

Table 7.—NUMBER OF FARMS REPORTING SELECTED KINDS OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS FOR THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES: 1850 TO 1959

Item and census year	Farms reporting		
	Total	Percent of all farms	Percent increase or decrease (-) over preceding census
Cattle and calves:			
1959.....	2,672,085	72.1	-26.8
1954.....	3,650,714	76.3	-10.2
1950.....	4,063,945	75.5	-13.3
1945.....	4,688,746	80.0	-3.2
1940.....	4,843,417	79.4	-11.6
1935.....	5,480,775	80.5	14.1
1930.....	4,803,174	76.4	-10.4
1920.....	5,358,243	83.1	1.4
1910.....	5,284,916	83.1	11.7
1900.....	4,730,480	82.4	NA
Milk cows:			
1959.....	1,701,729	48.4	-39.0
1954.....	2,935,842	61.4	-19.5
1950.....	3,648,257	67.8	-21.4
1940.....	4,644,317	76.2	4.3
1930.....	4,452,936	70.8	19.4
1925.....	3,728,587	53.5	-16.4
1920.....	4,461,296	69.2	-13.2
1910.....	5,140,869	80.8	13.9
1900.....	4,513,895	78.7	NA
Whole milk sold:			
1959.....	770,043	20.8	-17.6
1954.....	934,143	19.5	-14.8
1949.....	1,096,650	20.4	-5.7
1944.....	1,163,218	19.9	21.9
1939.....	953,898	15.6	6.8
1929.....	893,431	14.2	25.7
1919.....	710,694	11.0	42.4
1909.....	498,916	7.8	NA
Cattle and calves sold:			
1959.....	2,302,243	62.2	-11.8
1954.....	2,611,031	54.6	-12.5
1949.....	2,982,616	55.4	-1.1
1944.....	3,014,338	51.4	14.8
1939.....	2,625,783	43.1	NA
Hogs and pigs:			
1959.....	1,846,982	49.9	-21.9
1954.....	2,365,708	49.5	-21.5
1950.....	3,011,807	56.0	-9.1
1945.....	3,313,883	56.6	-12.0
1940.....	3,766,675	61.8	-5.1
1935.....	3,971,122	58.3	12.3
1930.....	3,535,119	56.2	-2.3
1925.....	3,618,624	56.8	-25.4
1920.....	4,850,807	75.2	11.5
1910.....	4,351,751	68.4	0.4
1900.....	4,335,363	75.6	NA
Hogs and pigs sold:			
1959.....	1,272,243	34.4	-10.7
1954.....	1,423,943	29.8	-32.1
1949.....	2,097,807	39.0	-0.3
1944.....	2,104,170	35.9	14.2
1939.....	1,842,704	30.2	NA
Sheep and lambs:			
1959.....	341,897	9.2	-5.3
1954.....	361,001	8.1	12.7
1950.....	320,314	6.0	-29.9
1945.....	456,986	7.8	-21.9
1940.....	584,935	9.6	-7.9
1935.....	635,384	9.3	8.9
1930.....	683,578	9.3	35.5
1925.....	430,738	6.8	-20.0
1920.....	538,593	8.4	-11.8
1910.....	610,894	9.6	-20.0
1900.....	763,518	13.3	NA
Sheep and lambs sold:			
1959.....	292,379	7.9	1.1
1954.....	289,118	6.0	6.5
1949.....	271,552	5.0	-18.3
1944.....	332,449	5.7	-14.0
1939.....	386,381	6.3	NA
Chickens 4 months old and over:			
1959.....	2,170,265	58.6	-36.5
1954.....	3,418,204	71.5	-18.9
1950.....	4,215,616	78.3	-14.0
1945.....	4,900,948	83.6	-4.8
1940.....	5,150,055	84.5	-11.7
1935.....	5,833,079	85.6	8.6
1930.....	5,372,597	85.4	-2.4
1925.....	5,605,617	86.4	-5.7
1920.....	5,837,367	90.5	4.6
1910.....	5,578,425	87.7	NA
Chickens (including broilers) sold:			
1959.....	803,594	21.7	-22.0
1954.....	1,030,287	21.5	-39.9
1949.....	1,713,435	31.8	-32.0
1944.....	2,519,076	41.3	-19.5
1939.....	3,129,715	49.8	16.0
1929.....	2,698,211	41.8	-11.2
1909.....	3,038,932	47.8	NA

