

hand, there were 30,000 dairy farms with sales of farm products of less than \$2,500. Over 98 percent of these farms had less than 20 milk cows. They accounted for less than 1 percent of the dairy products sold from all commercial dairy farms.

The data in table 6 indicate many significant differences in the use of resources and characteristics among dairy farms of various sizes of operation.

Table 6.—SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF DAIRY FARMS BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM: 1959

Item	Economic class of dairy farms						
	All dairy farms	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V	Class VI
Average per farm:							
Land in farms..... acres.....	208.2	639.5	360.0	241.1	182.1	148.8	116.5
Cropland harvested..... acres.....	86.5	196.1	156.2	111.8	78.6	53.1	30.9
Value of land and buildings..... dollars.....	31,291	169,499	70,705	40,094	23,935	15,007	9,716
Value of all farm products sold..... dollars.....	10,796	83,086	26,292	13,792	7,349	3,805	1,603
Value of dairy products sold..... dollars.....	7,835	67,433	19,501	9,877	5,111	2,533	989
Value of cattle and calves sold..... dollars.....	1,286	8,898	2,892	1,623	946	617	316
Expenditures for—							
Feed for livestock and poultry..... dollars.....	2,572	27,898	6,164	2,998	1,558	848	404
Purchase of livestock and poultry..... dollars.....	636	7,125	1,630	706	358	229	123
Hired labor..... dollars.....	761	12,601	2,652	748	250	99	29
Machine hire..... dollars.....	166	662	263	193	151	116	59
Gasoline and other petroleum fuel and oil for the farm business..... dollars.....	528	2,010	1,062	669	450	288	149
Percent of farms with—							
Any cropland harvested.....	95.9	78.4	95.9	97.6	97.6	95.3	88.5
100 acres or more of cropland harvested.....	31.4	61.3	69.7	53.8	24.9	8.5	3.3
Expenditures for feed of \$1,000 or more.....	60.1	99.7	95.4	84.7	60.3	31.9	8.3
Expenditures for feed of \$5,000 or more.....	11.6	89.5	54.7	17.9	2.6	0.2	(Z)
Expenditures for hired labor of \$1,000 or more.....	16.9	93.4	67.7	25.8	7.5	1.9	0.4
Expenditures for hired labor of \$5,000 or more.....	3.1	71.5	17.1	1.3	0.2	(Z)
1 or more regular hired workers.....	17.8	88.0	60.3	26.3	10.4	4.0	0.5
2 or more regular hired workers.....	5.6	72.5	26.7	5.7	1.4	0.5	0.1
20 or more milk cows.....	54.2	98.3	97.5	89.7	53.2	12.7	0.8
30 or more milk cows.....	26.7	97.5	91.1	51.9	11.0	1.4	0.1
50 or more milk cows.....	7.6	93.4	49.2	6.9	0.4	0.1
Milking machines.....	88.3	97.5	98.0	97.9	94.8	79.6	36.6
Electric milk coolers.....	68.1	94.9	94.8	88.4	68.5	48.1	18.7
Motortrucks.....	69.5	93.7	91.2	81.6	68.3	56.0	42.3
Farm operator working off the farm.....	30.5	16.0	20.9	23.8	31.7	41.7	28.5
Farm operator working off the farm 100 or more days.....	12.8	8.4	6.4	7.2	13.4	24.8
Members of the farm operator's family working off the farm.....	20.2	12.1	15.7	18.5	22.1	21.4	14.2
Income of farm operator from sources other than the farm operated exceeding value of farm products sold.....	8.7	3.9	3.3	3.5	7.6	21.5
Farm operator 55 or more years of age.....	30.3	28.9	25.4	22.0	28.5	39.1	48.3
Average per milk cow:							
Dairy products sold..... dollars.....	305	465	376	317	249	189	128
Milk sold..... pounds.....	7,530	9,098	8,457	7,968	6,903	5,682	4,268
Cattle and calves sold..... dollars.....	50	61	56	49	46	46	41
Expenditures for feed..... dollars.....	100	193	119	96	76	63	52
Expenditures for hired labor..... dollars.....	30	87	51	24	12	7	4

Z Less than 0.05 percent.

Livestock Farms (Other Than Dairy and Poultry Farms and Livestock Ranches).—Livestock farms represented the largest group of commercial farms, accounting for 26 percent of all commercial farms in 1959. They contained 24 percent of land in farms and 29 percent of cropland harvested, accounted for 27 percent of all farm products sold, and 64 percent of all livestock and livestock products (except dairy and poultry products) sold from all commercial farms in 1959. Marketings from these farms represented 53 percent of all cattle and calves, 68 percent of all hogs and pigs, and 43 percent of all sheep and lambs sold from all commercial farms. While sales of all farm products averaged more than \$13,000 per farm, only 11 percent of the farms had regular hired workers.

The center of livestock farms was in the Corn Belt of the Middle West. The heaviest concentration occurred in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, northern Missouri, northeastern Kansas and Nebraska, southeastern South Dakota, and southwestern Minnesota. More than 80 percent of the income of livestock farms was from the sale of cattle, hogs, and sheep. Generally, hogs are raised on the farms from which marketed, but cattle and sheep are obtained as feeders largely from livestock ranches and grazing areas of the West. Corn and hay were the important crops. However, considerable quantities of feed were purchased—the expenditures for feed on livestock farms accounted for one-third of the feed expenditures on all commercial farms.

There were 29,000 livestock farms with a value of farm products of \$40,000 or more. These 29,000 farms accounted for a significant part of farm production not only on livestock farms but also on all farms. The value of all farm products sold from these 29,000 farms was equivalent to 9.3 percent of the value of farm products

sold from all farms and 33.9 percent of all farm products sold from all livestock farms. These 29,000 farms included a considerable number of feedlots and the sales from such farms overstate the relative importance of these farms as producing units.

The data in table 7 indicate the use of major resources and the characteristics of livestock farms with different sizes of operation.

Livestock Ranches.—The classification "livestock ranches" was used only in the 17 Western States, Florida, Hawaii, and Alaska. Livestock operations of this type represent those farms or ranches on which the chief emphasis is placed upon the production of livestock by grazing. The classification was not used in the remaining 29 States as livestock farms consist almost entirely of farms on which livestock products are produced primarily by the feeding of crops produced on the farm or by the feeding of purchased feed.

Livestock ranches comprised less than 3 percent of all commercial farms. They contained 32 percent of the land in commercial farms, 1.6 percent of the cropland harvested, they had 55 percent of all land used for pasture and grazing, 16 percent of all the cattle and calves, 41 percent of the sheep and lambs, and 85 percent of the goats and kids. They accounted for 4.8 percent of the value of all farm products sold from commercial farms, 16 percent of the number of cattle and calves sold, and 38 percent of the number of sheep and lambs sold in 1959. Livestock ranches are located mainly in grazing areas of the western half of the United States. Areas of concentration include the Edwards Plateau of Texas, the Flint Hills of Kansas, the Sand Hills of Nebraska, western South Dakota, western North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, and Florida.