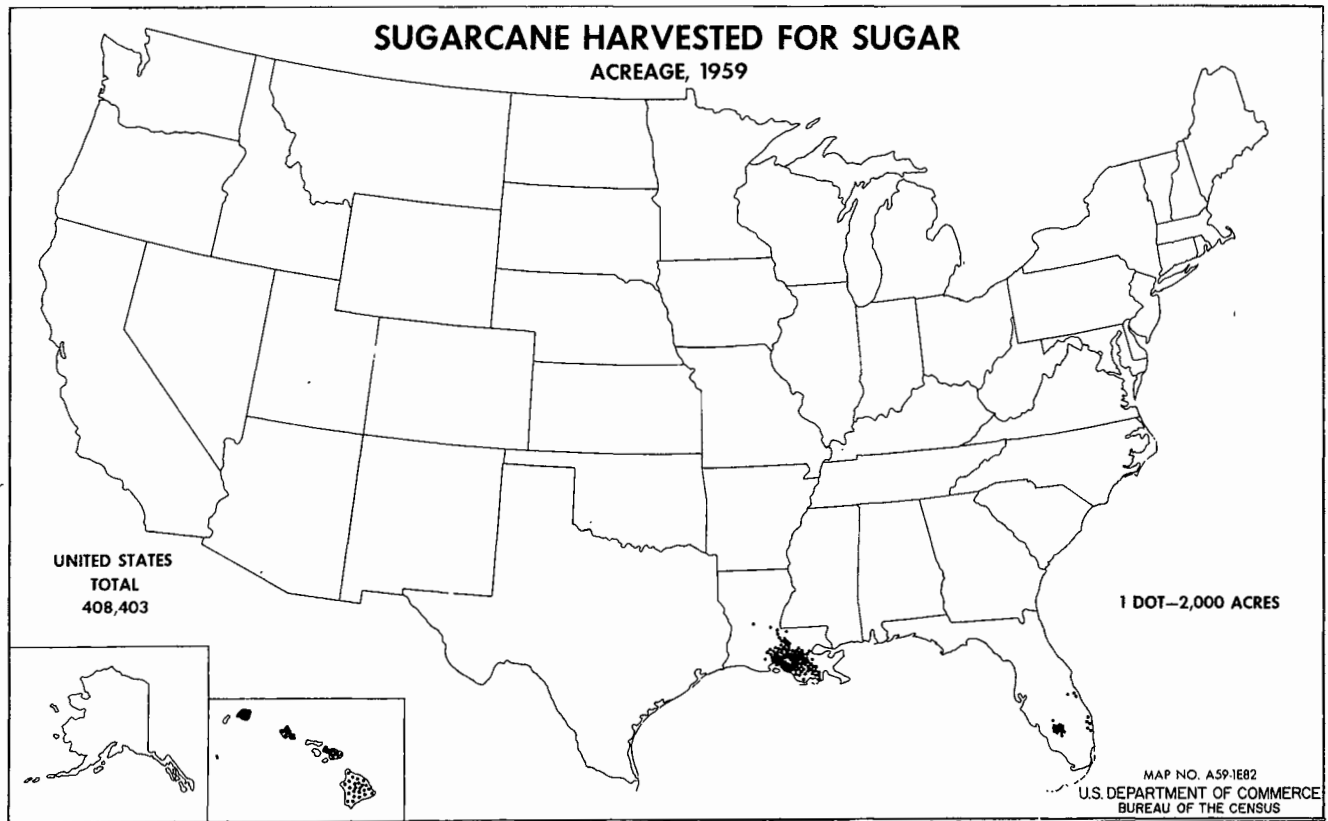
