

tivity of this kind of pasture varies greatly as it includes cutover forest land once used for crops or open pasture in the process of reverting to forest land, and woodland, brush and scrub land, etc.

Pastureland other than cropland and woodland amounted to 490 million acres in 1964. This represented over two-fifths of the total land in farms for the United States, but over 70 percent of the land in farms in the West. About 36 million acres of the other pasture has been improved by liming, fertilizing, irrigating, draining, reseeding, or by controlling weeds.

In 18 selected Western States, having 439 million acres of the total 490 million acres of other pasture, about 5 percent of the pasture was considered improved, 74 percent to be rangeland predominantly grass, and 21 percent to be rangeland predominantly brush or browse in 1964.

Change in land use—The changes in the major uses of land in the United States were significantly different during the period prior to 1920 and the period since 1920. The period prior to 1920 was marked by the settlement and development of lands west of the Mississippi River and the clearing of forest lands. From 1900 to 1920, cropland other than that used for pasture increased from 319 million acres to 402 million acres. The expansion of cropland was accompanied by a decrease in grazing land. Grazing land, in total, was reduced about 65 million acres from 1900 to

1920. However, grazing land not in farms decreased about 107 million acres. Part of this grazing land was converted to cropland and part of the grazing land not in farms in 1900 was included as land in farms by 1920. Clearing of wooded and forest land also was a factor during this period as cropland and nonwooded pastureland increased in the Eastern States and in parts of the Pacific Northwest.

In the period since 1920, there have not been dramatic changes in the major land uses. Cropland other than that used for pasture has fluctuated from 415 million acres to 377 million acres. Land developed and improved through drainage, irrigation, and clearing of forests has about equaled the acreage of cropland reverting to permanent pasture and woodland plus the acreage of land converted to non-agricultural uses through the expansion of cities, highways, parks, airports, etc.

Land used for pasture and grazing has declined about 143 million acres since 1920. The decrease in pasture and grazing land accounts for much of the total change in land used for agriculture. Considerable acres of grazing lands not in farms have gradually become part of the pastureland in farms, as more public lands have been included in farms. (Grazing lands leased by farm operators, are included as land in farms; grazing lands under permit are not included as land in census farms. In 1964, leased Federal grazing lands totaled over 18 million acres.)

TABLE 7 Major Uses of Land in the United States: 1890 to 1964

Subject	1964	1959	1954 ¹	1950	1945 ¹	1940	1930	1920	1910	1900
Approximate land area ²acres..	2,266,272,640	2,268,378,240	1,903,824,640	2,273,406,080	1,905,361,920	2,274,943,360	2,272,798,720	2,272,824,320	2,272,898,560	2,273,070,720
Land in farms.....acres..	1,110,187,000	1,123,507,574	1,158,191,511	1,161,419,720	1,141,615,364	1,065,113,774	990,111,984	958,876,612	881,431,469	841,201,566
Land not in farms.....acres..	1,156,086,000	1,144,835,786	745,633,129	1,111,986,360	763,746,556	1,209,829,586	1,282,686,736	1,314,147,708	1,391,467,091	1,431,869,174
Proportion of total land area.....percent..	51.0	50.6	39.2	48.9	40.1	53.2	56.4	57.8	61.2	63.0
Grazing land ³acres..	293,054,000	327,803,000	4352,639,000	5402,150,000	6428,129,000	1504,000,000	1578,000,000	1661,000,000	1739,000,000	1768,000,000
Woodland and forest land not grazed ⁴acres..	442,879,000	428,893,000	238,310,000	334,804,000	185,733,000	1219,000,000	1208,000,000	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other land ⁵acres..	420,153,000	391,140,000	154,684,000	375,033,000	149,885,000	1121,000,000	1132,000,000	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Land used for agriculture, total ⁶acres..	1,403,241,000	1,451,310,574	1,510,830,511	1,563,569,720	1,569,744,000	1,565,000,000	1,565,000,000	1,617,000,000	1,618,000,000	1,607,000,000
Proportion of total land area.....percent..	61.9	63.9	79.4	68.8	82.4	82.1	82.2	85.0	85.0	84.4
Cropland other than used only for pasture.....acres..	376,813,336	382,570,743	393,579,123	408,827,289	403,245,042	1398,751,103	1415,334,931	1402,000,000	1347,000,000	1319,000,000
Proportion of total land area.....percent..	16.6	16.8	20.7	18.0	21.2	20.9	21.8	21.1	18.2	16.8
Land used for pasture and grazing.....acres..	922,985,000	952,112,623	999,740,000	1,023,573,813	1,051,670,000	1,065,000,000	1,042,000,000	1,066,000,000	1,121,000,000	1,131,000,000
Proportion of total land area.....percent..	40.7	41.9	52.5	45.0	55.2	55.9	54.7	56.0	58.9	59.4
Land used for agriculture and forestry ⁷acres..	1,846,120,000	1,880,203,574	1,749,140,511	1,898,373,720	1,755,477,000	1,784,000,000	1,773,000,000	1,777,000,000	1,780,000,000	1,782,000,000
Proportion of total land area.....percent..	81.5	82.8	91.9	83.5	92.1	93.6	93.2	93.4	93.5	93.6

NA Not available.
¹Data for Alaska and Hawaii not included.
²Changes in land area represent changes in boundaries, changes due to the construction of reservoirs, to drainage of lakes and swamps, etc., except for 1940 when a complete remeasurement of the United States was made.
³Estimates of Economic Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Grazing land not in farms consists of land used chiefly for grazing and includes open or nonforested grazing land, idle grassland in first decades, forest and woodland and shrub and brush grazing land in all years.
⁴Includes some public and private land usable for grazing which is not necessarily grazed every year, but excludes areas of grass and other forage of value for grazing in military reservations, national parks, natural wild life areas, etc., for which permits were not issued for grazing livestock.
⁵In addition to the estimated nonfarm acreage grazed, there were probably 15 to 20 million acres of nonfarm land having some forage value not used for grazing for various reasons.
⁶Includes areas containing forage suitable for grazing (not legally closed to grazing), whether actually grazed or not in 1944.
⁷Land in farms and grazing land not in farms.
⁸Land in farms, grazing land not in farms, and woodland and forests not in farms.