## CHAPTER IV, SECTION A Continued

Table 2. Fertilizer Computer Edited for Specified Crops: 1974

	Corn for all pur- poses	Rice	Cotton	Sugar beets for sugar	Sugar beets for seed	Mint for oil	Irish po- ta- toes	Sweet- pota- toes	Tobac- co	Land in or- chard	Vege- tables, sweet corn, or melons	Sugar
NEW ENGLAND												
Maine New Hampshire Vermont. Massachusetts Rhode Island Connecticut	x			х			x x x x x		x x	X X X	X X X	
MIDDLE ATLANTIC												
New York New Jersey Pennsylvania				x			X X X	x x	х	х	X X	
EAST NORTH CENTRAL												
Ohio. Indiana. Illinois. Michigan. Wisconsin.			х	x x x	х	X X X	х х х х	X X X	x x		х	
WEST NORTH CENTRAL												
Minnesota.  Iowa.  Missouri.  North Dakota.  South Dakota.  Kebraska.  Kansas.		х	х	x x x x	Х		x x x x x	x x x	х			
Delaware Maryland Virginia West Virginia North Carolina South Carolina Georgia Florida			x x x x x				X X X X X X	x x x x x x x	x x x x x x	X X	x x	x
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL												
Kentucky		х	X X X X				X X X X	X X X X	X X X			
Arkansas		x x	X X	X			X X X X	X X X X	X X			х
MOUNTAIN												
Montana. Idaho. Wyoming. Colorado. New Mexico. Arizona. Utah. Nevada.			x x	x x x x x x	x x x	х	X X X X X X X	x x			x x x	
PACIFIC												
Washington. Oregon. California. Alaska. Hawaii		х	х	X X X	X X X	X X	X X X	х			X	

over and with no fertilizer use reported were reviewed and the necessary corrections were made. For similar cases with an expenditure of under \$3,000, corrections were not made during the processing, thus resulting in an understatement of the acreage of crops fertilized and the tons applied.

There are 91,000 more farms with sales of \$2,500 and over in the United States reporting expenditures for fertilizer than farms reporting acres fertilized and tons applied. These reports accounted for \$70 million in fertilizer expenditures. Figures for the United States and for each State are shown in table 22.

Based on the average expenditure per ton and the average application rate per acre from those farms reporting, it is estimated that about 413,000 more tons of fertilizer and about 2.6 million more acres fertilized should have been reported for farms with sales of \$2,500 and over.

## Use of Fertilizer

## Summary of Findings

Harvested cropland from 1969 to 1974 increased nearly 11 percent. The increased crop acreage resulted in an increase of 19 percent in acres fertilized in 1974. Grain crops accounted for most of the increase; as an example, the acreage of field corn increased 22 percent and wheat 42 percent.

The use of fertilizer was reported by 1.2 million farms or about 70 percent of farms with sales of \$2,500 and over in 1974. Pasture and crops totaling 185 million acres were reported fertilized on these farms. On this acreage, 29 million tons of fertilizer were applied or an average of 318 pounds per acre. Of the total tons applied, 77 percent were dry materials and 23 percent were liquid materials.

The 12 States in the North Central region accounted for one-half of the farms with sales of \$2,500 and over reporting fertilizer use, more than one-half of the acreage fertilized and 46 percent of tons applied. States in the South region having about one-third of the farms with fertilizer and close to one-third of the acreage fertilized accounted for 36 percent of the tons used.

More than 55 percent of the liquid fertilizer used was reported in the North Central region. Illinois, Iowa, and Texas, the three leading States, accounted for 27 percent of the total.

Table 4 provides the summary of fertilizer used by crop for the United States. Similar data for individual States are shown for all crops in volume I for each State.

Table 4 also shows that corn accounted for 33 percent of the total acreage fertilized in 1974 and 40 percent