



**AgEcon** SEARCH  
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

*The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library*

**This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.**

**Help ensure our sustainability.**

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search  
<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>  
[aesearch@umn.edu](mailto:aesearch@umn.edu)

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

ERS-SB-943

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL LAND THROUGH DECEMBER  
31, 1997. AN ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE REPORT (STATISTICAL  
BULLETIN) / C. H. BARNARD, ET AL. - (U.S.) ECONOMIC RESEARCH  
SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC. RESOURCE ECONOMICS DIV. 1997

70 Pages



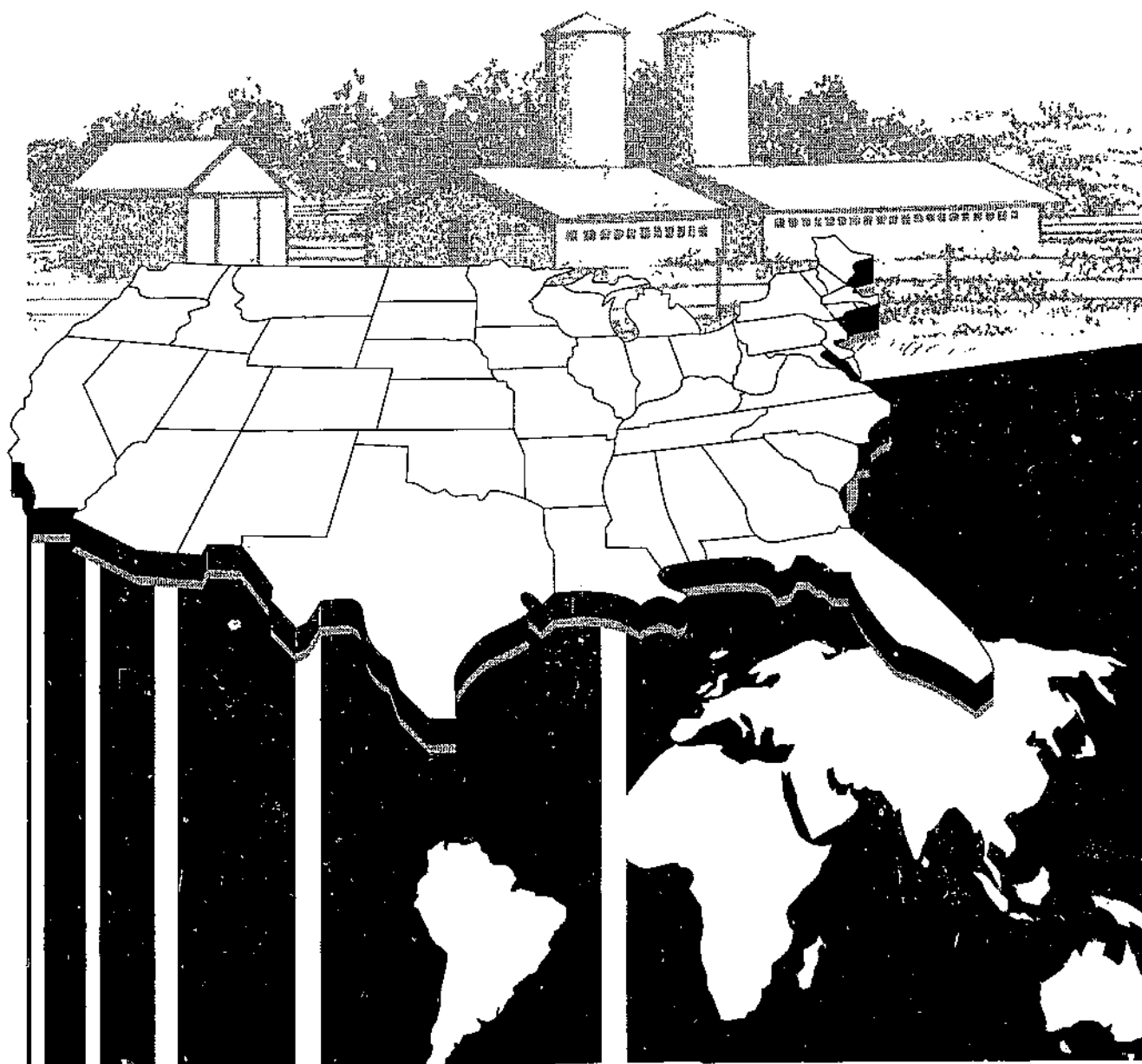


***An Economic Research Service Report***

# Foreign Ownership of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997



Charles H. Barnard  
Jacqueline Stokes



REPRODUCED BY:  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Technical Information Service  
Springfield, Virginia 22161

## It's Easy To Order Another Copy!

Just dial 1-800-999-6779. Toll free in the United States and Canada.

Ask for *Foreign Ownership of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997* (SB-943).

For additional information about ERS publications, databases, and other products, both paper and electronic, visit the ERS Home Page on the Internet at <http://www.econ.ag.gov>

### Can You Use Supplementary Information on Electronic Databases?

**Data Product: Foreign Ownership of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997: County Level Data** supplements information in the annual report *Foreign Ownership of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997*. Data are presented for each county to show the number of acres and parcels, value, country of origin, and use of foreign-owned agricultural land (updated August 1998). To order a copy of this database to be mailed to you on 3-1/2 inch diskette, Lotus 1-2-3 (.wk1), please call the ERS-NASS order desk at 1-800-999-6779. Ask for stock #ERS-98005; check with the order desk for current price. Or obtain this electronic database free on the ERS Home Page on the Internet at <http://www.econ.ag.gov> by selecting "Data Products: All Products"; then scrolling to, and clicking on "Land, Water, and Conservation"; and selecting "Foreign Landownership." Alternatively go directly to <http://jan.mannlib.cornell.edu/data-sets/land/98005/>.

**Data Product: Foreign Holdings of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997: Parcel-Level Data** includes data for over 13,000 reports filed under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (updated August 1998). To order a copy of this database to be mailed to you on 3-1/2 inch diskette, [self-extracting compressed ASCII (.exe)], please call the ERS-NASS order desk at 1-800-999-6779. Ask for stock #ERS-87015; check with the order desk for current price. Or obtain this electronic database free on the ERS Home Page on the Internet at <http://www.econ.ag.gov> by selecting "Data Products: All Products"; then scrolling to, and clicking on "Land, Water, and Conservation"; and selecting "Foreign Landownership." Alternatively go directly to <http://jan.mannlib.cornell.edu/data-sets/land/87015/>.

Reproduced from  
best available copy.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audio-tape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PROTECTED UNDER INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT  
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.  
NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Foreign Ownership of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997**, by Charles H. Barnard and Jacqueline Stokes. Resource Economics Division, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Statistical Bulletin No. 943.

### **Abstract**

Foreign persons owned 14.3 million acres of U.S. agricultural land as of December 31, 1997. This is slightly more than 1 percent of all privately held agricultural land and 0.63 percent of all land in the United States. These and other findings are based on an analysis of reports submitted in compliance with the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978.

**Keywords:** Agricultural land, foreign landownership, landholdings, land acquisitions, land dispositions.

### **National Agricultural Library Cataloging Record:**

Barnard, Charles

Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land through December 31, 1997.

(Statistical bulletin (United States. Dept. of Agriculture) ; no. 943)

1. Farms--United States--Foreign ownership--Statistics.

2. Real property--United States--Foreign ownership--Statistics.

3. Investments, Foreign--United States--Statistics. I. Stokes, Jacqueline.

II. United States. Dept. Of Agriculture. Economic Research Service.

III. Title.

HD256

## Preface

This report is made pursuant to section 5 of the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978, which, among other things, requires the Secretary of Agriculture to prepare an analysis of foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land. The act requires an annual report to the President and Congress on a calendar-year basis. This report covers information received through December 31, 1997.

## Contents

List of Tables.....	iii
Summary.....	vi
Introduction.....	1
Summary of the Act and Regulations.....	1
Definitions.....	2
Analysis of Data Reported Under the Act.....	4
Holdings.....	4
Acquisitions.....	29
Dispositions, Land-Use Changes, and Changes in Status.....	41
Trends.....	44
Program Costs and Penalties.....	53
Appendix: Report Form FSA-153.....	54

## List of Tables

### Table

1.	U.S. agricultural landholdings of foreign owners, by State, December 31, 1997 .....	5
2.	U.S. agricultural landholdings, by type of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 .....	7
3.	Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by State, December 31, 1997 .....	8
4.	Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, by size of holding, December 31, 1997 .....	9
5.	Value of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by type of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 .....	9
6.	Value of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, by date of acquisition, December 31, 1997 .....	10
7.	Value of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, by State, December 31, 1997 .....	12
8.	U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 .....	13
9.	Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by U.S. region, December 31, 1997 .....	17
10.	Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, by type of interest, method of acquisition, and owner representative, December 31, 1997 .....	20
11.	Use of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 .....	22
12.	Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by State, December 31, 1997 .....	25
13.	Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by country of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 .....	26
14.	Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by type of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 .....	28
15.	Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by size of holding, December 31, 1997 .....	28
16.	Intended use of U.S. agricultural landholdings of foreign owners, December 31, 1997 .....	28
17.	Tenure of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, December 31, 1997 .....	29
18.	U.S. agricultural land acquisitions of foreign owners, by State, January 1-December 31, 1997 ..	30
19.	U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by type of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 ...	31

Table

20.	Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by State, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	32
21.	Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by size of acquisition, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	33
22.	Value of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by type of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	33
23.	U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by country of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	34
24.	Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by U.S. region, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	35
25.	Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by type of interest, method of acquisition, and owner representative, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	36
26.	Use of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by country of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	37
27.	U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land acquisitions of foreign owners, by State, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	38
28.	U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land acquisitions, by country of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	39
29.	U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land acquisitions, by type of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	39
30.	Foreign acquisitions of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by size of acquisition, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	40
31.	Intended use of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions of foreign owners, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	40
32.	Tenure of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, January 1-December 31, 1997 ...	41
33.	Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by type of foreign owners, by State, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	42
34.	Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land by foreign owners, by citizenship of purchasers, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	43



Table

35.	Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by type of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	43
36.	Dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by size of disposition, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	44
37.	Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by country of foreign owner, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	45
38.	Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by country of foreign owner and U.S. region, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	46
39.	Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by country of foreign owner and use, January 1-December 31, 1997 .....	47
40.	Acquisitions and dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by date, January 1981-December 1997 .....	48



### Summary

Foreign persons owned 14.3 million acres of U.S. agricultural land (forest land and farmland) as of December 31, 1997. This is an increase of 199,419 acres from 1996, but still only slightly more than 1 percent of all privately held agricultural land in the United States. These and other findings are based on information submitted to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in compliance with the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978. Forest land accounted for nearly 45 percent of all foreign-owned acreage, cropland for 17 percent, pasture and other agricultural land for 35 percent, and nonagricultural land for 3 percent. Corporations owned 79 percent of the acreage, partnerships 12 percent, and individuals 6 percent. The remaining 3 percent was held by estates, trusts, institutions, associations, and others.

U.S. corporations in which foreign persons have a significant interest or substantial control owned 61 percent of the foreign-held acreage. More than 57 percent of the foreign-held acreage was owned by persons from Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, and France.

A number of tracts of land are owned only in part by foreign investors. When the 14.3-million-acre total is adjusted for these partial interests, the total foreign-owned acreage drops to the equivalent of 13.1 million acres.

Maine has more acres owned by foreign persons than any other State. Four companies own 91 percent of the foreign-held acres in Maine, almost all in forest land. Two of these companies are Canadian, one French, and the other a U.S. corporation that is partially Canadian owned. Foreign holdings in Maine account for 17 percent of Maine's privately owned agricultural land and 21 percent of all U.S. foreign-owned agricultural land.

Maine acreage aside, the foreign holdings are concentrated in the South and West, each containing 32 percent of the national total.

Foreign owners apparently are not taking purchased agricultural land out of production, as no change in intended use was reported for 94 percent of the acres.

Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land has remained relatively steady since 1981, slightly above or below 1 percent of all privately owned agricultural land in the United States.



# **Foreign Ownership Of U.S. Agricultural Land Through December 31, 1997**

**Charles H. Barnard and Jacqueline Stokes\***

A Report to the President and the Congress  
Under the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978

## **Introduction**

Foreign individuals and entities reported owning 14.3 million acres of U.S. agricultural land as of December 31, 1997. This is slightly more than 1 percent of all privately owned U.S. agricultural land and approximately 0.63 percent of all land in the United States.

## **Summary of the Act and Regulations**

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 (AFIDA),<sup>1</sup> as implemented by the regulations,<sup>2</sup> required all foreign persons holding agricultural land as of February 1, 1979, to file a report of such holdings with the Secretary of Agriculture by August 1, 1979. All foreign persons who acquire or dispose of agricultural land thereafter are required to report such transactions within 90 days of the transfer. In addition, any foreign person who holds land that subsequently becomes or ceases to be agricultural land or any person who holds agricultural land who subsequently becomes or ceases to be a foreign person must also file a report within 90 days of such change.

AFIDA specifies in detail the information to be supplied by the foreign person and provides that necessary additional information may be obtained by the Secretary. The information required to be reported consists of the legal name and address of the foreign person; citizenship, if an individual; if not an individual or a government, nature of the legal entity, including the entity's country of creation and principal place of business; type of interest; legal description; acreage; purchase price or any other consideration given; intended use; where applicable, information about the representative of the foreign person; how the interest in the land was transferred; the relationship of the foreign owner to the operator; type of rental agreement, if any; and the date the interest in the land was transferred. In the case of a disposition, the party disposing of the interest is also required to give the legal name and address of the purchaser; citizenship, if the purchaser is an individual; and if the purchaser is not an individual or government, the nature of the entity, country of creation, and principal place of business. Any change in the legal name or address of the foreign person must also be

---

\*Charles H. Barnard, Agricultural Economist and Jacqueline Stokes, Statistical Assistant, co-authored this report. Joyce Su provided data processing assistance. John Jones assisted with graphics. All are with the Resource Economics Division, Economic Research Service. Washington and field-office staff of the Farm Service Agency collect the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act reports and maintain a public file in Washington, DC.

<sup>1</sup> Pub. L. No. 95-460, 7 U.S.C. §§ 3501-3508 (1988).

<sup>2</sup> 7 C.F.R. §§ 781.1-6 (1994). See 7 C.F.R. §§ 2.21(b)(29), .27(a)(12), .65(a)(30), and .84(a)(7) (1994) for the delegation of authority.

reported within 90 days of such changes. Failure to comply with AFIDA subjects the foreign owner to a possible civil penalty of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the interest held in the land in question.

In accordance with section 7 of the act, completed report forms are made available for public inspection in Washington, DC, within 10 days of receipt by the Secretary. Section 6 of the act requires that every 6 months the Secretary transmit to each State completed report forms for foreign-owned agricultural land in that State.

