

GENERAL EXPLANATIONS Continued

Table 3. Selected Livestock: 1940 to 1974

All Farms	Farms			Livestock on farms	
	Livestock	Percent of all farms	Percent change from preceding census	Number (1,000)	Percent change from preceding census
<b>Cattle and calves:</b>					
1974.....	1,503,244	65.0	-12.6	113,173	6.4
1969.....	1,719,403	63.0	-24.7	106,381	.8
1964.....	2,283,881	72.3	-14.6	105,558	14.1
1959.....	2,674,176	72.1	-26.6	92,534	-2.6
1954 <sup>1</sup> .....	3,650,714	76.3	-10.2	95,027	23.5
1950.....	4,065,173	75.5	-13.3	76,920	-6.9
1945 <sup>1</sup> .....	4,688,746	80.0	-3.2	82,654	35.9
1940.....	4,844,430	79.4	(X)	60,818	(X)
<b>Milk cows:</b>					
1974.....	403,754	17.4	-28.9	10,655	-4.7
1969.....	568,237	20.8	-49.9	11,175	-23.6
1964.....	1,133,912	35.9	-36.7	14,623	-11.5
1959.....	1,792,393	48.3	-39.0	16,522	-18.1
1954 <sup>1</sup> .....	2,935,842	61.4	-19.5	20,183	-5.0
1950.....	3,648,257	67.7	-21.5	21,232	-11.9
1940.....	4,644,987	76.1	(X)	24,087	(X)
<b>Hogs and pigs:</b>					
1974.....	470,258	20.3	-31.5	45,504	-17.9
1969.....	686,097	25.1	-36.6	55,455	2.5
1964.....	1,081,438	34.2	-41.5	54,080	-20.4
1959.....	1,848,784	49.9	-28.0	57,949	19.0
1954 <sup>1</sup> .....	2,365,708	49.5	-21.5	57,093	2.3
1950.....	3,013,549	56.0	-9.1	55,789	19.4
1945 <sup>1</sup> .....	3,313,883	56.6	-12.1	46,735	37.2
1940.....	3,767,875	61.7	(X)	34,070	(X)
<b>Sheep and lambs:</b>					
1974.....	108,646	4.7	-36.4	15,380	-28.8
1969.....	170,888	6.3	-27.2	21,611	-15.2
1964.....	234,789	7.4	-31.3	25,471	-25.0
1959.....	341,952	9.2	-5.3	33,945	7.4
1954 <sup>1</sup> .....	361,001	7.5	12.7	31,619	.7
1950.....	320,351	5.9	-35.4	31,406	-23.8
1945.....	495,986	8.5	-15.2	41,224	2.6
1940.....	584,992	9.6	(X)	40,173	(X)
<b>Chickens 3 months old or older:<sup>2</sup></b>					
1974.....	316,243	13.7	-32.9	335,740	-9.5
1969.....	471,284	17.3	-61.1	371,008	8.1
1964.....	1,210,669	38.3	-44.3	343,162	-2.3
1959.....	2,172,264	58.6	-36.5	351,029	-6.6
1954 <sup>1</sup> .....	3,418,204	71.5	-19.0	375,800	9.6
1950.....	4,218,857	78.3	-13.9	342,956	-20.8
1945 <sup>1</sup> .....	4,900,948	83.6	-4.9	433,111	28.0
1940.....	5,152,354	84.4	(X)	338,240	(X)

<sup>1</sup>Alaska and Hawaii not included.

<sup>2</sup>Chickens 4 months old and over prior to 1969.

on farms still in operation indicates that production activities carried on for home consumption have been eliminated on many farms. Likewise, many farms have dropped small "side-line" enterprises that have competed uneconomically for time and other resources better devoted to the principal products raised or produced.

**Definitions**

The definitions of a farm, farms reporting, farms with sales of \$2,500 and over, value of sales group, standard industrial classification of farms, etc., appear in volume II, part 1. Part 1, also, provides information about the comparability of data for 1974 with those of earlier censuses, contains information on how the census was taken and processed, and discusses factors affecting the accuracy of the data.

**Sources of Data**

In the 1974 census, emphasis was placed on obtaining detailed information for farms with sales of \$2,500 and over. Data for these farms were obtained by using the regular census form (A1). A less detailed version of the census form (A2) was mailed to farms with an expected value of sales under \$2,500. As a result, the livestock data in this chapter are presented in two types of tables:

1. Those for all farms, including places which received either the A1 or A2.
2. Those for farms with sales of \$2,500 and over, which show the substantially greater detail obtained on the A1 form.

The mail response census used in 1974 encountered certain problems not faced in enumerator-conducted censuses. Some farms were not covered because they

Table 4. Adjustments for Whole Farm Nonresponse: 1974

	U.S. total	Number imputed	Percent of total
Farms.....	2,314,013	284,440	12.3
Inventory:			
Cattle and calves.....	113,174,700	8,040,886	7.1
Chickens 3 months old or older.....	335,740,245	5,896,167	1.8
Hogs and pigs.....	45,503,604	2,526,536	5.5

were not identified in any of the sources used to prepare mailing lists. Although extensive followup procedures were used to obtain completed reports for all addresses identified as likely to have sales of agricultural products valued at \$40,000 and over, it was impractical to follow these same procedures for all of the other nonrespondents. A small, carefully controlled subsample of nonrespondents was also drawn to determine the characteristics of nonrespondents. Data based on farms with similar characteristics in the area were then used to impute data for the estimated number not responding. Thus the data reflected in the census of agriculture publications are for all of the farms covered by the mailing list. Table 4 shows the proportion of specified livestock and poultry items accounted for by such imputed data.

**Comparability of Data**

In general, data for 1974 and earlier censuses are comparable with data from earlier censuses only for farms with a total value of sales of \$2,500 or more, because the data for these farms were not affected by the change in farm definition. (See part 1 of volume II). Data for all farms for 1974 are based on the new definition so they are not directly comparable to earlier censuses. It is also important to note that in addition to the difference in farm definition used in this report from that in the published preliminary report series, figures in this final report may not agree with figures in the preliminary reports because of corrections, additions, and deletions.

A change in the farm definition from that used since 1959 was implemented for the 1974 census. The use of the new definition resulted in 152,110 places with