

4. An inventory of the kinds and numbers of livestock and poultry on farms.

5. A count of the farms with such facilities as telephone and home freezer, as well as a count of important farm machines and equipment such as tractors, motor-trucks, and corn pickers.

6. A record of the number of people living in the household of the farm operator; their relationship to the operator; their age, sex, and education; days worked off the place; and their income from wages, nonfarm business, and other sources.

7. A record of important cash expenditures made for the farm operations during 1964.

The detailed questions asked in each of the 50 States are shown in table 2, Vol. III, Part 1, Data-Collection Forms and Procedures..., of the 1964 United States Census of Agriculture.

Beginning in July 1964 and continuing through March 1966, sample surveys were conducted for the purpose of obtaining weekly data on farm labor by hired workers and by persons living in the farm operator's household. In 1966 there was a sample survey of agriculture and a landlord farm debt survey covering the year 1965. These surveys served as supplements to the 1964 Census of Agriculture.

Table 1. FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR THE 1964 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

(In thousands of dollars)

Fiscal year	Appropriation ¹	Unobligated balance, start of year	Unobligated balance, end of year	Obligations
Total.....	25,151	-	-	25,146
1963.....	700	-	249	451
1964.....	1,345	249	89	1,505
1965.....	16,150	89	707	15,532
1966.....	5,110	707	500	5,317
1967.....	1,846	500	395	1,951
1968.....	-	395	25	390

¹Includes supplementals for pay raises.

²Appropriation terminated on December 31, 1967, with a \$5,000 unobligated balance remaining.

DATE OF ENUMERATION

Except in Alaska, the enumeration began on various dates between November 9 and November 23, 1964. In Alaska the enumeration started on October 5, 1964. The beginning date was planned to follow the close of the harvest season in each State or a portion of a State. (See figure 1.) Enumerators' work assignments were planned so as to give each enumerator about 3 weeks of employment. Generally the enumeration was completed within 1 month except for those farms for which the questionnaires were obtained by correspondence from the central processing office.

INNOVATIONS IN THE 1964 CENSUS

Questions on Social and Economic Data Added to Census Form for the Farm Operator's Household

Information regarding age, sex, level of education, hours of farm work, off-farm work, and income from major sources was obtained in 1964 for the first time for each member of the farm operator's household in a nationwide census of agriculture, although some information about the number of persons living on farms and their distribution by age and sex was obtained in the 1925 and 1945 censuses. Age, sex, off-farm work, and other items had been secured for the farm operator in many of the earlier censuses, but there was no simultaneous population census available for the 1964 Census of Agriculture.

New Training Methods for Enumeration Personnel

For the first time in a major census, the enumerators were not trained in classrooms but learned how to enumerate by completing a self-study course in their own homes. A special Training Book, with detailed illustrations, was developed to teach enumerators how to do their job using programmed self-study methods. (See chapter II, p. 11.) The enumeration self-study materials apparently were quite successful. The number of trainees who failed to complete the training program satisfactorily was less in 1964 than for the 1959 census, thus reducing the crew leader's workload in respect to the hiring and training of replacements for those who failed.

New Methods of Processing the Census

Prior to 1964, U.S. censuses of agriculture were processed using conventional tabulating methods. After the initial clerical editing of the questionnaires, the data for each farm were punched into a series of cards, which were then subjected to a variety of mechanical editing processes using high-speed card-handling equipment. Certain derived data were computed and introduced into the cards by machine; the cards were then sorted and tabulated to produce summary cards which in turn were tabulated to produce the desired tables. For the 1964 Census of Agriculture, however, it was decided to process the results by the large-scale computer equipment available, and accordingly the problem of input preparation was studied to determine possible improvements.

The census of agriculture questionnaire contains many inquiries which apply to only a fraction of the total number of farms covered. Most of the inquiries call for quantitative responses stated in terms of numbers, e.g., number of acres devoted to specific crops and quantities of crops harvested. The practicality of using questionnaires designed for mark sensing by the electronic scanning device employed for the 1960 population and housing censuses was thoroughly explored. However, the decision was made not to use this system for a number of reasons including the size and complexity of the enumeration document that would have been needed for the position marking of several