

Book 1

Volume 1

State and County Data

Part 10

Georgia


AC78-A-10

State, Appling County-
Evans County

1978

CENSUS OF
AGRICULTURE

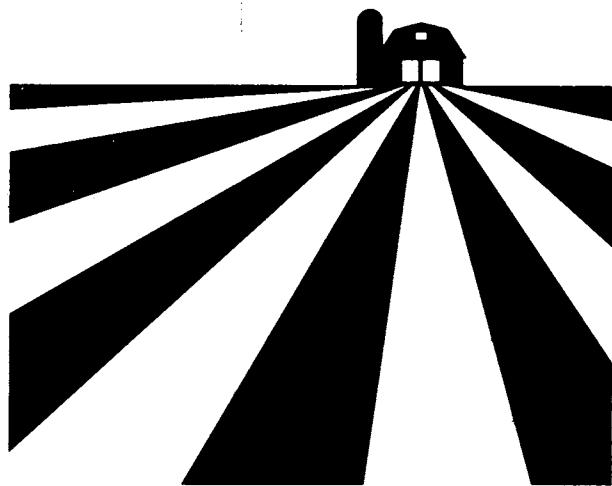
U.S. Department of Commerce
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS



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AGRICULTURE

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Evans County

Issued June 1981



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6. Agricultural Chemicals Used, Including Fertilizer and Lime: 1978 and 1974
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HISTORY

The census of agriculture provides a periodic statistical picture of the Nation's farming, ranching, and related activities. The 1978 Census of Agriculture is the 21st taken by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

The first agriculture census was taken in 1840 as part of the sixth decennial census. From 1840 to 1950, an agriculture census was taken as part of the decennial census of population. A mid-decade census of agriculture was conducted in 1925, 1935, and 1945. From 1954 to 1974 a census of agriculture was taken for the years ending in 4 and 9. In 1976, Congress authorized the census of agriculture to be taken for 1978 and 1982 to adjust the data reference year to coincide with the 1982 Economic Censuses covering manufacturing, mining, construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, service industries, and selected transportation activities. Thereafter, the agriculture census will revert to a 5-year cycle.

AUTHORITY AND AREA COVERED

The census of agriculture is authorized under the provisions of title 13, United States Code. Section 142(a) provides for the census to be taken in 1979, in 1983, and in every fifth year after 1983. Section 191 provides that the census shall include each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. A census of agriculture will be conducted in American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands in conjunction with the 1980 Census of Population and Housing.

FARM DEFINITION

Since 1850, when minimum criteria defining a farm for census purposes were first established, the farm definition has been changed nine times, as the Nation has grown and changed. The current definition was announced on August 12, 1975, in accordance with a joint agreement between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Bureau of the Census. It defines a farm, for statistical purposes, as any place from which \$1,000 or more of agri-

cultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year. The previous definition (used for the 1959, 1964, and 1969 censuses, and for the 1974 preliminary county reports) counted as a farm any place with less than 10 acres from which \$250 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year, or any place of 10 acres or more from which \$50 or more of agricultural products were sold or normally would have been sold during the census year.

METHOD OF ENUMERATION

Evaluation studies of the 1969 and 1974 censuses, which were conducted primarily by mail, indicated that the administrative lists used to create the census mailing list were not adequate to assure complete coverage in the census. Also, censuses prior to 1969, conducted by direct enumeration, had been found by evaluation studies (conducted since 1950) to be progressively less and less complete, as increased mobility of farm operators led to increases in the numbers of nonresident operators, operators farming on a part-time basis, and operators farming two or more separate tracts.

The 1978 Census of Agriculture was conducted primarily by mail for maximum economy, supplemented by a personal canvass of a statistical area segment sample for maximum completeness of coverage. The area segment sample, which consists of selected geographic areas completely canvassed by direct enumeration, provides reliable estimates for States of the number and characteristics of any farms not represented in the mail portion of the census. Estimates for such farms are an integral part of the State totals published for the 1978 census. The direct enumeration sample estimates are statistically reliable only for State totals and have not been allocated to counties. Appendix A provides a more detailed description of how the 1978 census was taken and includes a discussion of census coverage.

COMPARABILITY OF DATA

State totals for 1978 are not directly comparable with totals for 1974 or earlier censuses as they include data for farm operations represented on the mail list plus estimates from the direct enumeration sample for farms not represented on the mail list. The 1974 State level data include only operations represented on the mail list.

Coverage evaluation studies for the 1974 census indicated that 10.7 percent of all farms were not included in the census. Farms missed in the census were usually small and accounted for less than 3 percent of the total value of agricultural products sold and less than 6 percent of the land in farms. The proportion of farms missed in the 1974 census was generally higher in

States having a large proportion of small farms and urbanized areas having a sizable number of part-time farms. Farm counts for 1974, adjusted for the net undercount, are shown in appendix C.