## **Definitions**

For this report, the term "holdings" applies to all U.S. agricultural land owned by foreign persons as of December 31, 1997. For transactions that occurred in 1997, the terms "acquisitions" and "dispositions" refer to U.S. agricultural lands acquired or disposed of by foreign persons. These terms are used as the titles for subsequent sections, which analyze the reported data.

"Agricultural land" is defined in the act as all land used for agricultural, forestry, or timber production. The regulations further define agricultural land as all land used for farming, ranching, or timber and include idle land if its last use within the past 5 years was for farming, ranching, or timber production. The regulations also exempt all agricultural land not more than 10 acres in the aggregate if the annual gross receipts from the sale of farm, ranch, or timber products from such land do not exceed \$1,000.

AFIDA requires reporting "any interest" in the land other than a security interest (a mortgage or other debt-securing instrument). The regulations exempt leaseholds of less than 10 years' duration, contingent future interests, noncontingent future interests that do not become possessory upon termination of the present estate, nonagricultural easements and rights-of-way, and interests solely in mineral rights.

A "foreign person," as defined in the act, includes any individual who: (1) is not a U.S. citizen or national, (2) is not a citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or (3) is not lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence. Any person who holds an Immigration and Naturalization Service Form I-151 or I-551 (green card) is considered lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is exempt from the requirements of the act. Foreign governments, entities which are created under the laws of or have their principal place of business in a foreign country, and U.S. entities in which there is a significant foreign interest or substantial control are also defined as foreign persons under the act.

For this study, individuals are defined as one person or a husband and wife. The "partnership" category includes all legally defined partnerships, joint ventures, and tenancies in common that include two or more persons who are not married. The term partnership does not differentiate between joint tenancies and tenancies in common. In the interest of simplicity and brevity, fine legal distinctions, however important in an individual case, are ignored.

Each foreign entity holding land is required to file a report. Therefore, if two individuals own land as a partnership, the partnership is to file one report as a partnership, with the partners' names and citizenship listed on the back of the form. Occasionally, however, two people will file as individuals, each filing a separate report on the same land with a partial interest of, for example, 49 percent listed on each form. Because it is not always possible to distinguish separate reports for the same land, two such individuals cannot be differentiated from one partnership. This may occur when there is no legal partnership but individuals own the land as tenants in common. If they file together on one form, they are automatically considered a partnership. If they file separately, they are generally considered individuals. Therefore, the data on individuals and partnerships and the number of reported parcels should be used with caution.

The act is designed to impute foreign person status to certain U.S. entities holding direct and indirect interests in U.S. agricultural land. For purposes of the act, this is accomplished by defining each successive link in a chain of U.S. entities containing foreign interests as a foreign person. However, only the foreign person who actually holds the direct interest in the land (that is, the first layer or tier) is considered the reporting entity. This entity need not actually be foreign, but under the act, it is deemed a foreign person because another foreign person holds a significant interest or substantial control in it. In some instances, that second tier also may not actually be foreign but may be deemed foreign under the act for the same reason. The regulations define "significant interest or substantial control" to mean a 10-percent or more interest in the entity if held by a single foreign person or a group of foreign persons acting in concert, or a 50-percent or more interest if held by a group of foreign persons not acting in concert, none of whom individually holds a 10-percent or greater interest in that entity.

Under the regulations, the reporting entity (other than an individual or government), whether domestic or foreign, is required to provide information (names, addresses, citizenship, and the nature of the entity, if any) on the second-tier investments; that is, all foreign persons holding a significant interest or substantial control in the reporting entity. In turn, a second-tier entity may be required to provide information about foreign persons who hold a significant interest or substantial control in that entity.

When the foreign person is an individual from, or an entity created under the laws of, for example, Germany, the report is processed as "Germany." Where persons from many different countries hold direct and indirect interests in one piece of land, an attempt is made to identify the predominant country as the country of origin. When there is no predominant country, for example, an equal partnership between a Canadian and a German, the report is processed as "multiple." Reports filed by U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders are classified "U.S./- (foreign country)." For example, a U.S. corporation with a Canadian shareholder who has a significant interest or substantial control is processed as "U.S./Canada." Similarly, a U.S. corporation owned by another U.S. corporation in which a Canadian corporation has a significant interest or substantial control is processed as "U.S./Canada." Where foreign shareholders with a significant interest or substantial control are from a number of countries, none of which predominates, the report is processed as "U.S./multiple." If three or more tiers of U.S. corporations are listed with no foreign interest indicated, the report is processed as "U.S./third tier." Noncorporate entities with U.S. interests are processed under the predominant country of origin.

U.S. agricultural land owned by a U.S. entity deemed a foreign person under the act (the party legally responsible for providing the information required by the act) is reported from the standpoint of the U.S. entity rather than that of the foreign shareholder.

The AFIDA procedures provide for land to be reported by parcels. All land held in the same manner (type of interest), located in one county, and acquired at the same time, is considered a parcel and is to be reported on a single form. Land does not have to be adjacent to be considered part of one parcel. This parcel concept is intended to ease the reporting burden.

All parcels (and acres) for each owner have been combined under each owner. Therefore, the number of owners is less than the number of parcels. However, because owners do not always report their names in exactly the same way on each form, it is difficult to attribute these forms with great precision to one person or legal entity. Some foreign persons hold land in their own names and also hold interests in entities that own other lands. These entities are treated as separate owners.

The data in this report should be viewed in light of the foregoing caveats and those accompanying the tables. Reporters' errors must also be considered in reviewing this study. Resulting data deficiencies are noted where appropriate. The "No report" category in the tables means that a response to the particular question was not made. Note that the acreage figures reported do not mean that they are wholly owned by foreign investors. Of the 14.3 million foreign-owned acres, 61 percent are owned by U.S. corporations in which there is a significant interest or substantial control by foreign persons (table 8). In addition, a number of acres are owned only in part by foreign investors. Table 2 gives the acre equivalent for foreign owners reporting partial interests in real estate. Partial interests reduce the 14.3 million to an equivalent of 13.1 million acres.

### **Analysis of Data Reported Under the Act**

#### **Holdings**

Data in this section are derived from the 14,415 reports filed by foreign persons who held land as of December 31, 1997. These report forms account for 14,335,779 acres of all U.S. agricultural land. This is an increase of 199,419 acres from the 14,136,360 acres foreign owners reported owning as of the end of 1996.<sup>3</sup> This 199,419-acre increase is less than the 515,403 acres acquired during 1997, as reported in the "Acquisitions" section. Differences are attributable to sizeable transactions made prior to, but reported after, the December 31, 1996, closing date of last year's report, and to several large parcels that were both acquired and disposed of during 1997.

#### **Concentration of Foreign Ownership of U.S. Agricultural Land**

Foreign persons have reported acreage holdings in all 50 States and Puerto Rico (table 1 and fig. 1). Except for Maine (described below), only a small percentage of privately held agricultural land in the other 49 States is foreign owned (table 1 and fig. 2). Maine acreage aside, foreign investment in U.S. agricultural land is concentrated in the South and West, each containing 32 percent of all reported foreign holdings of U.S. agricultural land (table 9).

Maine has the largest amount of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, 3,037,198 acres, or 17 percent of the privately owned agricultural land in the State and approximately 21 percent of the reported foreign-owned agricultural land in the United States. Most of the foreign-owned agricultural land in Maine is 2,767,023 acres of (mostly) timber land owned by four companies. One company owns various percentage interests in 1,064,586 acres, another company owns 266,023 acres, a third company owns 914,602 acres, and the fourth company, accounting for 521,812 acres, is a U.S. corporation with substantial foreign interests.

Hawaii, Nevada, and Arizona have the next largest proportions of reported foreign-owned agricultural land to all privately owned agricultural land in their States. Texas has the second largest amount of foreign-owned acreage, 1,209,759 acres, but that represents only 0.8 percent of the privately owned agricultural land in Texas.

---

<sup>3</sup> The 14,464,270 acres reported in last year's report overstated the amount of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land because of late filings and filing errors. The 1996 figure has been adjusted downward to 14,136,360 acres.



Table 1--U.S. agricultural landholdings of foreign owners, by State, December 31, 1997

State	Total land area of State <sup>1</sup> (1,000 acres)	Privately owned agricultural land <sup>2</sup> (1,000 acres)	Foreign-owned agricultural land (Acres)	Proportion of foreign-owned to privately owned agricultural land (Percent)
Alabama	32,491	28,620	608,065	2.1
Alaska	365,333	500	195	NEG.
Arizona	72,645	10,502	351,571	3.3
Arkansas	33,330	27,981	156,796	0.6
California	100,031	44,042	937,430	2.1
Colorado	66,301	36,618	728,140	2.0
Connecticut	3,118	1,884	1,216	0.1
Delaware	1,237	972	5,878	0.6
Florida	34,658	23,975	682,402	2.8
Georgia	37,156	32,338	504,564	1.6
Hawaii	4,112	1,998	180,073	9.0
Idaho	52,744	15,256	22,920	0.2
Illinois	35,613	31,633	202,607	0.6
Indiana	22,996	20,493	98,539	0.5
Iowa	35,818	33,582	32,923	0.1
Kansas	52,338	49,780	63,979	0.1
Kentucky	25,388	22,578	119,617	0.5
Louisiana	28,494	24,523	346,993	1.4
Maine	19,837	18,065	3,037,198	16.8
Maryland	6,296	4,510	51,694	1.1
Massachusetts	5,008	2,664	2,643	0.1
Michigan	36,451	25,742	315,548	1.2
Minnesota	50,911	36,343	222,835	0.6
Mississippi	30,229	26,713	201,050	0.8
Missouri	44,125	39,289	71,291	0.2
Montana	93,048	53,052	491,084	0.9
Nebraska	49,052	45,444	74,881	0.2
Nevada	70,332	8,248	436,190	5.3
New Hampshire	5,756	4,251	18,919	0.4
New Jersey	4,779	2,438	23,198	1.0
New Mexico	77,654	35,705	786,463	2.2
New York	30,321	21,893	286,445	1.3
North Carolina	31,260	26,392	233,001	0.9
North Dakota	44,352	39,211	24,081	0.1
Ohio	26,243	22,519	188,845	0.8
Oklahoma	43,939	38,500	59,676	0.2
Oregon	61,558	28,022	232,915	0.8
Pennsylvania	28,728	21,518	103,669	0.5
Puerto Rico	NA	NA	839	NEG.
Rhode Island	675	357	17	NEG.
South Carolina	19,330	15,851	176,671	1.1
South Dakota	48,609	39,556	41,747	0.1
Tennessee	26,339	21,873	91,356	0.4
Texas	167,691	154,417	1,209,759	0.8
Utah	52,527	11,892	58,476	0.5
Vermont	5,935	5,153	84,490	1.6
Virginia	25,410	20,963	129,474	0.6
Washington	42,567	22,530	192,180	0.9
West Virginia	15,436	13,531	176,225	1.3
Wisconsin	34,833	26,729	33,472	0.1
Wyoming	62,073	24,459	235,539	1.0
Total	2,265,107	1,265,105	14,335,779	1.1

<sup>1</sup> 1980 land area from Geography Division, Census Bureau.<sup>2</sup> Privately held land based on A. Daugherty, unpublished data, U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., 1987. Estimate of total land less public, Indian, transportation, and urban lands. Includes forest land, pastureland, cropland, range, and miscellaneous.

NEG. = Negligible.

NA = Not available.

Figure 1

**State Concentration of Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land, December 31, 1997**

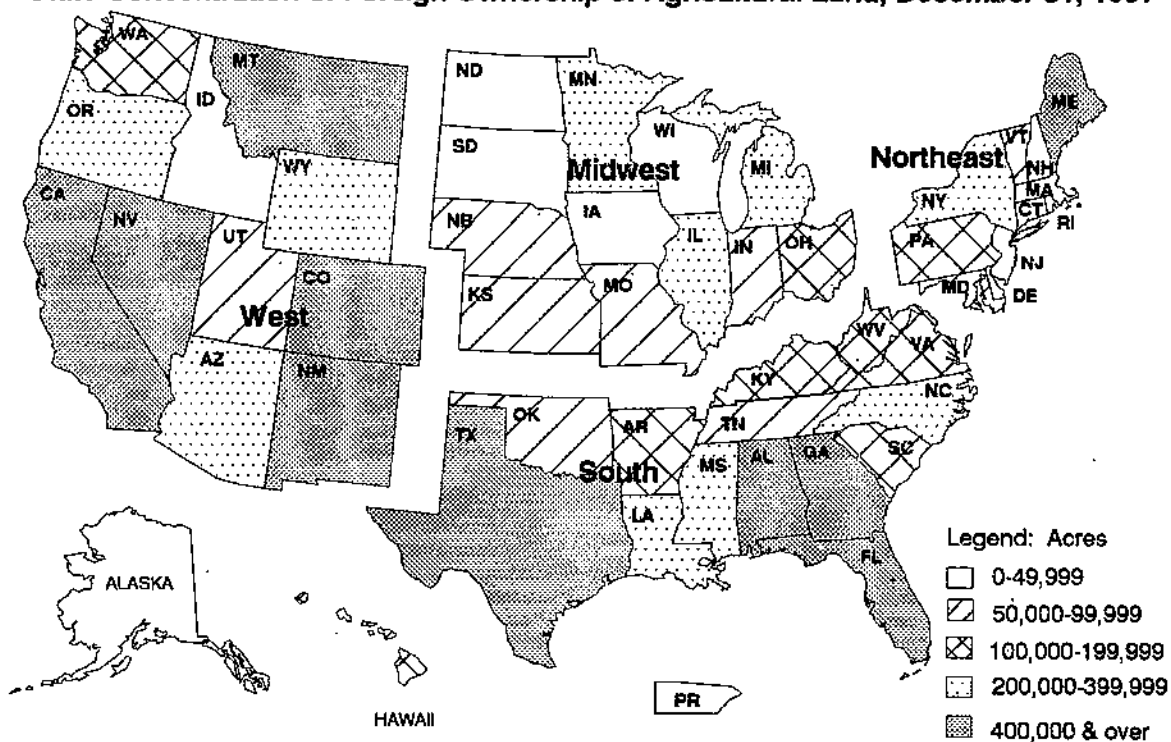
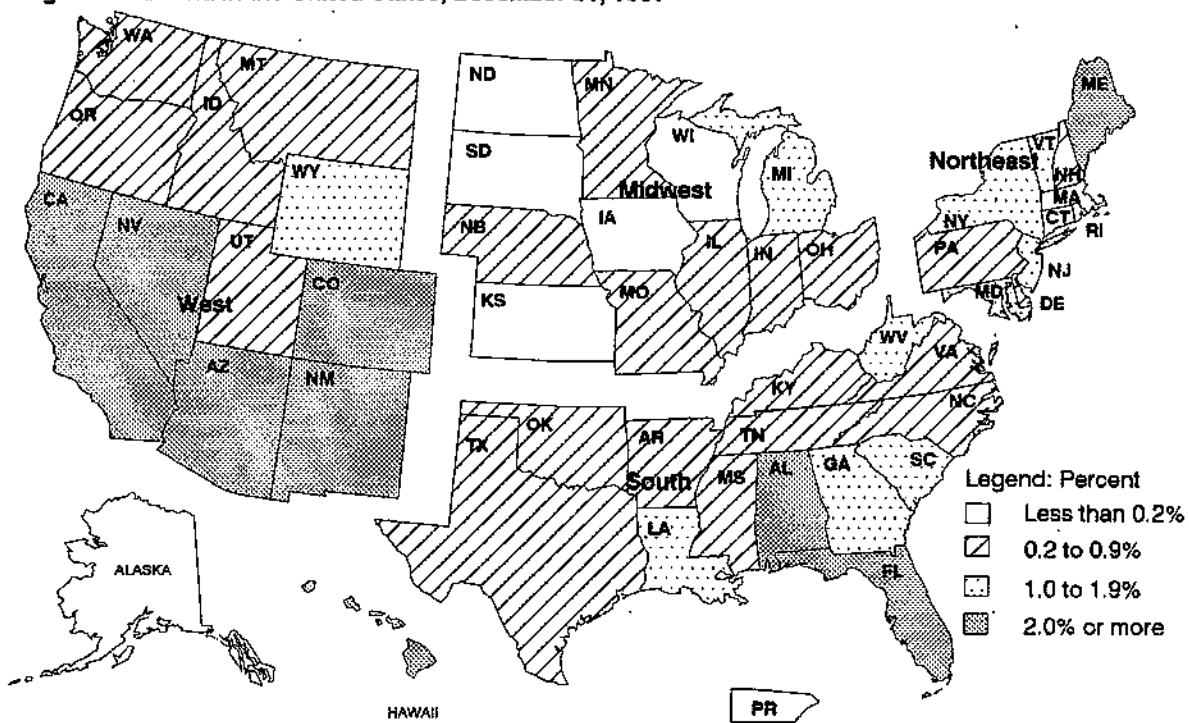


