

sometime in November or December of 1964, the average date being December 2. USDA figures, on the other hand, are for estimated numbers on hand January 1, 1965. Differences between census and USDA figures may therefore reflect seasonal fluctuations in inventories arising from purchases, births, deaths, and movements of flocks and herds to other ranges, feedlots, and markets.

With one exception, the estimates for missed farms shown in table 12 varied from 1.6 to 16.7 percent of the census-total-plus-missed-farm component. The exception is chicken eggs sold, for which the missed farm

component was only 0.5 percent of the combined total. Since production of eggs is concentrated on a fairly small number of farms with high value of sales, it might be reasonable to conclude that few, if any, of these farms were missed in the census. If this were true and the USDA figure were accepted as more accurate, then the difference would have to be attributed largely to reporting error for enumerated farms. On the other hand, if a few of the large producers were in fact missed, the estimated missed farm component would be subject to a relatively large sampling error; and an estimate similar to the one actually obtained would still be possible.

Table 7. Number of Farms, Land in Farms, and Average Size of Farm, by Coverage Status

Coverage status	Number of farms (thousands)		Land in farms (thousands of acres)		Average size of farm (acres)	
	According to census procedure	According to coverage check procedure	According to census procedure	According to coverage check procedure	According to census procedure	According to coverage check procedure
Total.....	3,158	3,559	1,110,186	1,181,706	351.5	332.0
Correctly counted <sup>1</sup> .....	3,079	3,079	1,096,741	1,130,189	356.2	367.1
Coverage check farm controlling one census farm.....	3,026	3,026	1,068,901	1,091,767	353.2	360.8
Total acres agree <sup>2</sup> .....	2,688	2,688	776,210	772,084	288.8	287.2
Total acres do not agree.....	338	338	292,691	319,683	865.9	945.8
Coverage check farm controlling more than one census farm <sup>3</sup> .....	53	53	27,840	38,421	525.3	724.9
Overenumerated (a census farm not corresponding to a coverage check farm).....	79	-	13,445	-	170.2	-
Place was not a farm according to coverage check....	23	-	1,416	-	61.6	-
Nonagricultural in coverage check.....	16	-	633	-	39.6	-
Not found in coverage check.....	5	-	89	-	16.7	-
Duplicate.....	1	-	693	-	520.0	-
Place part of another farm according to coverage check.....	56	-	12,030	-	214.8	-
Underenumerated and missed (coverage check farm not controlling any census farm).....	-	480	-	51,517	-	107.3
Underenumerated.....	-	23	-	2,801	-	121.8
Operator listed in census.....	-	16	-	1,540	-	96.3
Operator not listed in census.....	-	7	-	1,261	-	180.1
Missed.....	-	456	-	48,716	-	106.8
Enumerated in census but rejected as a farm.....	-	15	-	924	-	61.6
Listed in census but not enumerated.....	-	120	-	12,260	-	102.2
Completely missed in census.....	-	321	-	35,532	-	110.7
Net error (total "according to coverage check procedure" minus total "according to census procedure").....	-	401	-	71,520	-	-

<sup>1</sup>Estimates for correctly counted farms are based on weighted subsample (phase II) results adjusted to census levels.

<sup>2</sup>Total acres are considered in agreement if the census and coverage check figures do not differ by more than predetermined tolerance limits.

<sup>3</sup>When a coverage check farm controls two or more census farms, one of these is designated as the corresponding census farm. The total and average acres shown in columns designated "according to census procedure" are for corresponding census farms only.

<sup>4</sup>Figures are based on unrounded estimates for number of farms and land in farms.