County level data on acreages and inventories for 1978 and 1974 are generally comparable; however, improvements in the coverage of the 1978 census, especially of smaller farms, should be taken into consideration when comparing farm counts.

USE OF SAMPLING

Two types of sampling were used for data collection for the 1978 census. In addition to the State estimates from the direct enumeration sample discussed previously, data for items in sections 22 through 27 of the census report form were collected from only a sample of farms. Data based on a sample are subject to sampling error. Detailed discussions of the census report forms, the use of sampling, and estimates of sampling error are included in appendix A.

GRAPHICS

Several charts and maps presented on the following pages show selected agricultural statistics for this State. The items in the charts and the first four maps are presented for all States. The last four maps present data of particular importance to this State.

TABULAR PRESENTATION

State data—In chapter 1, State tables 1 through 28 show detailed State level data usually accompanied by historical data for one or more censuses. Tables 29 through 35 provide 1978 State data cross-tabulated by various farm classifications.

County summary data—Selected data items are presented by county in chapter 2. Tables 1 through 15 include general data such as land in farms, size of farms, land use, operator characteristics, expenses, and machinery and equipment. Inventory and sales data for livestock, poultry, and animal specialties are contained in tables 16 through 27 and detailed crop data in tables 28 through 35. Tables 36 through 43 present data on foreign ownership, income from customwork, direct sales to consumers, operators by racial group, and female operators.

Individual county data—Five pages of tables are presented in chapter 3 for each county with 10 farms or more in 1978. The tables include final data for each county and are more comprehensive than those in the preliminary reports. Data are provided for all farms and for farms with sales of \$2,500 or more for both 1978 and 1974.

This chapter also includes a set of similar tables for the State as a whole and for those farms in the State not on the mailing list and not included in county tables.

PRELIMINARY REPORTS

Preliminary reports have been published separately for all counties in the United States with 10 farms or more in 1978, each State, the four geographic regions, and the United States. This series provided, at the earliest possible date, information on major data items, with comparable final data from the 1974 census. The data items were standard for each State and county except in table 3 where the selected crops varied by State according to their relative importance in the State. The State preliminary report also included a full set of tables providing data derived from the direct enumeration sample on the estimated number and characteristics of farms not included in county totals because they were not represented on the mailing list.

For major data items at the county level differences between the preliminary and final figures are in general less than 5 percent. At the State level, differences are significantly less.

CENSUS DISCLOSURE RULES

In keeping with the provisions of title 13, United States Code, data that would disclose the operations of an individual farm are not published. However, the number of farms in a given size category or other classification is not considered a disclosure. Appendix A presents additional information on disclosure rules.

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Appendix A includes definitions and explanations of selected terms used in the tables.

"SEE TEXT" REFERENCE

Items in the tables which are followed by the reference "See text" are explained or defined in appendix A.

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

The following abbreviations and symbols are used throughout the tables:

- Zero.
- (D) Data withheld to avoid disclosing information for individual farms.
- (X) Not applicable.
- (Z) Less than half of the unit reported.
- (NA) Not available.
- * Independent city.

