

Some totals for 1959 for number of farms, land in farms, and land use are estimates based on reports for only a sample of farms. Totals based on reports for a sample of farms will differ slightly from totals tabulated from reports of all farms. Headnotes to the tables will indicate which data are estimates based on reports for only a sample of farms.

Value of land and buildings for 1964 and 1959, except for data for Alaska in 1959, were obtained for a sample of farms. In this chapter averages and total value of land and build-

ings have been calculated for all farms. In volume I, only averages per farm and per acre are shown. An explanation of procedures used to obtain these values will be found in this text under the paragraph "Value of land and buildings."

**Other published data for prior censuses**—In general, except for United States summary tables, data for regions and States for censuses prior to 1959 can be found in volume II of the 1959 Census of Agriculture. The following table provides a guide for locating such data.

TABLE 2. **Other Published Data From Censuses Prior to the 1964 Census of Agriculture**

Where found	Geographic area for which available	Period	Classification	Subjects covered
<b>1959 VOLUME I</b>				
County table 1...	County and State.	1959 and 1954.	All farms . . . . .	Farms, land in farms, land use, and value.
State table 1 . . . . .	State . . . . .	1930 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Farms, land in farms, land use, and value.
State table 2 . . . . .	State . . . . .	1930 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms by size . . . . .	Farms, land in farms, land use.
State table 3 . . . . .	State . . . . .	1930 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms by color and tenure . . . . .	Farms, land in farms, cropland harvested.
<b>1959 VOLUME II, CHAPTER I</b>				
Table 9 . . . . .	Region and State.	1949 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Farms, land in farms, land area, and value.
Table 10 . . . . .	Region and State.	1949 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Land use.
Table 11 . . . . .	Region and State.	1949 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Farms reporting by land use.
Table 12 . . . . .	Region and State.	1949 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Farms, totals for cropland, pasture, and woodland.
Table 13 . . . . .	Region and State.	1949 to 1959 . . . . .	Major uses of land . . . . .	Land in farms, and land not in farms by use.
Table 14 . . . . .	Region and State.	1949 to 1959 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Farms by acres of cropland harvested.
Table 15 . . . . .	Region and State.	1959 and 1954 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Percent of land in farms by use.
Table 16 . . . . .	Region and State.	1959 and 1954 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Percent of farms reporting by land use.
Table 17 . . . . .	Region and State.	1959 and 1954 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Average acres per farms reporting by use.
Table 18 . . . . .	17 Western States.	1959 and 1954 . . . . .	All farms . . . . .	Cropland, other than cropland harvested, by use.

**History of census inquiries on farms, land in farms, land use and farm values**—The first nationwide census of agriculture providing data on the number of farms, land in farms, and value of land and buildings was taken in 1850. (The census of 1840 was restricted to the enumeration of specified agricultural products, and various classes of farm animals.) The classification of land use, comparable to that of most recent censuses, was first used in 1925. Prior to 1925, land in farms was classified either as improved or unimproved.

#### DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

The descriptive terms and explanations refer principally to the 1964 Census of Agriculture, although, in general, they are applicable to earlier censuses. The definitions and explanations include instructions found on the questionnaire, and the more essential instructions and procedures for enumerating and processing questionnaires as outlined in the enumerator's and office processing manuals. For the exact wording of the inquiries and instructions on the questionnaires, see the facsimile of the 1964 agriculture questionnaire in the Introduction of this volume.

Definitions having a general application such as those for "a farm," "farms," "farms reporting," and "farm operators," and factors influencing the accuracy of the data are also given in the Introduction.

The definition of a census farm has been modified from time to time; however, the definition of a farm for 1964 was the same as used in 1959. An explanation of the various changes in definitions used in past censuses is given in the Introduction.

**Land area**—The approximate land area includes all land in farms and land not in farms, including cities, forests, etc. The approximate land area figures for individual States used in this chapter for 1964 differ slightly from those appearing in volume I of the 1964 Census of Agriculture and the 1959 Census of Agriculture reports. The differences result from the recalculation of areas, changes in political boundaries, and actual changes in land area resulting from changes in the number or size of reservoirs, lakes, etc.

**Land in farms**—The land to be included in each farm was determined by inquiries on the questionnaire and by instructions to enumerators