Table 8. Farms, Land in Farms, Cropland Harvested, Value of Farms, Regions: 1850 to 1969

<u>Nu</u>	All land in farms					Cropland harvasted!				Value of farms (land and buildings) <sup>2</sup>						
	Increase or decrease (-)			decrease (-)		Per- cent	Aver-		Per- cent Percent of		Aver- age		Percent		Aver- Aver- age age	
		Per-			Per-	of total land	acre- age per		increase or decrease	alt land in	acre- age per	Total	increase or decrease	per ferm (dol-	per, acre (dol-	
Total United States	Number	cent	Acres	Acres	cent	area3	farm	Acres	(-)	farms	farm.	(dollars)	(-)	lars)	lars)	
1969. 2,730,250 1964. 3,157,857 1959. 3,710,503 1954 <sup>4</sup> 4,782,416 1950. 5,388,437	-427,607 -552,646 -1,071,913 -606,021 -470,732	-13.5 -14.9 -22.4 -11.2 -8.0	1,063,346,489 1,110,187,000 1,123,507,574 1,158,191,511 1,161,419,720	-46,840,511 -13,320,574 -34,683,937 -3,228,209 19,804,356	-4.2 -1.2 -3.0 -0.3 1.7	47.0 49.0 49.5 60.8 51.1	389.5 351.6 302.8 242.2 215.5	273,016,000 286,891,974 311,476,141 332,870,479 344,564,497	-4.8 -7.9 -6.4 -3.4 -2.4	25.7 25.8 27.7 28.7 29.7	100.0 90.9 83.9 69.6 63.9	206,750,634,464 159,931,665,000 4128,987,659,000 97,582,918,000 75,462,427,000	24.0 32.2 29.3	75,725 50,646 34,763 20,405 14,005		
1945 <sup>4</sup> 5,859,169 1940 6,102,417 1935 <sup>4</sup> 6,812,350 1930 6,295,103 1925 <sup>4</sup> 6,371,640	-243,248 -709,933 517,247 -76,537 -82,351	-4.0 -10.4 8.2 -1.2 -1.3	1,141,615,364 1,065,113,774 1,054,515,111 990,111,984 924,319,352	76,501,590 10,598,663 64,403,127 65,792,632 -34,357,260	7.2 1.0 6.5 7.1 -3.6	59.9 46.8 55.4 43.6 48.6	194.8 174.5 154.8 157.3 145.1	352,865,765 321,434,288 295,624,176 359,242,091 344,549,267	9.8 8.7 -17.7 4.3 -1.2	30.9 30.2 28.0 36.3 37.3	60.2 52.7 43.4 57.1 54.1	46,388,925,560 33,758,367,972 32,858,844,012 47,994,475,975 49,467,647,287	37.4 2.7 -31.5 -3.0 -25.6	7,917 5,532 4,823 7,624 7,764	40.63 31.69 31.16 48.47 53.52	
1920	87,947 626,387 1,175,016 555,734	1.4 10.9 25.7 13.9	958,676,612 881,431,469 841,201,546 623,218,619	77,245,143 40,229,923 217,982,927 87,136,784	8.8 4.8 35.0 16.3	42.2 38.8 37.0 32,7	148.5 138.5 146.6 136.5	348,603,729 311,293,382 283,218,280 219,705,564	12.0 9.9 28.9 32.2	36.4 35.3 33.7 35.3	54.0 48.9 49.3 48.1	66,446,345,611 34,884,925,036 416,614,647,491 13,279,252,649	90.5 110.0 25.1 30.2	10,295 5,480 2,895 2,909	69.31 39.58 19.75 21.31	
1880 <sup>4</sup> 4,008,907 1870 <sup>4</sup> 2,659,985 1860 <sup>4</sup> 2,044,077 1850 <sup>4</sup> 1,449,073	1,348,922 615,908 595,004	50.7 30.1 41.1	536,081,835 407,735,041 407,212,538 293,560,614	128,346,794 522,503 113,651,924	31.5 0.1 38.7	28,2 21,4 21,4 15,6	133.7 153.3 199.2 202.6	166,186,584 (NA) (NA) (NA)	(NA) (NA) (NA)	31.0 (NA) (NA) (NA)	41.5 (NA) (NA) (NA)	10,197,096,776 7,444,054,462 6,645,045,007 3,271,575,426	37.0 12.0 103.1	2,544 2,799 3,251 2,258	19.02 18.26 16.32 11.14	
Northeast																