Highlights of the State's Agriculture: 1978 and 1974

	All farms			Farms with sales of \$2,500 or more		
	1978		1974 ¹	1978		1974 ¹
	Total	Not on mail list	Total	Total	Not on mail list	Total
Farms..... number.....	58 648	7 243	54 911	38 840	1 801	35 836
Land in farms..... acres.....	13 742 485	325 652	13 878 294	12 134 801	132 205	12 048 792
Average size of farm..... acres.....	234	45	253	312	73	336
Harvested cropland..... acres.....	4 748 175	60 280	4 161 205	4 581 498	38 817	4 027 860
Average per farm..... acres.....	81	8	76	118	22	112
Farms by size:						
1 to 49 acres..... number.....	18 722	5 018	14 077	7 933	917	5 996
50 to 499 acres..... number.....	33 506	2 186	34 442	24 757	845	23 738
500 to 999 acres..... number.....	4 018	39	3 953	3 836	39	3 721
1,000 acres or more..... number.....	2 402	-	2 439	2 314	-	2 381
Value of land and buildings: ²						
Average per farm..... dollars.....	181 876	51 827	119 766	238 935	93 108	153 422
Average per acre..... dollars.....	777	1 153	474	766	1 268	456
Value of machinery and equipment on farms: ²						
Average per farm..... \$1,000.....	1 468 741	55 939	871 343	1 331 434	23 149	742 734
Average per farm..... dollars.....	25 043	7 723	15 868	34 280	12 854	20 726
Value of agricultural products sold..... \$1,000.....	2 393 268	52 763	1 859 780	2 368 213	48 562	1 836 671
Average per farm..... dollars.....	40 807	7 285	33 869	60 974	26 964	51 252
Crops sold..... \$1,000.....	923 702	10 656	849 543	917 377	9 735	842 922
Average per farm..... dollars.....	15 750	1 471	15 471	23 619	5 405	23 522
Livestock and livestock products sold..... \$1,000.....	615 455	16 088	393 755	597 101	12 905	378 232
Average per farm..... dollars.....	10 494	2 221	7 171	15 373	7 165	10 555
Poultry and poultry products sold..... \$1,000.....	854 111	26 019	582 733	853 736	25 922	582 420
Average per farm..... dollars.....	14 563	3 592	10 612	21 981	14 393	16 252
Farms by value of agricultural products sold:						
Less than \$2,500..... number.....	19 762	5 442	19 790	-	-	755
\$2,500 to \$9,999..... number.....	15 192	1 145	11 577	15 192	1 145	11 577
\$10,000 to \$39,999..... number.....	10 493	222	11 649	10 493	222	11 649
\$40,000 to \$99,999..... number.....	6 516	280	7 123	6 516	280	7 123
\$100,000 to \$199,999..... number.....	3 907	116	3 197	3 907	116	3 197
\$200,000 or more..... number.....	2 732	38	1 535	2 732	38	1 535
Abnormal farms..... number.....	46	(X)	40	(X)	(X)	(X)
Value of agricultural products sold by farms having sales of—						
Less than \$2,500..... \$1,000.....	20 673	4 201	19 833	-	-	1 015
\$2,500 to \$9,999..... \$1,000.....	78 557	5 111	63 955	78 557	5 111	63 955
\$10,000 to \$39,999..... \$1,000.....	215 721	4 080	248 983	215 721	4 080	248 983
\$40,000 to \$99,999..... \$1,000.....	424 440	15 341	454 306	424 440	15 341	454 306
\$100,000 to \$199,999..... \$1,000.....	549 074	15 020	441 087	549 074	15 020	441 087
\$200,000 or more..... \$1,000.....	1 100 421	9 011	627 322	1 100 421	9 011	627 322
Abnormal farms..... \$1,000.....	4 381	(X)	4 291	(X)	(X)	(X)
Farm production expenses for selected items: ²						
Feed for livestock and poultry..... \$1,000.....	655 953	20 844	505 816	647 692	18 765	498 110
Seeds, bulbs, plants, and trees..... \$1,000.....	61 498	1 102	42 762	60 342	897	42 059
Commercial fertilizer..... \$1,000.....	203 603	3 235	180 691	196 771	2 492	175 127
Other agricultural chemicals..... \$1,000.....	88 874	935	58 664	86 696	668	58 160
Petroleum products—gasoline, diesel, etc..... \$1,000.....	106 117	3 523	64 585	101 861	2 543	61 753
Hired farm labor..... \$1,000.....	140 130	1 361	96 699	136 863	1 234	94 444
Livestock and poultry inventory:						
Cattle and calves..... number.....	1 616 992	56 998	2 022 904	1 446 054	28 081	1 725 060
Hogs and pigs..... number.....	1 687 613	45 554	1 243 255	1 606 175	17 201	1 192 153
Sheep and lambs..... number.....	3 681	-	3 239	2 965	-	2 888
Chickens 3 months old or older..... number.....	30 640 902	799 535	25 591 146	30 486 762	713 180	25 477 774
Crops harvested:						
Corn for grain or seed..... acres.....	1 527 218	30 059	1 661 085	1 466 642	20 906	1 606 372
Soybeans for beans..... bushels.....	78 494 793	1 682 634	91 870 613	76 732 071	1 416 904	89 811 622
Cotton..... acres.....	1 586 528	7 158	785 367	1 566 362	5 006	779 360
Peanuts for nuts..... bushels.....	27 275 975	127 420	18 885 782	27 037 472	98 656	18 774 632
Cotton..... acres.....	114 163	702	373 342	113 766	702	371 509
Cotton..... bales.....	104 033	624	367 268	103 747	624	366 101
Peanuts for nuts..... acres.....	503 208	1 389	482 772	501 735	629	481 700
Peanuts for nuts..... pounds.....	1 548 323 195	1 811 515	1 375 299 529	1 546 649 260	1 697 515	1 373 604 823

¹Not fully comparable because of direct enumeration sample in 1978 totals; see text.

²1978 data are based on a sample of farms; see text.

GEORGIA



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS