

LARGE-SCALE FARMING

farms yet they accounted for nearly one-fifth of all the farm products sold in 1959. The 19,979 large-scale farms accounted for 12 percent of the fertilizer used; 16 percent of all feed expenditures; 29 percent of all expenditures for purchase of livestock and poultry; almost 16 percent of all expenditures for machine hire; 31 percent of the expenditures for hired labor; 16 percent of the expenditures for seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees; and 8 percent of the expenditures for gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business. They employed more than 20 percent of all hired farmworkers, and almost 29 percent of all regular hired farmworkers. This group of farms accounted for 5 percent of cropland harvested; 18 percent of all crops sold; and about three-tenths of all livestock and livestock products sold.

About 2 percent of all acreage in corn for grain; 5 percent of hay acreage; about 23 percent of the acreage for Irish potatoes; 51 percent of the value of vegetables harvested for sale; and almost 19 percent of land in bearing and nonbearing fruit orchards, groves, vineyards, and planted nut trees were on farms with a value of farm products sold of \$100,000 or more.

These farms had about 11 percent of total cattle and calves on hand, about 4 percent of milk cows, 2 percent of all hogs and pigs, almost 13 percent of all sheep and lambs, and 7 percent of chickens 4 months old and over.

Table 1.—SELECTED FARM RESOURCES FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS AND FOR FARMS WITH A VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD OF \$100,000 OR MORE FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1959

Item	All commercial farms	Farms with a value of farm products sold of \$100,000 or more	
		Total	Percent of total for all commercial farms
Number of farms.....	2,416,017	19,979	0.8
Land in farms.....acres...	977,275,507	113,592,662	11.6
Cropland harvested.....acres...	295,477,889	14,983,367	5.1
Irrigated land in farms.....acres...	32,238,377	7,472,133	23.2
Regular hired farmworkers.....persons...	674,917	192,588	28.5
Tractors other than garden.....number...	3,946,920	121,338	3.1
Fertilizer used.....tons...	18,143,681	2,023,925	11.9

Table 2.—SELECTED ITEMS OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS AND FOR FARMS WITH A VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD OF \$100,000 OR MORE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1959

Item	All commercial farms (1,000)	Farms with a value of farm products sold of \$100,000 or more	
		Total (1,000)	Percent of total for all commercial farms
Livestock on hand:			
Cattle and calves.....number...	85,532	9,311	10.9
Milk cows.....number...	15,387	600	3.9
Hogs and pigs.....number...	63,778	1,045	1.6
Sheep and lambs.....number...	31,236	4,036	12.9
Chickens 4 months old and over.....number...	329,953	23,421	7.1
Livestock and livestock products sold:			
Cattle and calves sold alive.....number...	48,161	8,546	17.7
value, dollars.....	7,507,202	1,779,198	23.7
Hogs and pigs sold alive.....number...	76,603	1,482	1.9
Milk and cream sold.....pounds...	101,711,171	5,639,588	5.5
value, dollars.....	3,918,461	297,211	7.6
Chicken eggs sold.....dozens...	3,425,535	326,003	9.5
Broilers sold.....number...	1,410,129	209,877	14.9
Turkeys raised.....number...	79,456	34,366	43.3
Sheep and lambs sold alive.....number...	23,781	4,049	17.0

Table 3.—SELECTED FARM EXPENDITURES FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS AND FOR FARMS WITH A VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD OF \$100,000 OR MORE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1959

Item	All commercial farms (\$1,000)	Farms with a value of farm products sold of \$100,000 or more	
		Total (\$1,000)	Percent of total for all commercial farms
Feed for livestock and poultry.....	4,481,682	736,548	16.4
Purchase of livestock and poultry.....	3,738,663	1,094,875	29.3
Machine hire.....	748,004	118,441	15.8
Hired labor.....	2,531,251	788,981	31.2
Seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees.....	462,286	73,163	15.8
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business.....	1,443,593	116,051	8.0

Table 4.—PERCENT OF TOTAL FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS REPRESENTED BY TOTALS FOR FARMS WITH A VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS SOLD OF \$100,000 OR MORE, FOR SELECTED FARM PRODUCTS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1959

Farm products sold	Percent of total value of farm products sold for all commercial farms represented by total for farms with a value of farm products sold of \$100,000 or more
All farm products.....	16.9
Cash-grain crops:	
Corn.....	1.8
Rice.....	25.1
Wheat.....	8.3
Cotton.....	24.4
Fruits and nuts.....	32.1
Irish potatoes.....	29.6
Sugar beets.....	5.1
Sugarcane.....	58.4
Tobacco.....	2.5
Vegetables.....	47.4
Field crops and cash-grain crops other than the above.....	8.8
Poultry products.....	17.3
Dairy products.....	7.6
Cattle and calves.....	23.7
Hogs and pigs.....	2.0
Sheep and lambs.....	16.8
Livestock products other than poultry and dairy.....	18.5
Forest products and horticultural specialty crops.....	40.3

Kinds of large-scale farms.—Large-scale farms vary greatly in size of operation and other characteristics. The following data indicate the distribution of these farms by selected size of operation as measured by the value of farm products sold in 1959.

Value of farm products sold	Number of farms
\$1,000,000 or more.....	408
\$500,000 to \$999,999.....	800
\$200,000 to \$499,999.....	4,570
\$100,000 to \$199,999.....	14,201