

**Table 9. Farms in Each Size Group by Economic Class of Farm for the United States: 1969**

	Total	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
Total.....	1,733,683	221,690	330,992	395,472	390,425	395,104
1 to 9 acres.....	53,331	5,670	6,041	7,251	13,186	21,183
10 to 49 acres.....	130,523	10,033	11,229	18,222	33,792	57,247
50 to 99 acres.....	65,950	3,771	5,357	8,717	17,294	30,811
100 to 139 acres.....	137,691	5,820	9,669	20,526	41,238	60,438
140 to 179 acres.....	170,027	7,178	15,916	35,246	52,708	58,979
180 to 219 acres.....	192,782	9,135	26,946	49,878	55,689	51,134
220 to 259 acres.....	130,942	8,580	25,078	36,913	33,247	27,124
260 to 299 acres.....	121,017	10,380	28,269	35,180	27,063	20,125
300 to 399 acres.....	379,693	55,664	105,730	99,716	71,578	47,005
400 to 499 acres.....	205,041	51,645	54,804	51,645	31,837	15,310
500 to 999 acres.....	88,274	26,759	25,228	22,733	9,533	4,021
1,000 to 1,999 acres...	58,412	27,055	16,925	9,445	3,260	1,727
2,000 acres and over...						

Class 1 to 5 data by size of farms also indicate there are differences in the type and use of land in the various size groups. Table 10 shows that farms with less than 1,000 acres have less than one-fifth of their land in pasture, as compared to more than one-third for farms with 1,000 to 1,999 acres and almost four-fifths for farms with 2,000 acres and over.

**Table 10. Percent of Land in Farms Represented by Total Cropland, Harvested Cropland, Pastureland Other Than Cropland Pasture, and Woodland by Size of Farm for the United States: 1969**

	Total cropland	Harvested cropland	Pastureland other than cropland pasture	Woodland
Total.....	45.5	28.4	47.0	8.5
1 to 9 acres.....	50.7	41.0	4.5	2.1
10 to 49 acres.....	71.9	48.9	9.3	8.9
50 to 99 acres.....	72.1	45.4	11.8	12.7
100 to 139 acres.....	73.6	46.3	12.3	12.0
140 to 179 acres.....	71.5	44.5	14.4	14.0
180 to 219 acres.....	73.2	47.4	14.4	12.2
220 to 259 acres.....	71.1	45.5	15.9	14.4
260 to 299 acres.....	72.2	47.7	15.7	13.1
300 to 399 acres.....	71.7	47.2	17.2	12.3
400 to 499 acres.....	67.7	42.5	22.9	10.8
500 to 999 acres.....	56.4	33.9	36.2	8.4
1,000 to 1,999 acres...	16.9	9.7	79.0	5.0
2,000 acres and over...				

The type of product produced is closely related to the size of farm. For many commodities, the scale of production which is necessary to provide an adequate economic unit seems to dictate the acreage of land which is necessary. For example, over 50 percent of the total cash-grain sold was from farms of 500 acres and over; whereas, farms having less than 180 acres account for over 50 percent of the tobacco. Almost half of the

poultry sales are from farms that are under 100 acres in size. For nursery and greenhouse products, about half of the sales are from farms of less than 50 acres.

Table 11 indicates differences in the proportion of farm products sold by various size-of-farm groups among the farm regions.

For example, in the South, about three-fifths of the cotton is sold from farms having less than 1,000 acres; whereas, in the West, farms with less than 1,000 acres sell only a little more than one-third of the cotton. These differences reflect not only the productivity of the land, but also the amount of capital input used in production processes.

### Farms of 2,000 Acres and Over

Table 22 presents data showing the characteristics of farms with 2,000 acres and over for seven size groups for the United States. Data are provided for all farms and for class 1 to 5 farms. In table 21, data are shown by State for the major land-use items for 12 size groups ranging from 2,000 acres to 30,000 acres and over.

The 59,907 farms of 2,000 acres and over account for 455 million acres of land or about 45 percent of all land in farms. Indian reservations and grazing associations account for about 50 million acres. Leased Federal and State lands account for another 40 to 45 million acres. The 7,951 farms that were 10,000 acres or more in size account for 260 million acres, of which 180 million acres are located in the West. Two-thirds of the 1969 farms having 30,000 acres and over are in the West.

Since 1964, there has been a decrease of less than 1 percent in the number of farms of 2,000 acres and over. For farms of 10,000 acres and over, the decrease has been about 5 percent. Land in these farms decreased 3.7 percent.

Over 97 percent of the farms with 2,000 acres and over are included in class 1 to 5 farms. Of the 1,495 farms with 2,000 acres and over which are not included in the class 1 to 5 totals, 629 are abnormal farms and excluded by definition. These are especially significant for the 20,000 acres and over size group, as they account for a large proportion of the 52 million acre difference between all farms and class 1 to 5 farms.