1969.     151,866       1964.     202,194       1959.     254,734       1954.     339,154       1950.     399,927	-50,328 -52,540 -84,420 -60,773 -97,861	-24.9 -20.6 -24.9 -15.2 -19.7	25,683,444 31,979,382 36,046,601 41,019,086 44,642,219	-6,295,938 -4,067,219 -4,972,485 -3,623,133 -4,261,020	-19.7 -11.3 -12.1 -8.1 -8.7	24.6 30.6 24.8 39.2 42.6	169.1 158.2 141.5 120.9 111.6	9,477,770 11,726,018 12,753,321 14,261,879 15,161,114	-19.2 -8.1 -10.6 -5.9 -17.7	36.9 36.7 35.4 34.8 34.0	62.4 58.0 50.1 42.1 37.9	9,024,736,616 6,900,810,000 6,292,541,000 5,409,454,000 4,707,542,000	9.7 16.3 14.9	59,426 34,130 24,702 15,950 11,771	215.79 174.57 131.88	
1945 <sup>4</sup> 497,788 1940. 483,290 1935 <sup>4</sup> 555,925 1930 482,528 1925 <sup>4</sup> 578,357	14,498 -72,635 73,397 -95,829 -3,354	3.0 -13.1 15.2 -16.6 -0.6	48,903,239 47,010,346 51,918,614 49,330,342 53,348,866	1,892,893 -4,908,268 2,588,272 -4,018,524 -4,214,677	4.0 -9.5 5.2 -7.5 -7.3	46.7 44.9 50.1 47.6 51.5	98.2 97.3 93.4 102.2 92.2	18,428,340 16,865,623 18,930,304 17,982,937 20,929,437	9.3 -10.9 5.3 -14.1 -1.7	37.7 35.9 36.5 36.5 39.2	37.0 34.9 34.1 37.3 36.2	3,327,593,913 2,779,587,103 3,042,683,214 3,758,480,995 3,705,461,089	19.7 -8.6 -19.0 1.4 -5.5	6,685 5,751 5,473 7,789 6,407	68.04 59.13 58.60 76.19 69.46	
1920	-75,470 -20,325 18,937 -37,570	-11.5 -3.0 2.9 -5.4	57,563,543 62,905,987 65,409,089 62,743,525	-5,342,444 -2,503,102 2,665,564 -5,242,115	-8.5 -3.8 4.2 -7.7	55.5 60.7 63.1 60.5	99.0 95.7 96.5 95.3	21,285,108 21,988,046 23,485,249 22,937,266	-3.2 -6.4 2.4 0.5	37.0 35.0 35.9 36.6	36.6 33.5 34.7 34.8	3,919,606,338 3,161,493,911 2,477,265,688 2,539,200,537	24.0 27.6 ~2.4 -9.4	6,738 4,811 3,656 3,856	68.09 50.26 37.87 40.47	
1880 <sup>4</sup>	94,544 36,660 75,181	15.7 6.5 15.4	67,985,640 62,744,384 61,081,545 55,162,835	5,241,256 1,662,839 5,918,710	8.4 2.7 10.7	65.5 60.5 58.9 53.2	97.7 104.3 108.1 112.6	22,816,624 (NA) (NA) (NA)	(NA) (NA) (NA)	33.6 (NA) (NA) (NA)	32.8 (NA) (NA) (NA)	2,803,443,402 2,527,224,158 2,121,948,475 1,455,008,795	10.9 19.1 45.8	4,027 4,201 3,756 2,971	41.24 40.28 34.74 26.38	
North Central																
1969. 1,151,884 1964. 1,277,387 1959. 1,460,707 1954 <sup>4</sup> . 1,703,938 1950. 1,868,139	-125,503 -183,320 -243,231 -164,201 -117,651	-9.8 -12.6 -14.3 -8.8 -5.9	385,393,067 393,457,881	-9,720,834 -2,303,287 -8,064,814 -2,727,803 -2,626,284	-2.5 -0.6 -2.0 -0.7 -0.7	77.6 79.5 79.8 81.4 81.9	324.1 299.9 263.8 230.9 212.1	169,474,381 184,760,894 193,349,686	-7.0 -8.3 -4.4 0.3 -0.6	42.2 44.2 47.9 49.1 48.6	136.8 132.7 126.5 113.5 103.2	86,393,705,799 64,181,580,000 55,468,599,000 42,615,602,000 33,747,747,000	15.7 30.2 26.3	75,002 50,244 37,974 25,010 18,065	167.54 143.93	
1945 <sup>4</sup>		-5.3 -7.4 8.9 -3.9 -0.9	388,077,931 390,033,911 376,379,086	15,545,485	2.8 -0.5 3.6 4.3 -3.7	82.5 80.2 80.6 77.8 74.5	200.8 185.1 172.3 181.0 166.8	147,096,638 195,360,014	14.3 15.3 -24.7 2.8 0.1	48.6 43.7 37.7 51.9 52.7	97.6 80.9 65.0 94.0 87.9	22,073,820,117 16,129,543,848 15,981,984,865 24,495,320,126 27,554,550,063	0.9 -34.8 -11.1		55.35 41.56 40.98 65.08 76.36	