Figure 2

**Proportion of Foreign-Owned Agricultural Land to All Privately Owned Agricultural Land in the United States, December 31, 1997**



### Characteristics of Foreign Owners

**Type of Foreign Owner.** Corporations are the most common type of owner. They account for 42 percent of the owners, followed by individuals, 39 percent, and partnerships, 15 percent (table 2). The remaining 4 percent of the owners are estates, trusts, institutions, associations, and others such as real estate investment trusts, church groups, and foreign organizations not identifiable with the above categories.

Corporations own 57 percent of the parcels and 79 percent of the acreage; individuals, 27 percent of the parcels and 6 percent of the acreage; partnerships, 12 percent of the parcels and 12 percent of the acreage; and all others, 4 percent of the parcels and 3 percent of the acreage. When partial interests are taken into account, foreign-owned acreage drops from 14.3 million acres to 13.1 million, but distribution among the types of owners remains relatively the same.

Corporate-held parcels average 1,381 acres, or 3,459 acres per holder, while individual-held parcels average 234 acres, or 298 acres per holder. Partnership holdings average 942 acres per parcel, or 1,488 acres per holder, and all other holdings average 687 acres per parcel, or 1,203 acres per holder.

**Size of Holding.** Individuals tend to own smaller parcels than corporations (tables 2 and 3). Owners of parcels of less than 300 acres (62 percent of all of the foreign owners) hold only 3 percent of the land and owners of parcels with 300 acres or more (the remaining 38 percent) hold 97 percent of the land (table 4). Part of this concentration may be explained by the definition of agricultural land, which includes extensive uses of land such as ranching and forestry and intensive uses of land such as orchards and vegetable farms. The different unit sizes due to differences in use may also explain part of the acreage differences in foreign-held land among the States.

Table 2--U.S. agricultural landholdings, by type of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Owner	Owners	Parcels	Acres	Parcels with partial interest <sup>1</sup>	Acreage equivalent <sup>2</sup>
Individual	3,042	3,872	906,364	295	812,741
Corporation	3,295	8,250	11,396,622	469	10,367,279
Partnership	1,135	1,792	1,688,531	206	1,582,055
Estate	12	18	1,618	1	1,604
Trust	220	375	224,050	7	222,878
Institution	3	3	1,075	1	1,015
Association	3	4	9,561	2	7,769
Other	48	101	107,958	3	107,787
Total	7,758	14,415	14,335,779	984	13,103,128

<sup>1</sup> Parcels with partial interests are parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Acreage equivalent equals the total acreage reported multiplied by the percentage held by the foreign owner.

Table 3--Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural landholdings,  
by State, December 31, 1997  
(Number)

State and U.S. Territory	Individual		Organization	
	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres
Alabama	28	499	391	607,566
Alaska	1	75	2	120
Arizona	26	11,747	187	339,824
Arkansas	61	29,519	145	127,277
California	209	64,864	987	872,566
Colorado	139	102,700	279	625,440
Connecticut	4	109	14	1,107
Delaware	4	926	9	4,952
Florida	426	29,509	914	652,893
Georgia	159	55,497	821	449,067
Hawaii	22	2,055	79	178,018
Idaho	12	6,707	39	16,213
Illinois	51	10,363	513	192,244
Indiana	44	5,739	169	92,800
Iowa	66	15,143	78	17,780
Kansas	37	10,832	91	53,147
Kentucky	50	7,914	295	111,703
Louisiana	16	8,637	114	338,356
Maine	29	17,544	201	3,019,654
Maryland	50	9,402	134	42,292
Massachusetts	2	252	10	2,391
Michigan	57	8,024	73	307,524
Minnesota	20	6,723	152	216,112
Mississippi	9	1,525	218	199,525
Missouri	46	16,527	101	54,764
Montana	35	45,026	126	446,058
Nebraska	9	2,800	34	72,081
Nevada	2	693	26	435,497
New Hampshire	10	1,549	30	17,370
New Jersey	9	1,206	52	21,992
New Mexico	53	11,413	95	775,050
New York	269	53,749	171	232,696
North Carolina	44	7,580	208	225,421
North Dakota	39	10,856	20	13,225
Ohio	87	16,843	243	172,002
Oklahoma	13	7,885	90	51,791
Oregon	51	11,759	90	221,156
Pennsylvania	29	2,773	301	100,896
Puerto Rico	4	579	6	260
Rhode Island	0	0	1	17
South Carolina	60	13,987	237	162,684
South Dakota	41	10,971	27	30,776
Tennessee	82	17,704	134	73,652
Texas	711	163,047	1,167	1,046,712
Utah	5	1,151	44	57,325
Vermont	342	25,851	194	58,639
Virginia	118	18,187	454	111,287
Washington	164	15,300	374	176,880
West Virginia	14	2,077	273	174,148
Wisconsin	68	11,022	67	22,450
Wyoming	15	29,524	63	206,015
Total	3,872	906,364	10,543	13,429,415

In States where foreign persons own few parcels, the possibility of one or two unusual situations prevents any generalization about concentration. For example, one large timber holding by a foreign person in a State with a large number of field-crop farms could easily be misinterpreted to suggest that a single foreign person was taking over the farming of the State.

**Purchase Price and Value of Holdings.** As noted earlier under "Type of Foreign Owner," corporations own 79 percent of the acreage. Corporate purchase price and nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition account for 71 percent of the total price (table 5). The average per acre purchase price and nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition was the lowest for corporations, \$695; followed by "all others," at \$907; individuals, \$942; and trusts, \$1,176.

Table 4--Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings,  
by size of holding, December 31, 1997

Size (Acres)	Owners (Number)	Parcels (Number)	Acres (Number)
Less than 20	894	946	9,320
20-59	1,404	1,608	48,438
60-99	746	888	57,772
100-299	1,778	2,275	313,737
300-999	1,644	2,624	905,943
1,000 or more	1,292	6,074	13,000,569
Total	7,758	14,415	14,335,779

Table 5--Value of U.S. agricultural landholdings,  
by type of foreign owner, December 31, 1997

Owner	Owners (Number)	Acres with purchase price reported (Number)	Purchase price <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Acres with non- purchase price reported (Number)	Nonpurchase price <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)
Individual	3,042	769,967	805,264	136,397	49,038
Corporation	3,295	8,842,327	6,841,215	2,554,295	1,073,816
Partnership	1,135	1,446,862	1,840,881	241,669	204,514
Estate	12	918	2,048	700	59
Trust	220	205,861	248,899	18,189	14,623
Institution	3	1,075	1,367	0	0
Association	3	9,402	12,789	159	465
Other	48	57,771	80,970	50,187	16,985
Total	7,758	11,334,183	9,833,433	3,001,596	1,359,500

<sup>1</sup> Purchase price and nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition.

For recent acquisitions, purchase price generally will be close to, but not necessarily the same as, current value. As time passes, purchase price becomes a poor indicator of current value. For this reason, reported current value by date of acquisition was adjusted to January 1997 for all years prior to 1997 (table 6). The total adjusted current value indicates a 20-percent increase from the reported current value. The adjustment factor was based on the national average change in farmland value over time. The adjusted current values are not presented as absolute values for the foreign-owned land in this report but should be viewed as approximations of change in value.

The data in table 6 are not intended in any manner to indicate trends over time in the level of acquisitions by foreign persons. (See table 40 for trends data.) Acreage owned in the years listed is the total amount of land that was reported purchased during that year and which remained foreign owned as of December 31, 1997. Because land is disposed of by foreign owners or there are changes in status from foreign to nonforeign or from agricultural to nonagricultural, acreage amounts in each year are reduced by these land dispositions or status changes.

Table 6--Value of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings,  
by date of acquisition, December 31, 1997

Date acquired	Parcels (Number)	Acres (Number)	Acres with purchase price reported (Number)	Purchase price <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Acres with non- purchase price reported (Number)	Non-purchase price <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)
1997	346	515,005	515,005	431,886	0	0
1996	526	635,628	634,264	401,638	1,364	2,871
1995	561	493,340	474,775	261,061	18,565	25,597
1994	411	1,150,501	176,212	185,294	974,289	157,507
1993	482	600,410	415,016	217,827	185,394	57,762
1992	551	510,299	319,864	330,980	190,435	65,955
1991	557	280,925	247,692	326,239	33,233	61,533
1990	797	871,098	714,587	551,261	156,511	160,023
1989	582	768,482	688,298	665,610	80,184	77,351
1988	558	941,147	766,806	641,153	174,341	64,360
1987	420	423,529	331,557	265,405	91,972	50,373
1986	482	456,270	249,295	296,818	206,975	176,345
1985	312	337,950	238,134	300,565	99,816	41,221
1984	410	447,647	393,378	339,320	54,269	140,343
1983	486	262,937	239,288	346,438	23,649	19,457
1982	621	512,485	315,240	439,894	197,245	66,884
1981	1,173	936,665	795,805	734,215	140,860	77,856
1980	926	568,659	540,643	716,660	28,016	43,646
1979	1,025	819,870	776,196	1,046,349	43,674	25,926
1978	852	436,510	429,186	422,942	7,324	6,417
1977	458	350,704	340,988	293,929	9,716	5,639
1976	356	403,553	330,565	177,985	72,988	9,295
1975	213	165,226	162,387	92,095	2,839	1,574
1970-74	664	429,436	389,680	245,432	39,756	10,633
1960-69	427	473,310	384,667	77,789	88,643	8,391
Before 1960	219	544,193	464,655	24,648	79,538	2,541
Total	14,415	14,335,779	11,334,183	9,833,433	3,001,596	1,359,500

Continued---

Table 7 adjusts reported current value by State for the same reasons given in the discussion of table 6. Because the reported current value in table 7 is adjusted by each State's average annual change in farmland value, the total adjusted current value will differ from that of table 6. Simply explained, not all land values in table 6 would have changed at the national average. Therefore, the total adjusted current value in table 7 should be a better measure of value than that of table 6. The total adjusted current value by State indicates a 26-percent increase from the reported current value.

**Country of Origin.** Of the 14,335,779 acres of foreign-held agricultural land reported by foreign persons, 61 percent is held by U.S. corporations with foreign interests. The remaining 39 percent is held by foreign persons not connected with a U.S. corporation (table 8).

Table 6--Value of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings,  
by date of acquisition, December 31, 1997---Continued

Date acquired	Acres with current value reported (Number)	Reported current value <sup>2</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Adjusted current value <sup>3</sup> (1,000 dollars)
1997	515,005	431,748	431,748
1996	635,628	394,580	406,417
1995	493,340	290,890	319,979
1994	1,150,501	344,102	402,599
1993	600,410	277,822	344,499
1992	510,299	400,799	513,023
1991	280,925	391,387	504,889
1990	871,098	696,909	912,951
1989	768,482	759,153	1,024,857
1988	941,147	711,855	1,017,953
1987	423,529	322,873	477,852
1986	456,270	440,109	638,158
1985	337,912	311,942	405,525
1984	447,442	479,572	546,712
1983	262,645	377,227	418,722
1982	511,118	555,495	588,825
1981	931,932	830,766	839,074
1980	489,223	636,385	674,568
1979	745,612	909,150	1,063,705
1978	365,218	429,146	502,101
1977	293,652	462,496	541,120
1976	355,799	212,193	248,266
1975	107,246	112,282	131,370
1970-74	297,595	329,146	385,101
1960-69	264,918	155,823	182,313
Before 1960	526,586	89,230	104,399
Total	13,583,532	11,353,080	13,626,725

<sup>1</sup> Purchase price and nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition.

<sup>2</sup> Reported current value reflects value at time of reporting after February 1, 1979.

<sup>3</sup> Reported current value adjusted to January 1, 1997. Reported current value for holdings acquired in 1997 is unadjusted.

Table 7--Value of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, by State, December 31, 1997

State and U.S. Territory	Acres (Number)	Reported value <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Acres with current value reported (Number)	Reported current value <sup>2</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Adjusted current value <sup>3</sup> (1,000 dollars)
Alabama	608,065	409,671	600,614	410,608	516,547
Alaska	195	117	195	117	146
Arizona	351,571	306,976	278,584	315,738	380,378
Arkansas	156,796	147,687	154,481	147,347	109,293
California	937,430	1,912,786	883,249	1,931,760	2,270,755
Colorado	728,140	436,072	704,171	433,810	565,714
Connecticut	1,216	7,419	1,107	6,200	10,384
Delaware	5,878	17,449	5,610	16,495	33,909
Florida	682,402	1,273,723	660,978	1,414,613	1,887,105
Georgia	504,564	452,526	482,090	480,233	604,728
Hawaii	180,073	660,801	179,839	659,525	895,489
Idaho	22,920	10,349	22,111	11,125	17,616
Illinois	202,607	290,887	200,186	294,987	357,495
Indiana	98,539	123,237	97,837	112,364	138,851
Iowa	32,923	49,719	31,272	53,305	54,279
Kansas	63,979	35,765	61,735	36,942	38,801
Kentucky	119,617	234,288	114,759	235,364	333,321
Louisiana	346,993	229,045	329,742	233,862	230,786
Maine	3,037,198	287,956	2,967,341	277,382	347,556
Maryland	51,694	134,281	48,519	143,487	230,391
Massachusetts	2,643	6,640	2,458	6,212	7,128
Michigan	315,548	103,144	314,271	92,040	119,945
Minnesota	222,835	22,230	94,417	19,086	21,381
Mississippi	201,050	182,245	195,601	180,319	210,608
Missouri	71,291	70,120	66,374	63,315	73,342
Montana	491,084	83,594	458,724	84,765	106,097
Nebraska	74,881	10,718	73,401	23,826	24,583
Nevada	436,190	20,453	436,190	20,539	27,962
New Hampshire	18,919	9,203	17,898	8,518	14,434
New Jersey	23,198	91,890	21,228	78,043	189,829
New Mexico	786,463	88,331	751,595	101,534	164,308
New York	286,445	90,099	282,001	94,858	140,618
North Carolina	233,001	241,140	221,678	303,382	393,517
North Dakota	24,081	4,887	21,981	6,743	7,437
Ohio	188,845	184,724	187,619	180,730	213,430
Oklahoma	59,676	23,367	59,676	24,498	26,123
Oregon	232,915	160,237	198,605	168,469	236,073
Pennsylvania	103,669	110,586	103,235	117,121	168,878
Puerto Rico	839	696	839	938	1,067
Rhode Island	17	600	17	600	696
South Carolina	176,671	177,274	169,020	174,249	209,808
South Dakota	41,747	14,729	36,728	14,083	12,813
Tennessee	91,356	88,263	87,088	81,103	116,979
Texas	1,209,759	1,464,045	1,101,379	1,329,286	1,438,985
Utah	58,476	65,580	57,665	129,983	211,216
Vermont	84,490	81,604	82,627	86,253	148,106
Virginia	129,474	317,708	113,913	311,791	404,026
Washington	192,180	228,185	160,664	231,092	298,207
West Virginia	176,225	128,396	175,823	103,445	129,637
Wisconsin	33,472	49,138	30,858	49,001	61,260
Wyoming	235,539	52,353	235,539	51,994	62,171
Total	14,335,779	11,192,933	13,583,532	11,353,080	14,264,212

<sup>1</sup> Reported value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition.

<sup>2</sup> Reported current value reflects value at time of reporting after February 1, 1979.

<sup>3</sup> Reported current value adjusted to January 1, 1997. Reported current value for holdings acquired in 1997 is unadjusted.



Table 8--U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Country	Owners	Parcels	Acres
Argentina	38	45	12,668
Australia	20	23	8,259
Austria	60	76	17,072
Bahamas	36	53	36,310
Belgium	88	104	66,085
Belize	4	6	549
Bermuda	50	66	73,560
Bolivia	2	2	11
Brazil	10	19	10,336
British Virgin Islands	31	105	180,979
Canada	1,373	1,724	1,843,244
Cayman Islands	44	55	34,173
Chile	7	10	2,055
China	7	9	833
Colombia	32	38	11,601
Costa Rica	8	10	13,835
Croatia	1	1	160
Cuba	3	4	58
Cyprus	1	2	516
Czech Republic	2	2	347
Denmark	19	23	13,766
Dominican Republic	12	12	2,108
Ecuador	21	27	951
Egypt	14	15	1,562
El Salvador	3	3	128
Finland	1	1	80
France	147	193	129,878
Gambia	1	1	294
Germany	1,059	1,843	756,498
Gibraltar	3	4	673
Greece	14	20	60,091
Guatemala	10	11	1,102
Guyana	1	1	35
Honduras	12	12	1,018
Hong Kong	62	88	12,442
Hungary	1	1	103
India	14	18	1,834
Indonesia	4	6	1,423
Iran	20	23	2,343
Ireland	5	13	10,406
Israel	5	6	951
Italy	37	49	39,181
Ivory Coast	1	1	119
Jamaica	4	4	567
Japan	118	157	207,367
Jordan	16	18	1,580
Kampuchea	1	1	31
Korea (South)	9	10	1,696
Kuwait	11	16	20,188
Laos	1	1	31
Lebanon	31	42	12,584
Liberia	17	25	31,091
Liechtenstein	114	165	133,237
Luxembourg	5	6	3,080
Malaysia	4	8	7,948
Mexico	236	303	181,343
Morocco	2	5	1,035
Namibia	1	2	106
Nepal	1	1	68
Netherlands	250	330	111,942
Netherlands Antilles	279	372	346,092
New Zealand	5	6	14,011
Nicaragua	3	4	1,378
Norway	18	18	4,084
Oman	2	5	454

Table 8--U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997---Continued  
(Number)

Country	Owners	Parcels	Acres
Pakistan	7	10	1,366
Panama	124	153	119,421
Peru	19	20	308
Philippines	31	41	3,938
Poland	1	1	147
Portugal	8	11	4,146
Russia	3	6	782
St Vincent	2	4	2,637
Saudi Arabia	44	61	31,956
Senegal	1	1	10
Singapore	3	3	504
Somalia	1	1	11
South Africa	7	8	2,673
Spain	22	27	5,593
Sweden	31	50	56,806
Switzerland	396	553	295,842
Syria	6	8	2,689
Taiwan	34	39	8,852
Tanzania	2	2	10,143
Thailand	8	10	1,835
Trinidad & Tobago	3	3	94
Turkey	1	1	38
Turks Islands	9	13	3,292
United Arab Emirates	12	13	2,678
United Kingdom	247	387	503,843
Uruguay	6	8	10,807
Venezuela	90	143	21,689
Vietnam	1	1	152
Zimbabwe	1	1	230
Multiple	48	67	51,295
Third tier	14	18	13,498
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	5,593	7,888	5,586,830
US/Andorra	1	1	3,741
US/Argentina	5	8	4,056
US/Australia	9	11	5,064
US/Austria	20	50	50,574
US/Bahamas	20	46	66,269
US/Barbados	1	1	41
US/Belgium	31	130	94,000
US/Bermuda	15	20	11,528
US/Brazil	6	59	13,119
US/British Virgin Islands	17	31	302,715
US/Canada	258	1,021	1,869,009
US/Cayman Islands	13	26	32,274
US/Chile	2	4	9,948
US/China	5	9	13,091
US/Colombia	12	19	13,740
US/Costa Rica	2	2	807
US/Denmark	9	17	8,318
US/Dominican Republic	1	1	589
US/Ecuador	3	3	1,632
US/Egypt	6	19	3,061
US/El Salvador	4	6	607
US/Finland	4	81	195,057
US/France	117	457	1,132,190
US/Germany	239	1,235	882,256
US/Greece	3	4	5,249
US/Guatemala	2	3	412
US/Guyana	1	2	334
US/Honduras	1	1	37
US/Hong Kong	19	24	130,498
US/Indonesia	3	5	644

Table 8--U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997---Continued  
(Number)

Country	Owners	Parcels	Acres
US/Iran	5	6	1,861
US/Iraq	1	1	800
US/Ireland	3	12	2,126
US/Israel	2	3	414
US/Italy	20	26	109,211
US/Japan	214	376	322,744
US/Jordan	3	3	434
US/Kenya	1	1	32
US/Korea (South)	2	2	85
US/Kuwait	7	13	8,330
US/Lebanon	4	5	411
US/Liberia	13	16	24,644
US/Libyan Arab Republic	2	3	280
US/Liechtenstein	58	103	107,570
US/Luxembourg	25	89	270,725
US/Malaysia	1	1	300
US/Malta	1	1	500
US/Mexico	50	87	256,586
US/Namibia	1	1	92
US/Netherlands	96	331	370,911
US/Netherlands Antilles	103	145	208,887
US/New Hebrides	1	1	883
US/New Zealand	3	4	49,403
US/Nicaragua	1	2	282
US/Norway	6	10	9,709
US/Pakistan	1	1	423
US/Panama	60	89	127,291
US/Paraguay	1	1	236
US/Peru	2	2	1,253
US/Philippines	10	14	8,790
US/Portugal	2	2	1,683
US/Qatar	1	1	219
US/Saudi Arabia	13	29	11,598
US/Singapore	3	10	92,191
US/South Africa	6	8	6,862
US/Spain	16	53	16,957
US/Sweden	9	10	7,937
US/Switzerland	202	464	340,764
US/Taiwan	52	73	46,148
US/Thailand	1	3	252
US/Trinidad & Tobago	1	1	20
US/Turkey	1	3	753
US/United Arab Emirates	3	21	4,747
US/United Kingdom	236	1,025	1,090,384
US/Uruguay	3	3	695
US/Venezuela	34	58	40,370
US/multiple	40	84	177,541
US/third tier	16	34	173,755
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	2,165	6,527	8,748,949
Total all landholdings	7,758	14,415	14,335,779

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Persons from the top 10 (of 103) countries own a combined total of 11,333,474 acres, or 79 percent of all reported foreign-owned holdings of U.S. agricultural land. Foreign persons from Canada own the largest amount of reported foreign-held acres of U.S. agricultural land, 3,712,253 acres, or 26 percent. Foreign persons from an additional three countries own more than 1,000,000 acres per country, including Germany and the United Kingdom (U.K.) (11 percent each), and France (9 percent); collectively, these three countries own 4,495,049

acres or 31 percent of the foreign-held acres of U.S. agricultural land. In excess of 400,000 acres per country are owned by foreign persons from Switzerland, Mexico, the Netherlands Antilles, Japan, the Netherlands, and the British Virgin Islands, representing 22 percent of total acres. Approximately 1.0 percent of the acreage, 187,253 acres, is owned by unidentifiable third-tier persons; that is, the acreage is not attributable to any foreign country of origin because no foreign country of origin is listed through the third tier of ownership.

In the South, foreign persons from Canada own 873,311 acres or 19 percent of the foreign-held acres (table 9). Foreign persons from Germany, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and the Netherlands Antilles, collectively own 1,673,911 acres or 36 percent. Three percent of the acreage, 139,494 acres, is owned by unidentifiable third-tier foreign persons. Another 12 percent, 565,081 acres, is owned by foreign persons from Mexico, the British Virgin Islands, the Netherlands, and Singapore.

In the West, foreign persons from the United Kingdom own more acres than any other single group--19 percent. Much of the U.K. figure is attributable to three U.S./U.K. corporations that own 24 parcels covering 477,790 acres. Foreign persons from Germany, Canada, and Japan reported owning 1,539,345 acres or 33 percent. An additional 1,110,169 acres, or 24 percent, were reported by foreign persons from the Netherlands, Mexico, Luxembourg, the Netherlands Antilles, and Switzerland.

In the Northeast, foreign persons from Canada own 2,184,493 acres, or 60 percent of the foreign-held acreage. Ninety percent of this figure, 1,973,923 acres, is attributable to four companies with extensive forest holdings--one Canadian company with partial interests in 78 parcels covering 1,064,586 acres, a second Canadian company with 9 parcels covering 266,023 acres, a U.S./Canada corporation with 30 parcels covering 521,812 acres, and a second U.S./Canada corporation with 3 parcels covering 121,502 acres. A U.S./France corporation owns an additional 25 percent of the foreign-held acreage in the Northeast, consisting of 15 parcels totaling 914,664 acres.

In the Midwest, foreign persons from Germany, Finland, the United Kingdom, the British Virgin Islands, the Netherlands, and Canada reported owning 1,031,216 acres, 71 percent of the foreign-held acreage in the region. An additional 10 percent of the acreage is owned by multiple entities (entities that have foreign owners from a number of countries, none of whom has a predominant interest).

#### Interest in Land

Of the 14,415 parcels of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land, 87 percent of the parcels, accounting for 84 percent of the reported acreage, is held in fee interest whole (that is, the owner holds the estate in its entirety). Partial interests are held in another 7 percent of the parcels covering another 12 percent of the acres (table 10).

Under the AFIDA regulations, leases of 10 years or longer are the only leases that need to be reported.<sup>4</sup> Leases are treated separately because they represent a different type of interest. Questions on value, tenure, and method of acquiring land do not apply because the report form was not devised to deal with leases. Leases cover 44,597 acres of U.S. agricultural land. Timberland accounts for 1,676 acres, or 4 percent of the reported foreign leaseholds.

#### Method of Acquisition

More foreign investors reported paying cash for their U.S. agricultural landholdings than any other method of acquisition--52 percent of the parcels, covering 36 percent of the acreage (table 10). This compares with 23 percent of the parcels, containing 16 percent of the acreage, that were acquired by credit only, and 10 percent of the parcels, containing 27 percent of the acreage, that were acquired by "other method only." The "other method only" category includes mergers, corporations that became foreign because foreign persons obtained a significant interest or substantial control in the corporations, or an individual exchanging land for stock in a new corporation. The "cash and credit only" category covers an additional 7 percent of the parcels and 12 percent of the acres.

---

<sup>4</sup> 7 C.F.R. § 781.2© (1994).

