

Table 2. Selected Value-of-Farm-Products-Sold Groups, by Type: 1950 to 1969

	Total	Cash-grain farms	Cotton farms	Tobacco farms	Other field-crop farms	Vegetable farms	Fruit and nut farms	Poultry farms	Dairy farms	Livestock farms other than poultry, dairy, and livestock ranches	Livestock ranches	General farms	Miscellaneous farms
Class 1-5 Farms with a value of farm products sold of-													
\$2,500 or more:													
1969.....	1,731,251	369,309	89,903	40,534	30,555	19,262	53,344	57,454	260,883	567,962	79,496	126,491	36,058
1964.....	1,815,044	368,509	117,241	125,593	30,710	16,981	49,616	76,170	349,124	416,618	53,666	175,065	35,751
1959.....	2,064,444	365,697	158,647	133,298	31,700	17,221	55,470	94,154	397,811	533,736	60,544	185,521	30,645
1954.....	2,101,871	421,971	204,000	(¹)	¹ 182,927	19,709	59,248	97,878	397,977	² 456,607	(²)	238,590	22,964
1950.....	2,087,895	325,424	174,837	(¹)	¹ 169,551	23,923	50,691	93,363	405,129	² 525,425	(²)	293,382	25,897
\$2,500 to \$4,999:													
1969.....	394,291	78,996	33,654	14,178	4,859	4,344	13,100	3,407	19,945	148,790	24,226	33,475	15,317
1964.....	443,192	77,996	41,700	49,989	4,800	4,379	10,725	7,902	59,276	109,235	16,700	49,789	10,701
1959.....	616,819	92,160	67,058	73,166	6,481	4,430	12,927	17,640	97,315	156,638	19,027	61,134	8,843
1954.....	812,108	129,042	116,163	(¹)	¹ 114,222	6,384	16,876	27,605	153,690	² 143,072	(²)	97,932	7,122
1950.....	882,302	109,815	91,377	(¹)	¹ 114,317	9,248	18,929	34,030	179,935	² 176,580	(²)	138,940	9,131
\$5,000 to \$9,999:													
1969.....	389,907	89,888	29,655	8,597	5,668	4,168	-12,713	4,203	45,435	131,015	19,763	32,876	5,926
1964.....	503,996	105,583	28,828	45,969	5,890	3,648	11,638	11,963	104,011	110,425	13,888	53,488	8,665
1959.....	653,150	124,559	37,961	46,357	7,640	4,090	14,357	22,254	145,963	160,698	15,548	65,819	7,904
1954.....	706,852	160,337	47,013	(¹)	¹ 47,706	5,094	16,367	28,582	156,506	² 152,413	(²)	87,301	5,533
1950.....	721,211	127,744	44,972	(¹)	¹ 37,316	6,743	15,491	28,427	153,980	² 189,087	(²)	110,854	6,597
\$10,000 or more:													
1969.....	947,053	200,425	26,594	17,759	20,028	10,750	27,531	49,844	195,503	288,157	35,507	60,140	14,815
1964.....	867,856	184,930	46,713	29,635	20,020	8,954	27,253	56,305	185,837	196,958	23,078	71,788	16,385
1959.....	794,475	148,978	53,628	13,775	17,579	8,701	28,186	54,260	154,533	216,400	25,969	58,568	13,898
1954.....	582,911	132,592	40,824	(¹)	¹ 20,999	8,231	26,005	41,691	87,781	² 161,122	(²)	53,357	10,309
1950.....	484,382	87,865	38,488	(¹)	¹ 17,918	7,932	16,271	31,179	71,214	² 159,758	(²)	43,588	10,169

¹ In 1954 and 1950, tobacco farms were included with other field-crop farms.

² In 1954 and 1950, livestock ranches were included with livestock farms other than poultry and dairy.

management in the use of purchased materials, know-how, land, and livestock to obtain high yields of quality plant and animal products. Also aiding increased productivity is superior seed; superior breeding stock; protection against insects, diseases, parasites, and weeds; machines; water management; formulated livestock feeds; and even the use of electronic data processing. Mechanization has been more feasible for farm operators on larger units and for those with agricultural land in larger tracts. Moreover, the high capital requirements and the financial and credit problems of farm operators have been important factors influencing the rate of mechanization.

Significantly influencing the number of farms by type and by value of farm products are changes in transportation cost, in the relative increase in population in various areas, in the relative demand for various farm products, in government programs, and in farm managerial requirements.

In the last 20 years, the number of class 1-5 farms has shown a considerable decrease, but they are somewhat larger whether size is measured in terms of value of farm products sold, acres of cropland, acres of land in the farm or overall productivity. The larger farms have become more numerous and smaller farms have decreased significantly. However, there are still a large number of small farms with low production, low utilization of resources, low levels of gross income from farm operations and with no more land, livestock, machinery, fertilizers, or other capital items than 20 years ago.

Evolution has had its effect upon various types of farming, the kinds of farm products produced, the number of producers, and the combinations of farm enterprises. Data indicate that a large proportion of most major farm products is now produced by a small proportion of the farms.

From 1964 to 1969, the number of several types of farms increased. These increases occurred on cash-grain farms, vegetable farms, fruit and nut farms, livestock farms, livestock

ranches, and miscellaneous type farms. The following table shows percentage increase of these farms:

	Percent increase (1964 to 1969)
Cash-grain farms	0.2
Vegetable farms	13.5
Fruit and nut farms	7.5
Livestock farms other than poultry, dairy, and livestock ranches	36.3
Livestock ranches	48.1
Miscellaneous farms	0.9

The greatest decreases in types of farms from 1964 to 1969, occurred on dairy, tobacco, and general types of farms, which decreased by 88 thousand, 85 thousand and 49 thousand farms respectively. There were almost 84 thousand fewer class 1-5 farms in 1969 than 1964. There were more farms with a value of farm products sold of \$10,000 or more in 1969 than 1964. The number of farms with a value of farm products sold of \$10,000 or more in 1969 exceeded the number in 1964 by 79 thousand farms for all class 1-5 farms, 15 thousand farms for cash-grain farms, 91 thousand for livestock farms and 12 thousand for livestock ranches.

The number of class 1-5 farms with a value of farm products sold of \$2,500 to \$4,999 decreased 488 thousand, almost 55 percent from 1950 to 1969. The largest proportion of decline from 1950 to 1969 occurred in the number of dairy, other field crops, general farms, cotton, and cash-grain farms.

Class 1-5 farms with a value of farm products sold of \$5,000 to \$9,999 declined 331 thousand, or 46 percent, from 1950 to 1969. The number of farms of each type was less in 1969 than in 1950. The decrease of 109 thousand in the number of dairy farms, 78 thousand in the number of general farms, 38 thousand