1920	-51,742 36,870 272,745 225,854	-2.3 1.7 14.2 13.3	350,577,269 317,349,474	33,227,795 60,762,480	6.9 10.5 23.7 24.0	77.4 72.4 65.6 53.2	171.8 157.0 144.5 133.4	174,480,039 160,467,021	8.8 8.7 27.4 46.7	50.7 49.8 50.6 49.1	87.0 78.1 73.1 65.5	39,407,136,840 20,488,657,464 9,563,880,438 7,069,767,154	92.3 114.2 35.3 37.8	18,063 9,174 4,354 3,675	105.17 58.44 30.14 27.55	
1880 <sup>4</sup> 1,697,968 1870 <sup>4</sup> 1,125,078 1860 <sup>4</sup> 772,165 1850 <sup>4</sup>	572,890 352,913 334,568	50,9 45.7 76,5	139,215,269	31,315,679 45,213,100	48.7 29.0 72.1	42.8 28.8 17.5 18.4	121.9 123.7 139.7 143.3	85,915,532 (NA) (NA) (NA)	(NA) (NA) (NA)	41.5 (NA) (NA) (NA)	50.6 (NA) (NA) (NA)	5,129,439,087 3,451,602,260 2,130,013,463 751,723,133	48.6 62.0 183.4	3,021 3,068 2,758 1,718	24.78 24.79 19.74 11.99	
South																
1969. 1,161,399 1964. 1,372,732 1959. 1,645,949 1954 <sup>4</sup> 2,316,607 1950. 2,652,423	-211,333 -273,217 -670,658 -335,816 -228,712	-15.4 -16.6 -29.0 -12.7 -7.9	346,228,336 357,448,086 386,289,000	-11,219,750 -28,840,914 -6,926,174	-3.9 -3.1 -7.5 -1.8 4.1	59.5 61.8 63.7 68.7 69.9	286.6 252.2 217.2 166.7 148.2	68,335,146 68,535,247 75,173,269 86,589,832 96,598,960	-0.3 -8.8 -13.2 -10.4 -5.6	20.5 19.8 21.0 22.4 24.6	58.8 49.9 45.7 37.4 36.4	69,663,892,270 52,068,384,000 39,011,497,000 29,549,362,000 22,955,349,000	33,5 32,0	59,983 37,931 23,702 12,755 8,654	150.11	
1945 <sup>4</sup> 2,881,135 1940 3,007,170 1935 <sup>4</sup> 3,421,923 1930 3,223,816 1925 <sup>4</sup> 3,131,418	-126,035 -414,753 198,107 92,398 -75,246	-4.2 -12.1 6.1 3.0 -2.3	377,794,713 370,168,461 376,206,201 343,086,418 324,189,399	7,626,252 -6,037,740 33,119,783 18,897,019 -25,932,434	2.1 -1.6 9.7 5.8 -7.4	67.1 65.7 66.9 61.0 57.7	131.1 123.1 109.9 106.4 103.5	102,338,942 103,289,490 101,897,290 109,505,307 102,243,034	-0.9 1.4 -6.9 7.1 -6.3	27.1 27.9 27.1 31.9 31.5	35.5 34.3 29.8 34.0 32.7	13,148,834,055 9,716,128,097 8,736,858,459 12,343,593,204 11,539,207,263	35.3 11.2 -29.2 7.0 -23.9	4,564 3,231 2,553 3,829 3,685	34.80 26.25 23.22 35.98 35.59	
1920	109,117 477,156 784,019 305,295	3.5 18.2 42.7 19.9	354,452,860 362,036,351	-4,331,027 -7,583,491 105,430,484 21,686,081	-1.2 -2.1 41.1 9.2	62.3 63.1 64.4 45.6	109.2 114.4 138.2 139.7	109,135,396 95,328,941 83,509,844 61,019,066	14.5 14.2 36.9 16.7	31.2 26.9 23.1 23.8	34.0 30.8 31.9 33.2	15,156,654,907 7,353,431,195 3,279,021,509 2,575,342,268		4,727 2,374 1,251 1,402	43.29 20.75 9.06 10.04	
1880 <sup>4</sup> 1,531,077 1870 <sup>4</sup>	645,977 212,787 157,303	73.0 31.6 30.5	189,556,302	-35,957,434 54,466,660	23.9 -15.9 31.8	41.8 33.7 40.1 30.4	153.4 214.2 335.4 332.1	52,274,570 (NA) (NA) (NA)	(NA) (NA) (NA)	22.3 (NA) (NA) (NA)	34.1 (NA) (NA) (NA)	1,873,329,846 1,288,694,869 2,322,594,749 1,056,154,566		1,224 1,456 3,455 2,051	7.97 6.80 10.30 6.17	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Farms, Land in Farms, Cropland Harvested, Value of Farms, Regions: 1850 to 1969—Continued

