

CHAPTER II Continued

1969 to 3.2 in 1974. Table 4 shows an increase of 23 percent in the number of farms reporting 10 or more regular hired workers from 1969 to 1974.

Since regular workers are most frequently employed on larger size farms, these farms account for most of these workers. According to table 5, farms with sales of \$100,000 and over reported nearly 70 percent of the regular workers. Only on farms with sales of \$100,000 or more did both the farms reporting regular workers and the number of regular workers reported increase from 1969 to 1974. Conversely all farms with sales categories under \$40,000 showed both a decline in farms reporting and a decline in regular workers employed.

In the description of hired workers used for the 1969 census, seasonal workers included all workers who worked less than 150 days. Unlike the 1969 definition, the 1974 definition of a seasonal worker includes only those hired workers who worked 25 to 149 days. Table 6

shows that of farms by SIC, horticultural farms (018) have the highest percentage reporting seasonal workers. Yet, the average number of seasonal workers per farm was highest on vegetable and melon farms (016) with 21.4 seasonal workers per farm reporting.

For the first time, the 1974 census collected data on the number of workers working less than 25 days. Twice as many farms reported casual workers as farms that reported regular workers, yet there are almost 5 times as many casual workers reported as regular workers reported. There was an average of over seven casual workers per farm reporting.

Unlike the number of regular workers, the combined total number of seasonal and casual workers declined between 1969 and 1974. The combined total in 1974 was 4.5 million, down almost 14 percent from the 5.1 million reported in 1969.

Larger farms also accounted for a substantial portion of the total seasonal

and casual hired workers. Farms with sales of \$100,000 or more accounted for 32.5 percent of all seasonal and casual workers and 55.5 percent of all seasonal workers (table 7).

Of farms reporting casual workers, fruit and tree nut farms had the highest proportion, 45 percent. Vegetable and melon farms had the highest average number of casual workers per farm reporting, an average of 27.8. Although 43 percent of the tobacco farms reported casual workers, they average only 10.4 workers per farm reporting which indicates their relatively small scale of operations (table 8).

Contract Labor

The 1974 census was the first census to collect information on the number of contract workers. When contract workers are employed, the farm operator usually contracts with a labor crewleader for a crew of laborers to accomplish a particular job. In this type of arrangement, the farm operator will usually not pay the individual contract workers. Instead the operator will pay the crewleader, who will then determine the remuneration to be received by each contract worker. Effective completion of the contracted tasks is of greater importance to the farm operator than the number of workers furnished. Therefore, the farm operator may frequently be unaware of the number of workers furnish-

Table 2. Proportion of Farms With Hired Labor by Value of Sales Group: 1974 and 1969

Farms With Sales of \$2,500 and Over	Expenditures for farm labor		Regular workers (150 days or more)		Seasonal workers (25 to 149 days), 1974	Casual workers (less than 25 days), 1974
	1974	1969	1974	1969		
Total.....	41.4	61.7	13.2	14.3	13.6	26.5
\$100,000 and over.....	77.0	93.9	57.5	77.0	39.2	32.2
\$40,000 to \$99,999.....	55.3	83.9	23.8	43.7	22.5	29.5
\$20,000 to \$39,999.....	41.9	73.4	10.1	21.1	13.6	27.7
\$10,000 to \$19,999.....	34.0	62.4	4.6	9.3	8.6	25.5
\$5,000 to \$9,999.....	29.5	52.4	2.2	4.0	5.5	24.2
\$2,500 to \$4,999.....	26.3	46.5	1.6	2.8	4.0	22.4

Table 3. Percent of Farms by Standard Industrial Classification by Expenditures for Hired Farm Labor: 1974

Farms With Sales of \$2,500 and Over	Expenditures for hired labor										
	Total	\$1 to \$499	\$500 to \$999	\$1,000 to \$4,999	\$5,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 to \$14,999	\$15,000 to \$19,999	\$20,000 to \$29,999	\$30,000 to \$39,999	\$40,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 and over
Total farms.....	100.0	34.3	13.9	29.6	10.6	4.1	2.1	2.1	1.0	0.6	1.8
Cash grain farms (011).....	100.0	38.7	14.9	29.1	9.5	3.3	1.5	1.4	.6	.3	.5
Cotton farms (0131).....	100.0	16.5	10.1	29.1	17.7	8.8	4.6	5.1	3.0	1.6	3.5
Tobacco farms (0132).....	100.0	35.4	18.4	34.3	7.6	2.3	.9	.6	.2	.1	.2
Sugar crop, Irish potato, hay, peanut, and other field crop farms (0133, 0134, 0139).....	100.0	24.7	10.8	29.2	13.7	6.5	3.8	4.1	2.1	1.3	4.0
Vegetable and melon farms (016).....	100.0	15.2	9.4	28.0	12.4	7.3	4.1	5.9	3.4	2.4	11.8
Fruit and tree nut farms (017).....	100.0	11.2	10.0	34.4	15.2	8.0	4.5	5.6	2.9	1.8	6.4
Horticultural specialty farms (018).....	100.0	8.2	6.5	24.5	14.2	8.8	6.2	7.9	4.9	3.4	15.4
General farms, primarily crop (0191).....	100.0	31.3	13.4	31.2	11.7	4.6	2.1	2.2	1.1	.6	1.7
Livestock farms, except dairy, poultry, and animal specialty (021).....	100.0	44.9	14.3	25.5	8.2	2.9	1.4	1.2	.6	.3	.7
Dairy farms (024).....	100.0	26.9	13.8	35.1	13.6	4.6	2.1	1.9	.8	.4	.9
Poultry and egg farms (025).....	100.0	21.8	12.0	31.7	14.3	6.0	3.1	3.3	1.6	1.0	5.2
Animal specialty farms (027).....	100.0	22.2	11.1	29.9	14.3	7.1	4.1	3.9	2.2	1.0	4.1
General farms, primarily livestock (0291).....	100.0	36.6	14.8	30.9	10.7	3.4	1.3	1.3	.4	.2	.3
Farms not classified by SIC.....	100.0	40.8	14.1	28.7	7.8	3.0	1.9	1.8	.8	.4	.9