Table 9--Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by U.S. region,  
December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Country	South		West		Northeast		Midwest	
	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres
Argentina	34	5,777	6	4,866	3	1,798	2	240
Australia	9	4,025	5	1,440	3	419	6	2,375
Austria	47	11,353	5	1,149	8	662	16	3,908
Bahamas	39	9,342	7	18,645	6	1,123	1	7,200
Belgium	26	10,943	55	51,777	12	802	11	2,563
Belize	4	159	1	25	0	0	1	365
Bermuda	23	67,800	7	1,233	8	2,067	28	2,460
Bolivia	2	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brazil	16	9,839	1	320	1	137	1	40
British Virgin Islands	96	174,015	3	4,203	3	690	3	2,071
Canada	308	69,781	495	277,192	722	1,424,526	199	71,745
Cayman Islands	34	12,587	9	17,120	4	248	8	4,218
Chile	7	635	1	960	1	300	1	160
China	6	569	2	172	0	0	1	92
Colombia	37	11,501	0	0	0	0	1	100
Costa Rica	8	2,845	1	10,840	0	0	1	150
Croatia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	160
Cuba	4	58	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cyprus	0	0	2	516	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	1	27	0	0	0	0	1	320
Denmark	4	909	8	5,964	6	4,806	5	2,087
Dominican Republic	3	29	0	0	0	0	9	2,079
Ecuador	27	951	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	12	1,323	1	97	1	100	1	42
El Salvador	3	128	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finland	0	0	1	80	0	0	0	0
France	104	18,144	50	94,332	22	12,079	17	5,323
Gambia	1	294	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	836	313,055	320	249,466	240	56,353	447	137,624
Gibraltar	3	478	1	200	0	0	0	0
Greece	11	57,972	2	1,439	2	90	5	590
Guatemala	8	553	0	0	2	307	1	242
Guyana	1	35	0	0	0	0	0	0
Honduras	12	1,018	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hong Kong	32	3,984	45	5,814	7	1,657	4	987
Hungary	0	0	0	0	1	103	0	0
India	5	1,108	12	703	1	23	0	0
Indonesia	4	752	2	671	0	0	0	0
Iran	5	396	7	481	5	788	6	678
Ireland	9	6,456	1	3,600	0	0	3	350
Israel	2	364	1	61	1	159	2	367
Italy	20	33,656	11	1,684	5	860	13	2,981
Ivory Coast	0	0	0	0	1	119	0	0
Jamaica	4	567	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	32	34,551	91	158,030	3	247	31	14,539
Jordan	12	719	1	571	2	229	3	61
Kampuchea	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	31
Korea (South)	6	605	2	957	1	100	1	34
Kuwait	9	19,020	2	224	1	217	4	727
Laos	1	31	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	24	7,198	5	2,410	4	239	9	2,737
Liberia	11	2,959	10	23,381	3	4,637	1	114
Liechtenstein	76	62,570	57	58,792	14	2,153	18	9,722
Luxembourg	3	2,289	2	505	0	0	1	286
Malaysia	4	40	4	7,908	0	0	0	0
Mexico	269	147,354	24	32,762	1	27	9	1,200
Morocco	0	0	1	360	3	515	1	160
Namibia	2	106	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nepal	1	68	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	169	48,634	61	35,869	32	10,070	68	17,369
Netherlands Antilles	209	166,126	98	149,612	31	6,578	34	23,776
New Zealand	4	13,661	2	350	0	0	0	0
Nicaragua	4	1,378	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norway	2	654	2	201	0	0	14	3,229

Table 9--Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by U.S. region,  
December 31, 1997--Continued  
(Number)

Country	South		West		Northeast		Midwest	
	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres
Oman	4	192	1	262	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	0	0	10	1,366	0	0	0	0
Panama	115	80,307	24	29,402	6	2,622	8	7,090
Peru	17	182	1	81	1	15	1	30
Philippines	14	1,358	24	2,424	0	0	3	156
Poland	0	0	0	0	1	147	0	0
Portugal	2	510	8	3,251	1	385	0	0
Russia	2	21	0	0	4	761	0	0
St Vincent	3	1,318	0	0	1	1,319	0	0
Saudi Arabia	43	16,470	12	11,197	1	3,628	5	661
Senegal	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Singapore	0	0	3	504	0	0	0	0
Somalia	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	0
South Africa	3	2,012	0	0	3	461	2	200
Spain	14	3,114	8	1,482	0	0	5	997
Sweden	15	3,679	22	50,728	3	313	10	2,086
Switzerland	345	136,037	90	113,902	51	18,134	67	27,768
Syria	5	2,161	1	194	2	334	0	0
Taiwan	14	5,306	19	2,481	0	0	6	1,065
Tanzania	2	10,143	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thailand	3	580	3	978	1	164	3	113
Trinidad & Tobago	2	36	0	0	0	0	1	58
Turkey	0	0	1	38	0	0	0	0
Turks Islands	1	100	6	798	1	160	5	2,234
United Arab Emirates	6	1,940	5	519	0	0	2	219
United Kingdom	161	152,286	82	172,076	54	84,084	90	95,397
Uruguay	2	1,570	2	320	0	0	4	8,917
Venezuela	102	9,681	1	537	15	2,550	25	8,921
Vietnam	1	152	0	0	0	0	0	0
Zimbabwe	1	230	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple	37	9,197	19	39,513	5	1,031	6	1,554
Third tier	11	10,564	4	1,994	0	0	3	940
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	3,571	1,790,545	1,770	1,661,029	1,311	1,651,347	1,236	483,909
US/Andorra	0	0	1	3,741	0	0	0	0
US/Argentina	4	1,757	1	1,092	0	0	3	1,207
US/Australia	5	1,828	2	85	0	0	4	3,151
US/Austria	37	34,159	6	16,083	7	332	0	0
US/Bahamas	22	30,360	13	27,527	6	4,175	5	4,207
US/Barbados	0	0	1	41	0	0	0	0
US/Belgium	64	31,876	9	35,554	14	16,138	43	10,432
US/Bermuda	6	2,151	5	7,553	7	1,654	2	170
US/Brazil	7	3,533	0	0	0	0	52	9,586
US/British Virgin Islands	20	8,646	9	152,025	1	137	1	141,907
US/Canada	558	803,530	286	286,568	104	759,967	73	18,944
US/Cayman Islands	17	29,040	7	2,914	1	250	1	70
US/Chile	1	19	3	9,929	0	0	0	0
US/China	8	12,769	1	322	0	0	0	0
US/Colombia	18	13,580	0	0	1	160	0	0
US/Costa Rica	2	807	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Denmark	6	1,335	5	5,636	0	0	6	1,347
US/Dominican Republic	1	589	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Ecuador	3	1,632	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Egypt	3	710	16	2,351	0	0	0	0
US/El Salvador	6	607	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Finland	4	2,152	0	0	0	0	77	192,905
US/France	316	157,279	54	13,304	41	934,825	46	26,782
US/Germany	769	302,764	107	357,869	160	44,790	199	176,833
US/Greece	1	147	2	4,957	1	145	0	0
US/Guatemala	3	412	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Guyana	2	334	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Honduras	1	37	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 9--Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by U.S. region,  
December 31, 1997---Continued  
(Number)

Country	South		West		Northeast		Midwest	
	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres	Parcels	Acres
US/Hong Kong	4	7,414	20	123,084	0	0	0	0
US/Indonesia	5	644	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Iran	3	955	3	906	0	0	0	0
US/Iraq	0	0	1	800	0	0	0	0
US/Ireland	12	2,126	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Israel	0	0	3	414	0	0	0	0
US/Italy	18	107,726	2	410	5	984	1	91
US/Japan	90	31,032	165	210,220	13	66,323	108	15,169
US/Jordan	0	0	3	434	0	0	0	0
US/Kenya	1	32	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Korea (South)	1	10	1	75	0	0	0	0
US/Kuwait	5	1,196	4	6,066	1	772	3	296
US/Lebanon	3	258	0	0	2	153	0	0
US/Liberia	6	2,451	5	18,603	5	3,590	0	0
US/Libyan Arab Republic	0	0	3	280	0	0	0	0
US/Liechtenstein	38	73,214	51	27,663	3	670	11	6,023
US/Luxembourg	66	47,751	15	222,241	3	123	5	610
US/Malaysia	0	0	1	300	0	0	0	0
US/Malta	1	500	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Mexico	43	49,558	30	203,983	1	135	13	2,910
US/Namibia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	92
US/Netherlands	107	44,683	87	234,958	17	3,533	120	87,737
US/Netherlands Antilles	86	144,174	30	56,423	5	1,335	24	6,955
US/New Hebrides	0	0	1	883	0	0	0	0
US/New Zealand	3	2,725	1	46,678	0	0	0	0
US/Nicaragua	2	282	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Norway	7	8,161	0	0	3	1,548	0	0
US/Pakistan	0	0	1	423	0	0	0	0
US/Panama	44	36,729	27	83,965	11	4,687	7	1,910
US/Paraguay	1	236	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Peru	2	1,253	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Philippines	11	7,936	2	223	1	631	0	0
US/Portugal	2	1,683	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Qatar	1	219	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Saudi Arabia	27	11,245	0	0	0	0	2	353
US/Singapore	10	92,191	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/South Africa	3	2,573	4	4,129	0	0	1	160
US/Spain	40	12,679	10	2,680	2	1,548	1	50
US/Sweden	5	5,978	1	1,085	0	0	4	874
US/Switzerland	223	202,374	116	59,884	41	46,432	84	32,074
US/Taiwan	13	31,605	53	10,203	2	699	5	3,641
US/Thailand	0	0	3	252	0	0	0	0
US/Trinidad & Tobago	1	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Turkey	3	753	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/United Arab Emirates	21	4,747	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/United Kingdom	560	257,095	188	695,211	84	49,394	193	88,684
US/Uruguay	2	655	0	0	0	0	1	40
US/Venezuela	50	38,009	1	1,500	7	861	0	0
US/multiple	49	10,732	16	6,565	4	17,609	15	142,635
US/third tier	22	128,930	9	44,055	1	420	2	350
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	3,475	2,614,587	1,385	2,992,147	554	1,964,020	1,113	978,195
Total all landholdings	7,046	4,605,132	3,155	4,653,176	1,865	3,615,367	2,349	1,462,104

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

### Relationship of Foreign Owner to Representative

Forms were most commonly completed by attorneys, representing 31 percent of the parcels and 35 percent of the acreage (table 10). The second largest group is the "other" category (accountants, family members, and people associated with or employed by corporations) with filings for 24 percent of the parcels and 21 percent of the acres, followed by managers, with filings for 16 percent of the parcels covering 17 percent of the acres.

### Land Use

For five percent of the reported foreign-owned holdings of agricultural land is timber or forest land (table 11); cropland accounts for only 17 percent. Foreign-owned cropland, pasture, and other agricultural land (which includes, for example, orchards and vineyards) total 52 percent of all foreign-owned holdings, but only 0.5 percent of all privately held agricultural land in the United States. The other nonagriculture category accounts for 3 percent of the reported foreign-held acres. Nonagricultural land includes acreage such as the homestead and roads commonly reported as part of the agricultural landholding or land that is idle now but its last use within the past 5 years was for agriculture. These land-use figures should be used with caution because they reflect only information received at the time of filing and do not account for changes in land use that may have occurred subsequent to filing.

Table 10--Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings, by type of interest, method of acquisition, and owner representative, December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Item	Parcels	Acres
Interest:		
Fee interest whole	12,484	12,088,689
Fee interest partial <sup>1</sup>	984	1,740,948
Life estate	48	9,615
Trust beneficiary	158	98,775
Purchase contract	660	335,084
Other	81	62,668
Total	14,415	14,335,779
Method of acquisition:		
Cash only	7,512	5,112,705
Credit only	3,370	2,309,880
Trade only	321	335,655
Gift/inheritance only	369	229,036
Foreclosure only	66	65,740
Other method only	1,489	3,801,767
Cash & credit only	1,059	1,695,544
Cash & trade only	65	509,160
Cash & any other combination	60	59,459
No report	38	11,806
Noncash combinations	66	205,027
Total	14,415	14,335,779
Owner representative:		
Attorney	4,505	4,960,672
Manager	2,338	2,395,488
Agent	1,754	1,714,209
Other	3,512	3,029,808
Foreign owner	1,872	991,428
No report	434	1,244,174
Total	14,415	14,335,779

<sup>1</sup> The fee interest partial is used for parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.



Foreign persons from Canada own 2,823,402 acres, or 44 percent, of the reported forest landholdings. Unidentifiable third-tier foreign persons own 1 percent of the forest land. Several companies with large holdings account for much of the forest acreage: two Canadian companies with 1,308,796 acres, four U.S./Canada corporations with 916,334 acres, a U.S./France corporation with 914,644 acres, two U.K. companies and one U.K. partnership with 398,759 acres, and a U.S./Netherlands corporation with 355,870 acres.

Foreign persons from Germany own the most cropland, 471,168 acres, or 19 percent, followed by Canada, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands Antilles, with an additional 36 percent of the acreage. Unidentifiable third-tier parties own 4 percent of the cropland.

Foreign persons from the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, and Mexico own 1,882,655 acres, or 46 percent, of pasture land. Foreign persons from Japan, the British Virgin Islands, the Netherlands, the Netherlands Antilles, Luxembourg, Switzerland, and Panama own an additional 36 percent, or 1,455,572 acres.

The largest group of owners of other agricultural land are foreign persons from Canada, Germany, and the Netherlands Antilles, with 36 percent of the acres. They are followed by foreign persons from Japan, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, Switzerland, and Sweden who own 354,063 acres, or 41 percent.

When analyzing foreign-owned agricultural land (see definition on page 2), it is sometimes useful to separate foreign owners of farmland from foreign owners of other types of agricultural land. This can be done by identifying foreign owners who own only forest land or only forest land and other nonagricultural land. Foreign owners of only forest or only forest and other nonagricultural land account for 40 percent of all the foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land (tables 1 and 12). The remaining 60 percent is primarily farmland, although it includes some forest and/or other nonagricultural land commonly reported as part of the farmland holding (table 11).

The average parcel size for tracts with only forest or only forest and other nonagricultural land is 1,873 acres (table 12). Except for Maine (with 52 percent of the acreage, the uniqueness of which has been noted previously), the only forest or only forest and other nonagriculture acres are concentrated in the South. Louisiana, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida account for 21 percent. Holdings in Michigan, Minnesota, and New York accounted for another 13 percent of the acres, while California, Oregon, and Washington account for 7 percent. Foreign persons from Canada own 46 percent of the foreign-owned acreage of only U.S. forest or only forest and other nonagricultural lands (table 13). Foreign persons from France and the United Kingdom own an additional 29 percent.

Individuals own 16 percent of the parcels but only 2 percent of the acres (table 14). Corporations reported holding 73 percent of the parcels, representing 92 percent of the acreage. The remaining 11 percent of the parcels and 6 percent of the acres are held by partnerships, estates, trusts, and others. When partial interests are taken into account, the acreage equivalent is 915,568 acres less than the acres for which reports were filed.

Owners of parcels with less than 1,000 acres, 79 percent of all the owners, own 32 percent of the parcels covering only 2 percent of the forest or forest and other nonagricultural land (table 15). The remaining 21 percent of the owners, who purchased parcels with 1,000 acres or more, own 68 percent of the parcels covering 98 percent of these lands.

#### Intended Use

Concern has been expressed about farmland purchased and converted to uses other than agricultural production. Foreign persons do not appear to be proceeding in this direction to any substantial degree. However, the following data on intended use and tenure, like much of the use and value data, are based on information at the time of filing; they do not reflect subsequent changes.

Table 11--Use of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997  
(Acres)

Country	Cropland	Pasture	Forest	Other agriculture	Other non- agriculture	Total
Argentina	3,428	8,132	788	184	136	12,668
Australia	1,822	1,586	1,001	2,867	983	8,259
Austria	7,293	2,577	6,215	702	285	17,072
Bahamas	10,979	14,573	7,749	2,384	625	36,310
Belgium	7,513	53,632	2,041	2,023	876	66,085
Belize	25	235	232	55	2	549
Bermuda	6,109	17,122	47,227	1,678	1,424	73,560
Bolivia	10	0	0	1	0	11
Brazil	1,226	8,528	139	431	12	10,336
British Virgin Islands	5,692	113,680	58,071	3,147	389	180,979
Canada	174,541	168,362	1,411,267	64,378	24,696	1,843,244
Cayman Islands	6,512	23,357	2,991	908	405	34,173
Chile	503	607	390	544	11	2,055
China	543	218	27	2	43	833
Colombia	1,278	9,910	47	323	43	11,601
Costa Rica	7,005	4,150	120	167	2,393	13,835
Croatia	150	0	10	0	0	160
Cuba	39	0	3	12	4	58
Cyprus	430	0	0	86	0	516
Czech Republic	167	153	0	27	0	347
Denmark	5,785	948	6,421	118	494	13,766
Dominican Republic	1,987	0	0	1	120	2,108
Ecuador	207	92	0	646	6	951
Egypt	478	563	141	335	45	1,562
El Salvador	29	0	50	0	49	128
Finland	0	0	0	80	0	80
France	25,293	82,655	10,777	7,834	3,319	129,878
Gambia	0	294	0	0	0	294
Germany	314,928	146,914	228,329	51,239	15,088	756,498
Gibraltar	137	363	0	177	1	678
Greece	971	58,765	174	85	96	60,091
Guatemala	413	212	363	35	79	1,102
Guyana	0	0	0	35	0	35
Honduras	867	32	5	60	54	1,018
Hong Kong	3,931	2,723	1,622	4,055	111	12,442
Hungary	0	0	0	103	0	103
India	390	94	840	462	48	1,834
Indonesia	718	295	6	403	1	1,423
Iran	1,063	552	521	99	108	2,343
Ireland	1,413	6,583	20	24	2,366	10,406
Israel	245	349	217	129	11	951
Italy	4,784	13,410	1,516	6,218	13,253	39,181
Ivory Coast	0	0	80	39	0	119
Jamaica	0	291	0	273	3	567
Japan	27,531	154,106	2,909	16,228	6,593	207,367
Jordan	321	855	273	129	2	1,580
Kampuchea	27	0	0	0	4	31
Korea (South)	197	122	363	1,006	8	1,696
Kuwait	801	18,984	323	67	13	20,188
Laos	0	16	10	5	0	31
Lebanon	4,161	3,880	1,833	1,747	963	12,584
Liberia	1,062	23,721	4,298	1,150	860	31,091
Liechtenstein	67,366	37,769	17,077	6,824	4,201	133,237
Luxembourg	2,138	489	151	0	302	3,080
Malaysia	1,735	6,211	0	0	2	7,948
Mexico	23,396	145,679	2,903	3,301	6,064	181,343
Morocco	433	83	7	482	30	1,035
Namibia	102	0	0	0	4	106
Nepal	0	60	8	0	0	68
Netherlands	40,949	35,016	12,687	15,646	7,644	111,942
Netherlands Antilles	138,730	80,771	50,855	57,534	18,202	346,092
New Zealand	235	13,450	224	7	95	14,011
Nicaragua	0	970	248	60	100	1,378

Table 11--Use of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997---Continued  
(Acres)

Country	Cropland	Pasture	Forest	Other agriculture	Other non- agriculture	Total
Norway	2,988	647	154	225	70	4,084
Oman	120	126	126	43	39	454
Pakistan	1,319	0	14	0	33	1,366
Panama	22,088	48,060	17,969	15,475	15,829	119,421
Peru	137	13	16	87	55	308
Philippines	1,232	1,011	406	967	322	3,938
Poland	72	25	50	0	0	147
Portugal	2,505	592	200	832	17	4,146
Russia	145	106	207	55	269	782
St Vincent	295	1,230	1,042	10	60	2,637
Saudi Arabia	9,508	7,424	2,537	9,200	3,287	31,956
Senegal	10	0	0	0	0	10
Singapore	0	468	0	34	2	504
Somalia	0	0	11	0	0	11
South Africa	622	1,616	50	385	0	2,673
Spain	1,103	2,614	1,159	397	320	5,593
Sweden	3,430	2,670	8,302	41,616	788	56,806
Switzerland	112,577	103,969	22,839	15,326	41,131	295,842
Syria	1,447	808	133	229	72	2,689
Taiwan	4,638	1,656	1,035	470	1,053	8,852
Tanzania	5,000	35	0	170	4,938	10,143
Thailand	569	140	948	150	28	1,835
Trinidad & Tobago	24	30	35	0	5	94
Turkey	0	38	0	0	0	38
Turks Islands	2,390	391	267	172	72	3,292
United Arab Emirates	558	118	760	1,239	3	2,678
United Kingdom	88,361	197,229	196,350	16,252	5,651	503,843
Uruguay	1,820	7,916	490	0	581	10,807
Venezuela	11,543	3,508	2,784	2,318	1,536	21,689
Vietnam	0	0	152	0	0	152
Zimbabwe	131	30	67	0	2	230
Multiple	8,631	9,122	4,500	28,183	859	51,295
Third tier	3,305	7,553	1,328	1,119	193	13,498
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	1,194,656	1,663,284	2,147,500	391,509	189,881	5,586,830
US/Andorra	200	3,541	0	0	0	3,741
US/Argentina	1,919	1,461	70	1,02	414	4,056
US/Australia	798	973	1,381	1,100	812	5,064
US/Austria	7,694	12,525	29,630	634	91	50,574
US/Bahamas	15,634	31,371	4,361	10,351	4,552	66,269
US/Barbados	41	0	0	0	0	41
US/Belgium	18,806	37,845	33,151	1,842	2,356	94,000
US/Bermuda	744	511	2,122	7,395	756	11,528
US/Brazil	10,030	2,383	0	536	170	13,119
US/British Virgin Islands	3,636	152,359	144,725	1,814	181	302,715
US/Canada	86,554	217,797	1,412,135	109,241	43,282	1,869,009
US/Cayman Islands	7,767	397	13,717	9,786	607	32,274
US/Chile	12	9,931	5	0	0	9,948
US/China	316	2,059	1,068	1,298	8,350	13,091
US/Colombia	302	13,387	50	0	1	13,740
US/Costa Rica	0	639	168	0	0	807
US/Denmark	649	235	6,434	97	903	8,318
US/Dominican Republic	0	0	454	0	135	589
US/Ecuador	69	1,549	0	0	14	1,632
US/Egypt	1,806	559	300	237	159	3,061
US/El Salvador	52	555	0	0	0	607
US/Finland	60	0	194,910	0	87	195,057
US/France	49,311	10,445	1,006,995	48,545	16,894	1,132,190
US/Germany	156,240	386,304	265,718	17,954	56,040	882,256
US/Greece	110	4,957	147	0	35	5,249
US/Guatemala	0	392	0	20	0	412
US/Guyana	0	0	0	334	0	334

Table 11--Use of U.S. agricultural landholdings, by country of foreign owner,  
December 31, 1997---Continued  
(Acres)

Country	Cropland	Pasture	Forest	Other agriculture	Other non- agriculture	Total
US/Honduras	37	0	0	0	0	37
US/Hong Kong	120,592	8,345	695	119	747	130,498
US/Indonesia	351	153	0	114	26	644
US/Iran	483	747	5	559	67	1,861
US/Iraq	800	0	0	0	0	800
US/Ireland	153	355	1,612	6	0	2,126
US/Israel	95	0	187	45	87	414
US/Italy	70,931	18,303	12,134	5,939	1,904	109,211
US/Japan	61,658	117,078	82,680	46,155	15,173	322,744
US/Jordan	75	284	0	75	0	434
US/Kenya	0	0	32	0	0	32
US/Korea (South)	10	63	0	0	12	85
US/Kuwait	486	6,379	772	604	89	8,330
US/Lebanon	50	140	133	67	21	411
US/Liberia	1,503	18,013	3,966	1,082	80	24,644
US/Libyan Arab Republic	0	0	0	277	3	280
US/Liechtenstein	78,054	6,331	10,155	4,074	8,956	107,570
US/Luxembourg	13,641	165,395	26,162	46,319	19,208	270,725
US/Malaysia	0	0	0	300	0	300
US/Malta	10	0	30	460	0	500
US/Mexico	9,938	227,380	1,095	15,745	2,428	256,586
US/Namibia	83	0	9	0	0	92
US/Netherlands	60,237	200,211	22,806	38,156	49,501	370,911
US/Netherlands Antilles	47,258	136,075	10,940	8,964	5,650	208,887
US/New Hebrides	0	883	0	0	0	883
US/New Zealand	2,605	45,537	0	240	1,021	49,403
US/Nicaragua	0	242	40	0	0	282
US/Norway	765	30	163	8,039	712	9,709
US/Pakistan	423	0	0	0	0	423
US/Panama	21,507	94,116	5,333	5,415	920	127,291
US/Paraguay	0	236	0	0	0	236
US/Peru	300	0	25	878	50	1,253
US/Philippines	6,321	59	1,274	465	671	8,790
US/Portugal	1,429	151	0	0	103	1,683
US/Qatar	0	0	219	0	0	219
US/Saudi Arabia	873	6,695	2,572	394	1,064	11,598
US/Singapore	196	0	91,922	0	73	92,191
US/South Africa	1,445	300	178	1,925	3,014	6,862
US/Spain	11,747	2,012	408	2,514	276	16,957
US/Sweden	3,230	258	2,980	1,120	349	7,937
US/Switzerland	128,911	54,247	116,413	29,763	11,430	340,764
US/Taiwan	27,796	6,865	3,079	5,559	2,849	46,148
US/Thailand	175	0	0	77	0	252
US/Trinidad & Tobago	20	0	0	0	0	20
US/Turkey	600	153	0	0	0	753
US/United Arab Emirates	1,591	2,548	82	303	223	4,747
US/United Kingdom	117,272	392,990	520,018	31,103	29,001	1,090,384
US/Uruguay	0	550	102	40	3	695
US/Venezuela	34,130	1,962	2,777	393	1,108	40,370
US/multiple	9,629	3,711	161,654	1,709	838	177,541
US/third tier	92,929	721	73,843	4,970	1,292	173,755
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	1,293,089	2,411,693	4,274,036	475,343	294,788	8,748,949
Total all landholdings	2,487,745	4,074,977	6,421,536	866,852	484,669	14,335,779

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

No change in intended use was reported for 94 percent of the acres (table 16). Intended use changes to other agricultural usage were reported for holders of 2 percent of the acres. Reports for 3 percent of the acres indicate that some change to nonagricultural use is intended. Such reports do not necessarily mean, however, that all of these acres will be changed. What the reports do mean is that the holders of these acres intended to change the use of some of the acreage. However, the report form does not ask how many acres will be involved. Reports representing 1 percent of the acres did not indicate intended use.

### Tenure

Tenants and foreign owners operate 37 and 29 percent of the parcels of foreign-held U.S. agricultural land, respectively, whereas managers operate only 10 percent of the parcels (table 17). No responses to the tenure question were received for 24 percent of the parcels. Tenants operate 26 percent of the acres, while foreign owners directly operate 47 percent and managers 12 percent. No responses on tenure were received for 15 percent of the acres.

Rental agreements were reported for 4,695 parcels, or 33 percent, covering 23 percent of the acres. Of the rental agreements, cash agreements accounted for 72 percent and cropshare agreements for 27 percent of the parcels.

### Tenure Change

No tenure changes were reported for 46 percent of the parcels, or 55 percent of the acres (table 17). Reports for 31 percent of the parcels containing 29 percent of the acres indicate a new tenure arrangement on at least part of the land. The acreage affected by the new tenure arrangements is not reported. Thus, the acreage may be

Table 12--Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by State, December 31, 1997  
(Number)

State and U.S. Territory	Parcels	Acres	State and U.S. Territory	Parcels	Acres
Alabama	330	474,110	Missouri	12	3,476
Alaska	1	110	Montana	10	1,033
Arizona	1	13	New Hampshire	30	16,588
Arkansas	14	1,994	New Jersey	9	5,584
California	28	235,330	New Mexico	3	9,450
Colorado	8	3,385	New York	151	230,479
Connecticut	4	117	North Carolina	75	42,039
Florida	67	99,404	Ohio	20	7,584
Georgia	489	313,390	Oklahoma	1	66
Hawaii	2	289	Oregon	26	47,749
Idaho	2	156	Pennsylvania	168	49,666
Illinois	28	3,262	South Carolina	158	102,614
Indiana	14	1,320	Tennessee	74	40,307
Kansas	1	20	Texas	32	9,522
Kentucky	101	48,765	Utah	2	636
Louisiana	23	187,515	Vermont	200	53,202
Maine	199	2,969,421	Virginia	253	36,536
Maryland	4	364	Washington	113	95,616
Massachusetts	7	1,589	West Virginia	244	139,996
Michigan	29	292,160	Wisconsin	14	6,209
Minnesota	88	193,593	Total	3,058	5,729,032
Mississippi	23	4,373			

Table 13--Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by country of foreign owner, December 31, 1997 (Number)

Country	Owners	Parcels	Acres
Argentina	2	2	240
Australia	5	7	946
Austria	11	14	5,567
Bahamas	2	2	7,399
Belgium	2	2	161
Belize	1	2	102
Bermuda	8	14	41,617
Brazil	1	2	22
British Virgin Islands	2	63	57,905
Canada	300	452	1,386,599
Cayman Islands	4	7	2,384
Costa Rica	1	1	20
Denmark	4	5	6,027
Egypt	3	4	140
El Salvador	1	1	50
France	11	14	7,620
Germany	144	310	167,556
Greece	3	3	118
Guatemala	1	1	188
Hong Kong	2	3	1,422
India	1	1	831
Iran	3	3	243
Israel	1	1	76
Japan	5	5	543
Jordan	3	4	204
Korea (South)	1	1	353
Kuwait	1	1	198
Lebanon	2	3	85
Liberia	2	2	4,290
Liechtenstein	9	13	14,191
Luxembourg	1	1	250
Mexico	2	3	208
Netherlands	6	10	4,375
Netherlands Antilles	21	32	37,222
Norway	1	1	74
Pakistan	1	1	14
Panama	5	8	15,736
Philippines	3	4	184
St Vincent	1	1	20
Saudi Arabia	3	3	665
Somalia	1	1	11
Spain	3	3	542
Sweden	2	2	105
Switzerland	18	26	9,352
Syria	2	2	147
Taiwan	1	1	96
Turks Islands	2	2	105
United Arab Emirates	1	2	705
United Kingdom	42	77	173,582
Venezuela	7	8	1,235
Vietnam	1	1	152
Multiple	5	6	3,904
Third tier	2	2	1,187
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	667	1,140	1,956,968
US/Australia	2	2	346
US/Austria	7	30	28,568
US/Bahamas	3	4	3,454
US/Belgium	7	47	25,808
US/Bermuda	3	3	1,471
US/British Virgin Islands	3	6	143,740
US/Canada	47	467	1,223,915
US/Cayman Islands	1	1	640

Table 13--Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by country of foreign owner, December 31, 1997---Continued  
(Number)

Country	Owners	Parcels	Acres
US/China	1	3	1,068
US/Denmark	4	4	5,176
US/Dominican Republic	1	1	589
US/Finland	2	79	194,982
US/France	19	153	994,287
US/Germany	39	624	162,685
US/Greece	1	1	147
US/Ireland	1	4	1,612
US/Japan	16	23	72,460
US/Kenya	1	1	32
US/Kuwait	1	1	772
US/Liberia	4	4	3,520
US/Liechtenstein	2	3	6,648
US/Luxembourg	3	28	18,256
US/Mexico	1	1	63
US/Netherlands	7	8	8,207
US/Netherlands Antilles	8	13	1,673
US/Norway	1	1	25
US/Panama	5	6	2,328
US/Philippines	3	3	796
US/Qatar	1	1	219
US/Saudi Arabia	5	8	3,462
US/Singapore	1	7	91,922
US/Sweden	1	1	2,811
US/Switzerland	17	31	57,904
US/Taiwan	3	3	714
US/United Kingdom	62	307	473,312
US/Uruguay	1	1	77
US/Venezuela	5	6	3,192
US/multiple	5	15	161,391
US/third tier	4	17	73,792
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	298	1,918	3,772,064
Total	965	3,058	5,729,032

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Table 14--Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by type of foreign owner, December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Owner	Owners	Parcels	Acres	Parcels with partial interests <sup>1</sup>	Acreage equivalent <sup>2</sup>
Individual	409	497	117,139	43	114,066
Corporation	405	2,225	5,281,699	212	4,373,785
Partnership	121	290	304,981	19	300,924
Estate	1	1	14	0	14
Trust	20	35	20,186	1	19,662
Other	9	10	5,013	0	5,013
Total	965	3,058	5,729,032	275	4,813,464

<sup>1</sup> Parcels with partial interests are parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Acreage equivalent equals the total acreage reported multiplied by the percentage held by the foreign owner.

Table 15--Landholdings of foreign owners that consist only of U.S. forest or only of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by size of holding, December 31, 1997

Size (Acres)	Owners (Number)	Parcels (Number)	Acres (Number)
Less than 20	129	134	1,447
20-59	206	220	6,915
60-99	92	106	7,034
100-299	187	241	31,260
300-999	153	282	85,570
1,000 or more	198	2,075	5,596,806
Total	965	3,058	5,729,032

Table 16--Intended use of U.S. agricultural landholdings of foreign owners, December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Item	No change	Other agriculture	Other non-agriculture	Not reported	Total
Individual:					
Parcels reported	3,525	195	96	56	3,872
Acres	841,396	48,407	6,908	9,653	906,364
Organization:					
Parcels reported	8,888	541	909	204	10,543
Acres	12,613,327	271,817	393,607	150,528	13,429,415
Total:					
Parcels reported	12,413	736	1,005	260	14,415
Acres	13,454,723	320,224	400,515	160,181	14,335,779



overstated; that is, all acres in these parcels are not necessarily affected by new tenure arrangements. Nevertheless, reports for 0.3 percent of the parcels, accounting for 0.3 percent of the acres, indicated that some tenure arrangements would change. No responses on tenure changes were received for 23 percent of the parcels containing 16 percent of the acres.

### Acquisitions

Foreign persons reported that they had acquired 352 parcels of U.S. agricultural land, covering 515,403 acres during January 1-December 31, 1997 (tables 18 and 19). Included in these acquisitions data are reports filed by U.S. entities that became foreign during the period. This change occurs when a significant interest or substantial control in a U.S. entity is subsequently acquired by a foreign person. Consequently, all reported acres are not necessarily recent land purchases. These acquisitions could include land held for any length of time by a U.S. entity that recently came within the definition of a foreign person under the act.

The reported acquisitions data should be regarded as preliminary in that they understate the total acreage acquired by foreign persons during the reporting period. Because foreign persons have a statutory 90 days within which to report their acquisitions, not all the acquisitions acquired in the 90 days preceding the December 31, 1997, closing date of this report were received for processing by USDA. Therefore, a number of reports for October, November, and December are not included here. A further understatement of the acreage acquired by foreign persons during the reporting period may result from reports not filed within the statutory 90 days and/or are incomplete. Such reports would not have been processed for inclusion here.

Table 17--Tenure of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural landholdings,  
December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Tenure	Parcels	Acres
Current:		
Foreign owner	4,190	6,749,646
Manager	1,490	1,687,705
Tenant	5,275	3,726,317
No report	3,448	2,163,681
Combination	12	8,430
Total	14,415	14,335,779
Rental:		
Crop	1,248	507,832
Cash	3,385	2,707,343
Both	62	50,058
No report	5,524	4,319,675
Not applicable	4,196	6,750,871
Total	14,415	14,335,779
Intended change:		
None	6,578	7,931,661
New	4,458	4,140,490
Both	43	38,213
No report	3,336	2,225,415
Total	14,415	14,335,779

### Concentration of Foreign Acquisitions of U.S. Agricultural Land

Sixty-nine percent of the acres acquired during 1997 were in Alabama. An additional 18 percent of the acquired acres were in Maine, Georgia, Florida, and Colorado (table 18). Eighty-two percent of the acquired acreage was in the South (table 24). Foreign entities from Canada accounted for 85 percent of the acres acquired in the South.

### Characteristics of Foreign Owners

**Type of Foreign Owner.** Corporations reported acquiring 75 percent of the parcels and 97 percent of acres (table 19). Individuals, partnerships, and trusts each account for 1 percent of the acres. When partial interests of foreign investors are taken into account, the 515,403 acres drop to an acreage equivalent of 501,824 acres.

Corporations acquired an average of 1,878 acres per parcel, or 4,833 acres per owner, compared with individuals who acquired an average 121 acres per parcel, or 140 acres per holder. Partnerships reported acquisitions averaging 321 acres per parcel, or 401 acres per owner; and trusts, estates, and others reported 301 acres per parcel and 640 acres per owner.

The largest acreage acquired by individuals during the period was reported for Ohio (table 20). Organizations reported acquiring the largest acreage in Alabama and Maine.

**Size of Acquisition.** Owners of parcels with 300 or more acres (39 percent of the owners) acquired approximately 98 percent of the acres, and owners of parcels with less than 300 acres (61 percent of the owners) acquired the remaining 2 percent of the acres (table 21). All parcels of 300 or more acres accounted for 88 percent of the total value. The value per acre, however, is concentrated in the reports of holders of less than 300 acres--\$5,553 per acre, compared with \$754 per acre for holdings of 300 or more acres.

Table 18--U.S. agricultural land acquisitions of foreign owners, by State,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

State and U.S. Territory	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>	State and U.S. Territory	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Alabama	357,773	254,045	New Hampshire	1,893	1,519
Arizona	5,587	4,978	New Jersey	3	50
Arkansas	1,162	753	New York	566	410
California	5,395	15,095	North Carolina	666	832
Colorado	20,158	19,001	North Dakota	840	152
Connecticut	334	2,750	Ohio	4,163	10,169
Florida	21,405	25,773	Oklahoma	1,330	646
Georgia	23,557	18,310	Oregon	445	2,973
Idaho	219	570	Pennsylvania	314	3,744
Illinois	352	498	South Carolina	4,214	21,296
Indiana	998	2,492	Tennessee	30	180
Kansas	395	131	Texas	11,286	11,738
Kentucky	809	4,935	Utah	393	963
Louisiana	553	760	Vermont	1,829	1,462
Maine	26,592	1,280	Virginia	445	1,544
Massachusetts	614	5,090	Washington	3,299	11,160
Michigan	122	247	West Virginia	684	1,353
Minnesota	560	132	Wisconsin	1,751	1,866
Mississippi	2,016	2,752	Wyoming	12,211	1,115
Nebraska	440	75			
			Total	515,403	432,839

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

**Purchase Price and Value of Acquisitions.** Corporations accounted for 90 percent of the total of summed purchase prices and summed nonpurchase prices (estimated values) for new acquisitions (table 22). The average per acre purchase price and nonpurchase price (estimated value) is lowest for corporations, \$783; followed by partnerships, \$1,500; estates, \$1,653; individuals, \$1,745; and trusts, \$3,294. The average per acre purchase price for "others" is \$4,775.

Equity is frequently used to measure net foreign investment transfer. To approximate equity, debt was subtracted from current value for all reports that provided information on debt and current value. The 352 reports providing information on debt (\$12,836,000) and current value (\$432,721,000) resulted in an equity figure of \$419,885,000 (table 22). These figures reveal an equity figure of 97 percent in relation to current value.

**Country of Origin.** U.S. corporations with foreign interests acquired 96 percent of the acreage. Foreign persons not affiliated with a U.S. corporation acquired the remaining 4 percent (table 23). Foreign persons from Canada acquired 391,879 acres, 76 percent of the total.

Eighty-three percent of the acres acquired during 1997 were in the South, where foreign entities from Canada accounted for 85 percent of the acquisitions (table 24). In the Midwest, foreign entities from Germany acquired 56 percent of the acres. In the Northeast, persons from Canada acquired 87 percent of the acres.

#### Interest in Land

Eighty-seven percent of parcels, accounting for 95 percent of the reported acres, were acquired in fee interest whole (table 25).

#### Method of Acquisition

Cash represented 66 percent of all parcels purchased, covering 88 percent of the acres (table 25). In contrast, 12 percent of the parcels, covering 2 percent of the acres, were acquired by "other method only."

Table 19--U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by type of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Owner	Owners reporting	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels with partial interests reported <sup>1</sup>	Acreage equivalent <sup>2</sup>
Individual	43	50	6,053	4	5,872
Corporation	103	265	497,803	17	484,675
Partnership	16	20	6,421	2	6,151
Estate	1	4	464	0	464
Trust	1	1	119	0	119
Other	6	12	4,543	0	4,543
Total	170	352	515,403	23	501,824

<sup>1</sup> Parcels with partial interests are parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Acreage equivalent equals the total acreage reported multiplied by the percentage held by the foreign owner.

Table 20--Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by State,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

State and U.S. Territory	Individual		Organization	
	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres
Alabama	0	0	24	357,773
Arizona	0	0	8	5,587
Arkansas	0	0	5	1,162
California	1	8	18	5,387
Colorado	2	1,089	8	19,069
Connecticut	0	0	1	334
Florida	4	38	26	21,367
Georgia	1	417	21	23,140
Idaho	0	0	3	219
Illinois	0	0	4	352
Indiana	2	110	3	888
Kansas	0	0	2	395
Kentucky	1	47	10	762
Louisiana	0	0	3	553
Maine	1	12	16	26,580
Massachusetts	0	0	2	614
Michigan	1	40	1	82
Minnesota	0	0	7	560
Mississippi	2	88	3	1,928
Nebraska	0	0	1	440
New Hampshire	0	0	3	1,893
New Jersey	0	0	1	3
New York	1	339	1	227
North Carolina	1	9	3	657
North Dakota	2	840	0	0
Ohio	6	1,313	8	2,850
Oklahoma	0	0	6	1,330
Oregon	1	329	2	116
Pennsylvania	0	0	7	314
South Carolina	0	0	8	4,214
Tennessee	2	30	0	0
Texas	5	472	21	10,814
Utah	0	0	5	393
Vermont	4	175	6	1,654
Virginia	2	68	8	377
Washington	9	304	18	2,995
West Virginia	0	0	30	684
Wisconsin	2	325	6	1,426
Wyoming	0	0	3	12,211
Total	50	6,053	302	509,350

Table 21--Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land acquisitions,  
by size of acquisition, January 1 - December 31, 1997

Size (Acres)	Owners reporting (Number)	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Less than 20	16	17	188	1,095
20-59	38	47	1,394	16,594
60-99	11	12	832	881
100-299	38	52	6,755	32,349
300-999	36	112	19,941	37,273
1,000 or more	31	112	486,293	344,647
Total	170	352	515,403	432,839

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

Table 22--Value of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by type of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

Owner	Owners reporting (Number)	Acres with purchase price reported (Number)	Purchase price <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Acres with non- purchase price reported (Number)	Non- purchase price <sup>1</sup> (1,000 dollars)
Individual	43	6,053	10,562	0	0
Corporation	103	497,803	389,789	0	0
Partnership	16	6,421	9,637	0	0
Estate	1	464	767	0	0
Trust	1	119	392	0	0
Other	6	4,543	21,692	0	0
Total	170	515,403	432,839	0	0
	Acres with current value reported (Number)	Current value <sup>2</sup> (1,000 dollars)	Acres with equity reported (Number)	Equity (1,000 dollars)	
Individual	6,053	10,587	6,053	8,852	
Corporation	497,803	388,911	497,803	380,392	
Partnership	6,421	10,372	6,421	9,940	
Estate	464	767	464	767	
Trust	119	392	119	392	
Other	4,543	21,692	4,543	19,542	
Total	515,403	432,721	515,403	419,885	

<sup>1</sup> Purchase price and nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition.

<sup>2</sup> Current value is value at time of reporting.