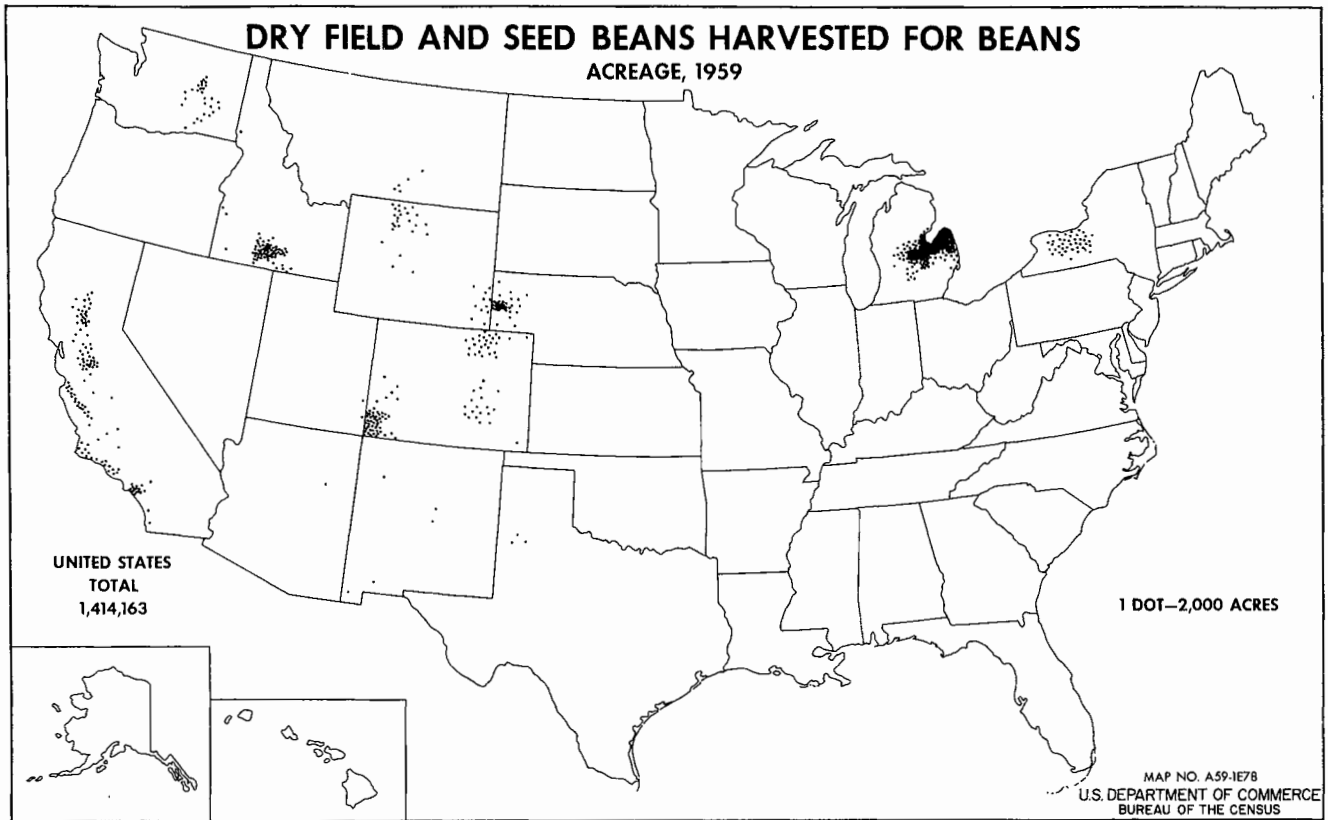


Virginia, northeastern North Carolina, southern Georgia, southeastern Alabama, and eastern Texas. More than 90 percent of the peanut crop was harvested for nuts and 97 percent of the nuts harvested were sold.

Significant changes have occurred in the number of farms growing peanuts and the acreage harvested. From 1954 to 1959,

the number of farms reporting declined 31 percent. Only 46 percent as many farms reported peanuts in 1959 as in 1949. The 1959 acreage of peanuts grown for all purposes was only 86.5 percent of that for 1954, and 53.9 percent of that for 1949.

Dry field and seed beans, the sixteenth most important field crop, accounted for 0.9 percent of the value of all field crops har-

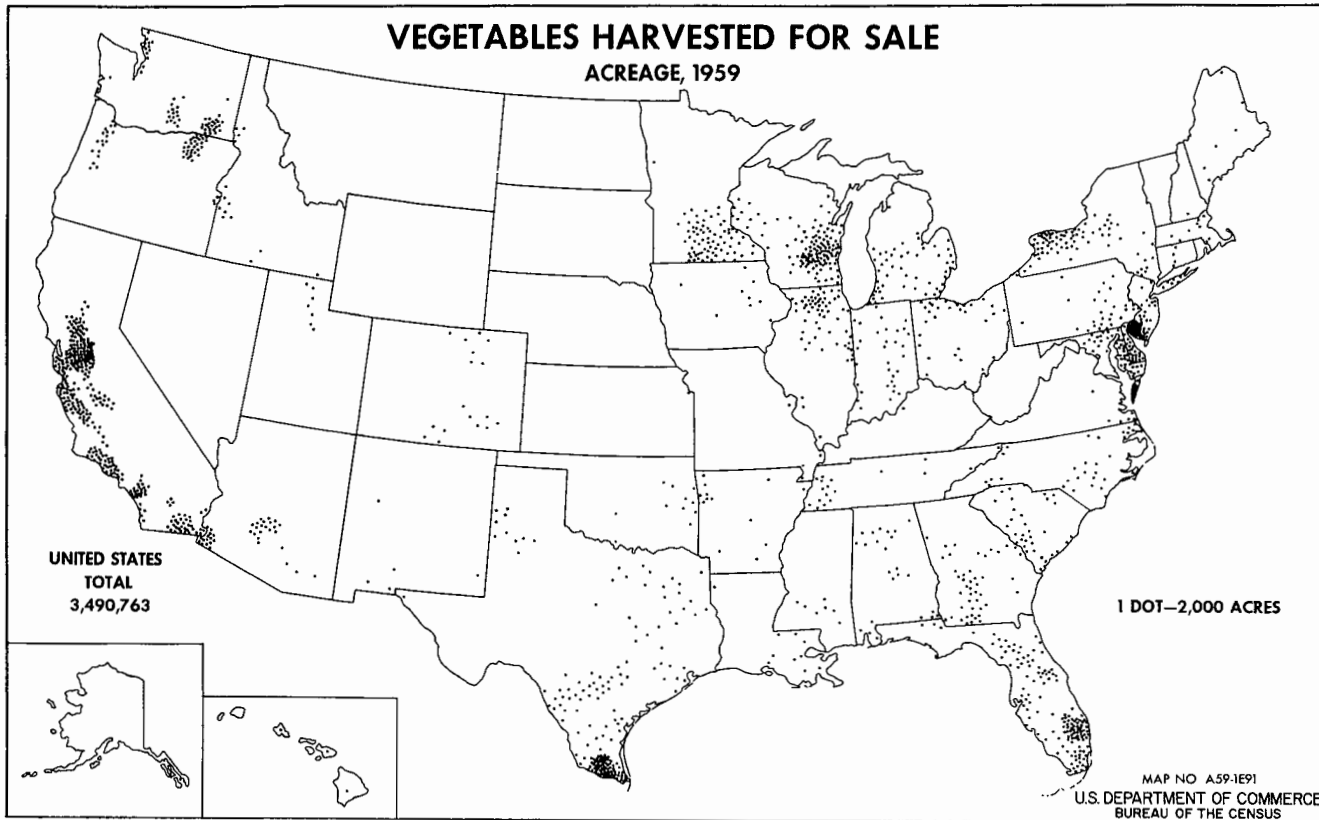


vested in 1959. The production of dry field and seed beans was confined largely to the irrigated valleys of the West. Nearly 47 percent of the acreage in 1959 was harvested from irrigated land. Approximately two-thirds of the production in 1959 was in Michigan, California, and Idaho.

Only about half as many farms reported harvesting dry field and seed beans in 1959 as in 1949. The 1959 acreage was 3 per-

cent less than that for 1954, and 21 percent less than that for 1949.

The production of sugarcane for sugar was limited to Hawaii, Louisiana, and Florida. On the basis of value of production, sugarcane for sugar was the seventeenth most important field crop. The production of sugarcane for sugar is highly localized. Sugarcane is grown by a relatively small number of farms and the number of growers is declining.



The value of vegetables harvested for sale totaled \$740 million in 1959, represented 5.5 percent of all crops sold, and 2.4 percent of all farm products sold. The 3.5 million acres of vegetables harvested for sale represented 1.1 percent of the acreage of land from which crops were harvested in 1959. On the basis of acreage, the ten leading vegetable crops in 1959 were sweet corn,

tomatoes, green peas, snap beans, watermelons, lettuce and romaine, asparagus, cantaloups and muskmelons, cabbage, and blackeyes and other green cowpeas. Vegetables for sale are largely grown in specialized areas and on specialized farms. The number of farms growing vegetables has been declining.