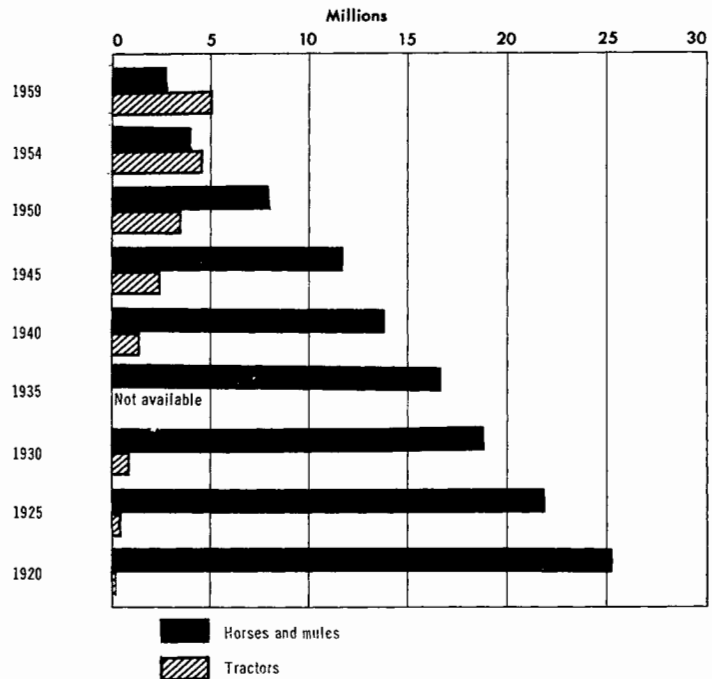
¹ For States for which data are available.

² Includes any farms reporting sheep shorn with no sheep on hand.

The number of hogs and pigs sold has been increasing during the last 20 years, yet the number of farms reporting hogs and pigs was 22 percent less in 1959 than in 1954 and was less than half the number of farms reporting in 1939. Hogs and pigs were sold by only three-fifths as many farms in 1959 as in 1949.

The rapid decline starting in the 1920's in the number of farms reporting horses and mules and the number of horses and mules on farms continued throughout the 1954 to 1959 period. By 1959, only 26 percent as many farms reported horses and mules as in 1940 and the number of horses and mules had declined from a peak of more than 25 million in 1920 to fewer than 3 million in 1959.

NUMBER OF HORSES AND MULES, AND TRACTORS, FOR THE UNITED STATES: 1920 TO 1959



The number of farms with chickens declined almost 1.3 million from 1954 to 1959. Only about half as many farms reported chickens in 1959 as in 1950. From 1949 to 1959, the number of farms reporting chickens sold declined more than half.

Table 8.—FARMS REPORTING CHICKENS ON HAND AND DOZENS OF EGGS SOLD, AND NUMBER FOR ALL COMMERCIAL FARMS BY SIZE OF FLOCK: 1959 AND 1954

Item	All farms, total	Size of flock (number of chickens 4 months old and over on hand)			
		Under 100	100 to 799	800 to 3,199	3,200 or more
Chickens 4 months old and over on hand:					
Farms reporting.....	1959... 1,453,004	913,673	476,558	46,881	15,892
	1954... 2,406,338	1,506,434	850,472	42,276	7,156
Percent distribution.....	1959... 100.0	62.9	32.8	3.2	1.1
	1954... 100.0	62.6	35.3	1.7	0.3
Number on hand (000).....	1959... 329,953	29,962	115,263	70,684	114,044
	1954... 340,498	52,306	186,904	60,031	41,257
Percent distribution.....	1959... 100.0	9.1	34.9	21.4	34.5
	1954... 100.0	15.4	54.9	17.7	12.1
Eggs sold:					
Farms reporting.....	1959... 840,902	303,186	475,226	46,749	15,741
	1954... 1,391,734	525,782	817,009	41,848	7,095
Percent distribution.....	1959... 100.0	36.1	56.5	5.5	1.9
	1954... 100.0	37.8	58.7	3.0	0.5
Dozens sold (000).....	1959... 3,425,535	125,997	1,116,705	825,062	1,357,771
	1954... 2,663,454	162,014	1,405,910	628,045	467,485
Percent distribution.....	1959... 100.0	3.6	32.6	24.1	39.7
	1954... 100.0	6.0	52.9	23.6	17.6