Increase or Increase or Per- Aver- Cent Aver- decrease (-) decrease (-) Per- Aver- Cent age Percent of age Percent age	Average per acre (doi-lars)
of acre- increase all acre- increase per total age or tand age or farm per Total decrease (doi-	
Total Number cent Acres Acres cent area farm Acres (-) farms farm (dollars) 1:7 tets)	
West	
006 101   40 442   13 2   321 486 223   17 403 279   5.0   29.6 1.250.4   37.577.152   1.1   11.5   12.7   1	125.70
205 544 43 569 -12 5 348 889 502 4 269 682 1.2 31.2 1,141.9 37,156,328 -4.2 10.6 121.6 36,780,891,000 30.4 120,383	105.39
240 112 73 604 -17 4 344 619 820 7 194 276 2.1 30.7 987.1 38,788,657 0.3 11.3 111.1 128,215,022,000 41.0 82,379	82.68
1895	59.30
1959 122,121   14,051,789,000 79.3 30,029	42.92
1945 <sup>4</sup>	24.80
1893	19.75
1990	21.57
133	33.42
1930	35,86
1925	
1920 483,921 106,042 28.1 176,282,828 62,787,475 55.3 15.7 364.3 28,285,497 45.1 16.3 59.1 7,962,947,526 105.2 16,455	45,17
132 979 1 132 986 54 1 113 495 353 17 088 721 17.7 10.1 300.3 19.496,356 23.7 17.6 52.2 3,881,342,466 199.8 10,271	34.20
245 102 90 315 58 1 96 406 632 49 124 399 103.9 8.6 393.2 15,756,166 61.7 16.8 64.9 41,294,479,856 18.2 5,329	13.80
	23.16
1650	
1880 <sup>4</sup>	14.92
1880	10,88
1870	5.54
1860°	1.86

