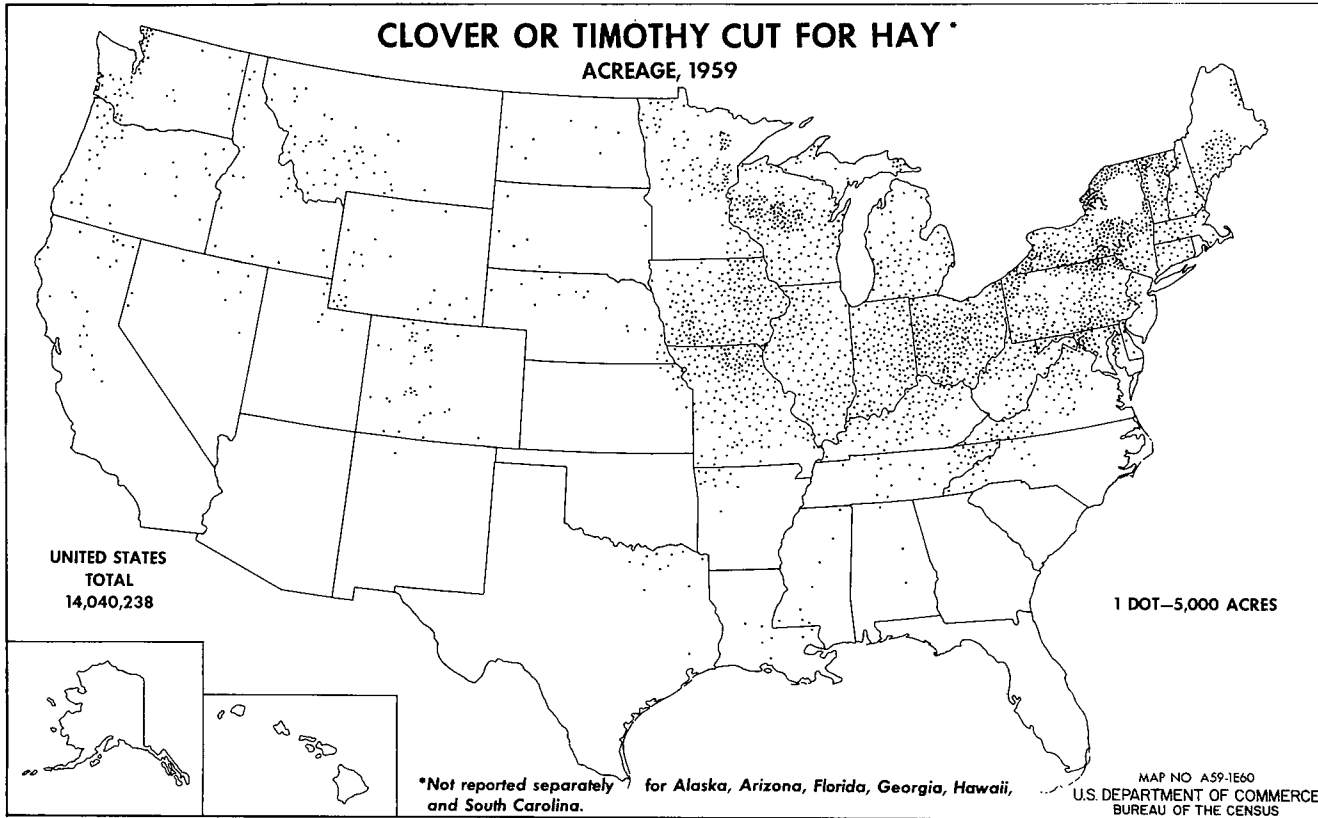


ing table indicate the change in the relative importance of various kinds of hay from 1939 to 1959.

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.