



Vegetable Farms.—Vegetable farms comprised less than 1 percent of all commercial farms and contained less than 1 percent of the total cropland in commercial farms. However, vegetable farms accounted for more than 2 percent of the value of all farm products sold, for 72 percent of the value of all vegetables sold in 1959, and about 45 percent of the total acreage of vegetables harvested for sale in 1959.

Vegetable farms were highly specialized. The sale of vegetables accounted for 82 percent of the value of all farm products sold, and the acreage of vegetables harvested for sale was equivalent to more than two-thirds of the acreage from which crops were harvested. Fertilizer was used on 92 percent of the farms and the acreage fertilized was equivalent to 87 percent of the acreage from which crops were harvested. The average amount of fertilizer used per acre fertilized was 749 pounds.

Vegetable farms are widely scattered. The greatest concentrations are in California, Florida, New Jersey, New York, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Production of vegetables was concentrated on a relatively small number of large-scale highly specialized farms. The 5,260 vegetable farms with a value of farm products sold of \$20,000 or more, accounted for over 80 percent of the value of all vegetables sold on vegetable farms and for 61 percent of the value of all vegetables harvested for sale in the United States. Almost half of the land used for crops was irrigated and the average acreage of irrigated land per farm was about 150 acres. The average value of farm products sold from these farms exceeded \$100,000, and the average expenditure for hired labor was more than \$32,000 per farm.

Fruit-and-Nut Farms.—Fruit-and-nut farms represented 2.5 percent of all commercial farms; had 1.2 percent of the total cropland; 77.6 percent of the land in small fruits, fruit orchards, groves, vineyards, and planted nut trees; 4.5 percent of the value of all farm products sold; and 91.1 percent of all fruits and nuts sold in 1959. Fruit-and-nut farms were highly concentrated in a few localities. More than two-thirds of these farms are in four States—California, Florida, Michigan, and Washington.

The kinds of fruits and nuts grown in the various localities differ greatly. In western New York, apples and grapes were the principal crops; grapes were the principal fruit crop around Lake Erie. Apples, cherries, peaches, grapes, and berries were the principal fruits in Michigan. In Washington and northern California, there was a large variety of fruits grown separately and in combination—apples, pears, plums and prunes, cherries, grapes, walnuts, strawberries, and raspberries. In southern California, citrus fruits principally oranges and lemons; olives; grapes; walnuts; almonds; peaches; and apricots were grown separately and in combination. Oranges and grapefruit were the predominant fruits in Florida and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. In Georgia and South Carolina, peaches were the principal fruit grown. Apples were the important fruit crop along the Appalachian Mountains and parts of Arkansas and Missouri. Strawberries represent an important fruit crop in Arkansas, Louisiana, and along the Atlantic coast.

Fruit-and-nut farms were highly specialized. The sales of fruits and nuts account for 93 percent of all farm products sold on fruit-and-nut farms. The acreage in land in small fruits, fruit orchards, groves, vineyards, and planted nut trees was equivalent to 80 percent of the acreage of cropland harvested on these farms.

Approximately 15,000 large-scale and highly specialized fruit farms accounted for more than 65 percent of the value of all fruits and nuts sold on commercial farms. These large specialized farms with a value of farm products sold of \$20,000 or more had an average acreage of land in fruit orchards, groves, vineyards, and planted nut trees of more than 100 acres. The average value of all farm products sold on these farms was \$62,780, and the average value of fruits and nuts sold was \$58,706. They had an average of 2.8 tractors, other than garden, per farm; an average expenditure for machine hire and hired labor of \$17,854; and used an average of 47 tons of commercial fertilizer per farm.