Data for Alaska and Hawaii not included.

## Land Use: Class 1-5 Farms

Total cropland in these farms increased by 30 million acres. This appears to have been largely the result of differences in reporting between 1969 and 1964, rather than to an overall increase in cropland. There was a tendency to report more land as cropland pasture and less as other pasture in 1969. A few States, notably Arkansas, did have an increase in both total cropland and cropland harvested due to clearing additional land for growing soybeans. Also, there was a decrease of about 5 million acres of total cropland in farms with sales of less than \$2,500 in sales. It seems reasonable to assume that some of that 5 million acres shifted to farms with sales of \$2,500 and over.

Cropland harvested decreased by 7 million acres. The largest changes from 1964 were a decrease of 9 million acres in hay crops harvested and an increase of 8 million acres in soybeans harvested for beans.

Cropland pasture increased by 25 million acres to 69 million acres in 1969. Cropland in cover crops decreased by 8 million acres and cropland on which all crops failed, by about 0.5 million acres. Cropland in cultivated summer fallow increased by 9 million acres over 1964, accompanied by an increase of 75 thousand farms reporting summer fallow. Some of the increase is undoubtedly due to having summer fallow on the report form for all States in 1969, rather than for only 17 Western States in 1964. Cropland idle increased by 11 million acres, possibly including some land that had been classified as in cover crops in 1964.

All pastureland decreased by about 6 million acres from 1964, to 500 million acres in 1969. Cropland pasture increased by 25 million acres. Woodland pasture decreased by 10 million acres. and other pasture decreased by 21 million acres.

The acreage of improved pasture increased 14 million acres, or 48 percent from 1964 to 1969. In 24 States there were significant increases in acreages of other improved pasture. In the West and Southwest increases resulted largely from brush control and reseeding.

Woodland decreased by 16 million acres: 10 million acres in woodland pastured and 6 million acres in woodland not pastured. All other land (land in lots, roads, ponds, wasteland, etc.) increased by about 3 million acres.

## **VALUE OF FARMLAND AND BUILDINGS**

The total value of farmland and buildings in 1969 was about \$207 billion, or an average of \$76 thousand per farm.

The total value of farmland and buildings has increased significantly in each census since 1940. The total value also increased at a rapid rate in the period from 1850 to 1920. The total value declined from a high of \$66 billion in 1920 to \$33 billion in 1935. It was not until 1950 that the total value exceeded that for 1920. The decline in value between 1920 and 1935 was largely the result of falling prices throughout the economy. The increase in total value of farmland and buildings in the 50 years between 1850 and 1900 was due mainly to the increasing acreage of land in farms as settlement pushed westward, and to the lengthening of the railway network which brought new land areas within the reach of farm product markets.

The changes in the total value of land and buildings and the average value per farm and per acre from census to census are affected by changes in price level as well as changes in the physical assets themselves. No fully satisfactory index is available to use for removing the effect of the changes in price level from census to census. The following table indicates the approximate level of the value of farmland and buildings at 1969 prices for the period 1850 to 1969.

<sup>1</sup>Prior to 1924 the data relate to the total acreage of crops for which figures are available, except for 1919 when 14,502,932 acres of corn cut for silage were excluded (as most of this was probably duplicated in the acreage of corn harvested for grain).

The total value for 1959, 1954, and 1950 was based on the average value per acre for farms in the sample for which the value of land and buildings was reported. The average value per farm and per acre was based on the total value of all farms. The values for 1964 are estimates based upon reports for a sample of farms.

Percentages for 1969 and 1964 are based on land areas as published in census reports for those years. United States land areas are shown in table 5.

The acre of the sample of the value of land areas are shown in table 5.