

TABLE 4. Quantities of Selected Crops Harvested for the United States: 1899 to 1964

Year	Corn for grain (million bu.)	Wheat (million bu.)	All hay (million tons)	Oats for grain (million bu.)	Soybeans for beans (million bu.)	Cotton (million bales)	Sorghums for grain (million bu.)	Barley (million bu.)	Dry field and seed peas (million lb.)	Rye (million bu.)
1964.....	3,361	1,218	116	808	670	15	463	362	498	31
1959.....	3,697	1,056	107	1,001	516	14	508	398	499	22
1954.....	2,613	909	104	1,314	324	13	224	355	337	22
1949.....	2,778	1,007	89	1,137	212	15	141	221	313	17
1944.....	2,788	1,033	95	1,041	188	12	178	261	857	21
1939.....	2,311	709	74	870	88	11	52	261	228	36
1934.....	1,169	513	54	459	23	9	19	110	(NA)	16
1929.....	2,131	801	82	993	9	15	49	264	197	34
1924.....	1,824	801	88	1,305	(NA)	14	59	159	(NA)	56
1919.....	2,346	945	89	1,055	1	11	74	122	345	76
1909.....	2,552	683	87	1,007	(?)	11	18	173	428	30
1899.....	2,666	659	79	943	(NA)	10	5	120	516	26

Year	Flaxseed (million bu.)	Rice (million lb.)	Irish potatoes (million cwt.)	Cowpeas for peas (million bu.)	Peanuts (million lb.)	Dry field and seed beans (million lb.)	Tobacco (million lb.)	Sugarcane for sugar (million tons)	Sugar beets for sugar (million tons)
1964.....	22	7,482	222	1	2,004	1,766	1,988	25	23
1959.....	20	5,440	224	1	1,413	1,909	1,647	17	17
1954.....	35	6,528	204	1	885	1,713	1,922	7	14
1949.....	40	4,025	220	2	1,722	1,922	1,770	14	10
1944.....	21	2,927	214	4	2,009	1,565	1,779	5	7
1939.....	19	1,973	191	6	1,155	1,420	1,700	14	10
1934.....	6	1,483	242	6	Bu. 144	1,122	1,021	(NA)	7
1929.....	15	1,514	193	3	Bu. 137	1,221	1,457	10	7
1924.....	28	1,329	211	(NA)	Bu. (NA)	(NA)	1,106	(NA)	7
1919.....	7	1,619	174	(NA)	Bu. 127	845	1,372	(NA)	6
1909.....	20	1,025	234	(NA)	Bu. 119	675	1,056	(NA)	4
1899.....	20	439	164	(NA)	Bu. 112	304	868	(NA)	1

NA Not available. ¹Reported in million bushels. ²Less than 500,000.

treatment of seeds of small grains, corn, sorghums, cotton, etc., to secure more uniform stand and growth; the improvement of the quality of many farm operations such as dusting, spraying, etc.; the taking out of production

of land of less than average quality through acreage control programs; the large scale improvement in management practices; and the increased farm and geographical specialization in production.

Crop	Unit of measure	Yield per acre											
		1964	1959	1954	1949	1944	1939	1934	1929	1924	1919	1909	1899
Corn for grain.....	Bushel.....	62.5	52.8	39.1	37.0	33.1	29.9	18.8	25.6	22.2	26.7	25.9	28.1
Wheat.....	Bushel.....	25.4	21.3	17.7	14.1	17.7	14.0	12.2	12.9	15.7	12.9	15.4	12.5
All hay.....	Ton.....	1.77	1.68	1.48	1.32	1.29	1.21	0.86	1.21	1.18	1.25	1.28	1.28
Oats for grain.....	Bushel.....	42.7	37.7	34.7	32.2	29.4	29.1	18.7	29.7	34.7	27.8	28.6	31.9
Soybeans for beans.....	Bushel.....	22.4	23.4	19.7	20.9	(NA)	20.5	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	9.6	10.6	(NA)
Cotton.....	Bale.....	1.06	0.95	0.69	0.58	0.62	0.50	0.35	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.33	0.39
Sorghums for grain.....	Bushel.....	41.4	34.9	19.8	22.3	19.6	11.2	7.8	13.9	16.6	19.8	10.8	13.4
Barley.....	Bushel.....	36.9	28.1	28.3	24.1	22.4	21.7	17.8	20.4	23.5	18.9	22.5	26.8
Dry field and seed peas.....	Pound.....	1,660	1,453	1,321	856	1,230	1,177	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	1,666	1,550	1,770
Rye.....	Bushel.....	18.9	15.7	15.1	11.7	10.6	10.1	8.5	11.3	14.9	9.9	13.4	12.4
Flaxseed.....	Bushel.....	8.2	6.9	6.9	8.4	8.4	9.0	5.6	5.1	8.2	5.3	9.4	9.5
Rice.....	Pound.....	4,123	3,364	2,613	2,213	2,100	2,317	2,101	2,038	1,786	1,766	1,654	1,248
Irish potatoes.....	Hundredweight	189.0	186.7	168.6	145.1	84.3	72.2	67.6	49.0	72.7	53.6	63.6	55.8
Cowpeas for peas.....	Bushel.....	8.2	8.2	4.4	5.1	(NA)	3.1	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Peanuts.....	Pound.....	1,488	1,060	696	807	679	647	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	1,244	1,223	1,232
Dry field and seed beans.....	Pound.....	1,319	1,350	1,177	1,080	824	895	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	727	841	1,116
Tobacco.....	Pound.....	1,939	1,486	1,234	1,155	1,091	917	826	771	737	719	815	788
Sugar beets for sugar.....	Ton.....	16.9	18.4	15.8	15.0	12.5	11.9	9.8	11.1	9.4	9.4	10.8	7.2
Sugarcane for sugar.....	Ton.....	38.3	40.6	23.4	33.2	18.8	36.2	(NA)	30.7	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

NA Not available. ¹Yield reported in bushels.

The use of improved varieties of crops has made important contributions to the expansion of crop production. The use of hybrid seed corn has been a significant factor in increasing the production of the most important crops in the United States. In some cases, improvements in crop varieties have resulted from the development of varieties particularly suited to the climatic and soil conditions in a specific area, for example, Gaines wheat in the Pacific Northwest and Monon wheat in the North Central States.

The increased use of fertilizer has been a major factor in increasing crop production.

From 1940 to 1964, the total tonnage of fertilizers increased almost fourfold, and the use of primary nutrients increased almost sevenfold. From 1959 to 1964, the amount of fertilizer increased more than 20 percent, and the consumption of primary plant nutrients increased more than 40 percent.

The increasing use of irrigation has had a significant effect upon crop production, especially in the West. The acreage of crops harvested from irrigated land was twice as large in 1964 as in 1929. The 1964 acreage of irrigated cropland harvested represented 11 percent of all cropland harvested. In the 17