Table 23--U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by country of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

Country	Owners reporting (Number)	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Austria	1	1	12	7
British Virgin Islands	2	2	1,305	954
Canada	24	29	2,816	4,845
China	1	1	77	275
Denmark	2	2	485	133
France	2	3	30	243
Germany	22	32	8,778	31,646
Gibraltar	1	1	200	4,257
India	1	1	50	150
Italy	2	2	472	416
Japan	4	4	1,313	2,142
Mexico	1	1	268	120
Netherlands	5	5	857	2,427
Netherlands Antilles	2	2	546	852
Pakistan	1	4	464	767
Switzerland	5	5	3,403	4,001
United Kingdom	3	4	1,897	1,037
Venezuela	1	1	119	392
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	80	100	23,092	54,664
US/Austria	4	5	12,986	6,896
US/Bahamas	1	1	23	120
US/Belgium	1	1	13	39
US/Canada	18	57	389,063	271,454
US/China	1	1	251	313
US/Colombia	3	6	2,305	6,180
US/Finland	1	7	560	132
US/France	5	12	11,462	9,721
US/Germany	14	69	6,469	11,269
US/Ireland	1	2	184	1,248
US/Japan	9	23	10,039	11,915
US/Liechtenstein	2	6	4,040	10,677
US/Luxembourg	1	4	8,202	7,077
US/Mexico	1	1	1,671	920
US/Netherlands	1	1	75	58
US/Saudi Arabia	3	3	637	3,935
US/South Africa	1	1	510	1,750
US/Spain	1	9	3,430	1,989
US/Switzerland	6	10	6,548	7,963
US/Turkey	1	1	310	392
US/United Kingdom	15	32	33,533	24,127
Subtotal <sup>3</sup>	90	252	492,311	378,175
Total all land acquisitions	170	352	515,403	432,839

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

<sup>2</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>3</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Table 24--Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by U.S. region,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Country	South		West		Northeast		Midwest	
	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres
Austria	0	0	0	0	1	12	0	0
British Virgin Islands	2	1,305	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	1	34	13	1,044	13	1,539	2	199
China	0	0	1	77	0	0	0	0
Denmark	1	45	0	0	0	0	1	440
France	3	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	16	2,500	2	2,880	1	74	13	3,324
Gibraltar	0	0	1	200	0	0	0	0
India	0	0	1	50	0	0	0	0
Italy	1	20	0	0	0	0	1	452
Japan	1	183	3	1,130	0	0	0	0
Mexico	1	268	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	1	47	2	464	0	0	2	346
Netherlands Antilles	1	38	1	508	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	0	0	4	464	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	4	1,740	1	1,663	0	0	0	0
United Kingdom	0	0	2	1,057	0	0	2	840
Venezuela	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	119
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	32	6,210	31	9,537	15	1,625	22	5,720
US/Austria	5	12,986	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Bahamas	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	0
US/Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	13
US/Canada	29	360,883	14	1,448	12	26,366	2	366
US/China	1	251	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Colombia	6	2,305	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Finland	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	560
US/France	9	11,359	1	29	2	74	0	0
US/Germany	45	3,748	10	491	6	143	8	2,087
US/Ireland	2	184	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Japan	14	5,558	7	4,391	0	0	2	90
US/Liechtenstein	1	80	5	3,960	0	0	0	0
US/Luxembourg	4	8,202	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Mexico	1	1,671	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Netherlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	75
US/Saudi Arabia	3	637	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/South Africa	0	0	1	510	0	0	0	0
US/Spain	9	3,430	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Switzerland	7	4,962	0	0	2	1,266	1	320
US/Turkey	1	310	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/United Kingdom	15	3,124	9	27,341	5	2,648	3	420
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	152	419,690	47	38,170	28	30,520	25	3,931
Total all land acquisitions	184	425,900	78	47,707	43	32,145	47	9,651

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

## Land Use

Of the acres acquired in 1997, 7 percent were in pasture, 82 percent in forest, 1 percent in other agriculture, 9 percent in cropland, and 1 percent in nonagriculture (table 26). Foreign entities associated with Japan, France, Switzerland, and Germany acquired 61 percent of the cropland. U.S./United Kingdom corporations acquired 73 percent of pastureland. U.S./Canada corporations acquired 91 percent of the forest land.

Separating data on reports for only forest or only forest and other nonagricultural land shows that 63 percent of the acquisitions (acres) are in these two land-use categories. Alabama had 80 percent of these acquisitions. Maine, Georgia, and Florida accounted for another 17 percent (table 27).

Table 25--Foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land acquisitions,  
by type of interest, method of acquisition, and owner representative,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Item	Parcels reported	Acres
<b>Interest:</b>		
Fee interest whole	305	489,677
Fee interest partial <sup>1</sup>	23	20,452
Purchase contract	21	4,603
Other	3	671
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>515,403</b>
<b>Method of acquisition:</b>		
Cash only	231	452,418
Credit only	37	12,170
Trade only	23	28,996
Gift/inheritance only	7	1,721
Foreclosure only	5	8,497
Other method only	43	9,540
Cash & credit only	4	1,800
Noncash combinations	2	261
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>515,403</b>
<b>Owner representative:</b>		
Attorney	84	31,570
Manager	84	40,738
Agent	48	391,506
Other	92	42,722
No report	44	8,867
<b>Total</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>515,403</b>

<sup>1</sup> The fee interest partial is used for parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.



Table 26--Use of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions, by country of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Acres)

Country	Cropland	Pasture	Forest	Other agriculture	Other non- agriculture	Total
Austria	0	0	12	0	0	12
British Virgin Islands	20	28	1,257	0	0	1,305
Canada	1,263	471	842	112	128	2,816
China	70	0	0	2	5	77
Denmark	153	318	14	0	0	485
France	30	0	0	0	0	30
Germany	3,605	1,115	3,880	30	148	8,778
Gibraltar	0	200	0	0	0	200
India	0	10	0	35	5	50
Italy	310	24	137	0	1	472
Japan	928	330	21	26	8	1,313
Mexico	94	174	0	0	0	268
Netherlands	786	18	0	1	52	857
Netherlands Antilles	428	30	8	0	80	546
Pakistan	464	0	0	0	0	464
Switzerland	1,654	1,460	287	0	2	3,403
United Kingdom	983	910	0	0	4	1,897
Venezuela	113	0	0	6	0	119
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	10,901	5,088	6,458	212	433	23,092
US/Austria	537	0	12,449	0	0	12,986
US/Bahamas	0	0	23	0	0	23
US/Belgium	13	0	0	0	0	13
US/Canada	1,880	350	382,304	1,026	3,503	389,063
US/China	0	151	0	100	0	251
US/Colombia	0	2,305	0	0	0	2,305
US/Finland	0	0	560	0	0	560
US/France	7,422	0	1,874	1,835	331	11,462
US/Germany	2,008	29	3,776	579	77	6,469
US/Ireland	9	175	0	0	0	184
US/Japan	8,546	483	41	10	959	10,039
US/Liechtenstein	37	0	0	0	280	4,040
US/Luxembourg	121	0	7,337	0	744	8,202
US/Mexico	1,671	0	0	0	0	1,671
US/Netherlands	50	25	0	0	0	75
US/Saudi Arabia	0	0	356	281	0	637
US/South Africa	0	0	0	0	510	510
US/Spain	2,133	354	5	868	70	3,430
US/Switzerland	3,974	528	1,628	246	172	6,548
US/Turkey	250	60	0	0	0	310
US/United Kingdom	3,270	25,561	4,413	112	177	33,533
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	35,644	30,021	414,766	5,057	6,823	492,311
Total all land acquisitions	46,545	35,109	421,224	5,269	7,256	515,403

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Foreign entities from Canada purchased most of the U.S. forest land or forest and other nonagricultural lands (table 28), accounting for 89 percent of such acquisitions, 288,982 acres. U.S./Austria, U.S./Luxembourg, and U.S./UK corporations purchased another 24,587 acres or 8 percent.

Corporations accounted for the largest number of owners reporting acquisitions of forest or forest and other nonagricultural land--83 percent of the owners reported acquiring 91 percent of the parcels covering 99 percent of the acres (table 29).

Owners of parcels of less than 1,000 acres, 66 percent of the owners, reported acquiring 65 percent of the parcels covering only 1 percent of the forest or forest and other nonagricultural lands (table 30). The remaining 34 percent of the holders, owning parcels with 1,000 acres or more, reported acquiring 35 percent of the parcels covering 99 percent of these lands and representing 93 percent of the value.

#### Intended Use

Reports for more than 97 percent of the acres indicated no change in land use (table 31). Intended changes to other agricultural and nonagricultural uses were reported for holders of approximately 3 percent of the acquired acres. Because the form asks for changes by parcels and not acres, all of these acres may not be affected by the indicated changes. Reports on intended use were received for all but a small fraction of the acres.

Table 27--U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land acquisitions of foreign owners, by State,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

State and U.S. Territory	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Alabama	20	259,963	148,727
Colorado	1	239	5,673
Florida	7	12,094	10,693
Georgia	11	16,696	9,441
Kentucky	5	190	496
Louisiana	1	4	43
Maine	13	25,491	493
Minnesota	7	560	132
Mississippi	1	20	16
New Hampshire	3	1,893	1,519
Ohio	1	102	40
Pennsylvania	6	214	244
South Carolina	3	2,853	18,965
Tennessee	1	2	90
Vermont	5	411	270
Virginia	8	377	1,029
Washington	1	1,780	3,560
West Virginia	29	571	677
Total	123	323,460	202,108

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

Table 28--U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land acquisitions, by country of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

Country	Owners reporting (Number)	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Austria	1	1	12	7
British Virgin Islands	1	1	1,257	689
Canada	4	8	821	520
Germany	6	6	3,839	22,239
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	12	16	5,929	23,455
US/Austria	3	4	12,449	6,488
US/Bahamas	1	1	23	120
US/Canada	6	31	288,161	155,578
US/Finland	1	7	560	132
US/France	2	4	1,235	547
US/Germany	6	45	2,605	2,309
US/Japan	1	1	4	43
US/Luxembourg	1	3	7,820	6,958
US/Saudi Arabia	2	2	356	2,778
US/United Kingdom	6	9	4,318	3,700
Subtotal <sup>3</sup>	29	107	317,531	178,653
Total	41	123	323,460	202,108

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

<sup>2</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>3</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Table 29--U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land acquisitions, by type of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Owner	Owners reporting	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels with partial interests reported <sup>1</sup>	Acreage equivalent <sup>2</sup>
Individual	5	5	474	0	474
Corporation	34	112	320,810	7	310,002
Partnership	1	5	630	0	630
Other	1	1	1,546	0	1,546
Total	41	123	323,460	7	312,652

<sup>1</sup> Parcels with partial interests are parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Acreage equivalent equals the total acreage reported multiplied by the percentage held by the foreign owner.

## Tenure

Foreign owners operate 27 percent of the parcels acquired during the period and 12 percent of the acres, whereas tenants operate 30 percent of the parcels and 13 percent of the acres (table 32). Managers operate 13 percent of the parcels and 71 percent of the acres. No responses on tenure were received for 30 percent of the parcels covering 4 percent of the acres. Rental agreements applied to 30 percent of the parcels covering 14 percent of the acres.

## Tenure Change

Reports for 50 percent of the parcels acquired during the period indicate no tenure change for 88 percent of the acreage (table 32). Reports for 24 percent of the parcels, containing 8 percent of the acres, indicated a tenure change. Because the number of acres affected by new tenure arrangements was not reported, the acreage may be overstated; that is, all of these acres are not necessarily affected by new tenure arrangements. No responses on tenure change were made for 26 percent of the parcels accounting for 3 percent of the acres.

Table 30--Foreign acquisitions of U.S. forest and other nonagricultural land, by size of acquisition,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

Size (Acres)	Owners reporting (Number)	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Less than 20	5	5	41	240
20-59	5	5	166	549
60-99	3	5	233	137
100-299	9	15	1,546	10,012
300-999	5	50	2,403	2,266
1,000 or more	14	43	319,071	188,904
Total	41	123	323,460	202,108

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

Table 31--Intended use of U.S. agricultural land acquisitions of foreign owners,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Item	No change	Other agriculture	Other non-agriculture	No report	Combination	Total
Individual:						
Parcels reported	41	4	5	0	0	50
Acres	5,141	714	198	0	0	6,053
Organization:						
Parcels reported	244	18	18	22	0	302
Acres	497,251	6,444	5,182	473	0	509,350
Total:						
Parcels reported	285	22	23	22	0	352
Acres	502,392	7,158	5,380	473	0	515,403

## Dispositions, Land-Use Changes, and Changes in Status

Data in this section are derived from reports filed by foreign investors who disposed of 352 parcels of U.S. agricultural land covering 325,700 acres between January 1 and December 31, 1997. In addition to these dispositions, there were reports of land-use changes out of agriculture affecting 9 parcels covering 601 acres, and reports of change in status from foreign to nonforeign affecting 79 parcels covering 51,100 acres.

For the same reasons noted at the outset of the "Acquisitions" section, the reported data for dispositions, land-use changes, and changes in status should be regarded as preliminary. Reports that were not timely filed and/or were incomplete or statutorily not required to be filed by the closing date for this report are not included.

### Characteristics of Foreign Owners Disposing of Land

**Type of Foreign Owner.** The largest amount of acres disposed of was in Maine, Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina, accounting for 84 percent of the dispositions acreage (table 33).

Transfers by foreign investors to U.S. purchasers accounted for 66 percent of the parcels and 51 percent of the acres (table 34). Reports for 14 percent of the parcels and 42 percent of the acres indicated that they were transferred to other known foreign persons. Reports for 15 percent of the parcels covering 6 percent of the acres indicated dispositions to persons of unknown citizenship.

Table 32--Tenure of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land acquisitions,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997.

Tenure	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Current:			
Foreign owner	94	60,263	40,203
Manager	47	367,561	264,716
Tenant	104	68,969	70,382
No report	107	18,610	57,538
Total	352	515,403	432,839
Rental:			
Crop	24	11,752	13,922
Cash	81	58,312	57,385
No report	153	385,076	321,329
Not applicable	94	60,263	40,203
Total	352	515,403	432,839
Intended change:			
None	175	455,257	332,172
New	85	42,910	49,416
No report	92	17,236	51,251
Total	352	515,403	432,839

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value).

Table 33--Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by type of foreign owners,  
by State, January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

State and U.S. Territory	Individual		Organization		Total	
	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres
Alabama	0	0	4	61	4	61
Arizona	1	38	17	5,899	18	5,937
Arkansas	2	580	5	2,123	7	2,703
California	0	0	16	4,560	16	4,560
Colorado	2	344	13	7,183	15	7,527
Florida	2	16	18	10,182	20	10,198
Georgia	7	811	22	15,208	29	16,019
Hawaii	0	0	1	2	1	2
Idaho	0	0	3	219	3	219
Illinois	0	0	28	2,615	28	2,615
Indiana	1	320	1	32	2	352
Iowa	3	617	0	0	3	617
Kentucky	0	0	12	2,023	12	2,023
Louisiana	0	0	3	2,576	3	2,576
Maine	0	0	43	236,772	43	236,772
Maryland	0	0	1	208	1	208
Minnesota	0	0	1	40	1	40
Mississippi	0	0	3	1,008	3	1,008
Missouri	1	808	1	199	2	1,007
Nevada	0	0	1	640	1	640
New Jersey	0	0	2	496	2	496
New York	1	32	0	0	1	32
North Carolina	0	0	7	10,174	7	10,174
North Dakota	4	1,723	4	1,560	8	3,283
Ohio	0	0	24	1,908	24	1,908
Oklahoma	0	0	2	282	2	282
Oregon	0	0	4	1,154	4	1,154
Pennsylvania	0	0	7	994	7	994
South Carolina	0	0	4	497	4	497
Tennessee	3	385	2	210	5	595
Texas	4	1,030	8	3,440	12	4,470
Utah	0	0	5	156	5	156
Vermont	7	128	8	3,569	15	3,697
Virginia	2	217	4	124	6	341
Washington	11	1,048	7	515	18	1,563
West Virginia	0	0	12	371	12	371
Wisconsin	1	308	7	295	8	603
Total	52	8,405	300	317,295	352	325,700

Corporations were the most active type of foreign owner disposing of land, accounting for 57 percent of the owners, 70 percent of the parcels, and 92 percent of the acres (table 35). In comparison, individuals and partnerships accounted for 36 percent of the owners, 26 percent of the parcels, and 6 percent of the acres.

**Size of Disposition.** The most acreage disposed of was for parcels with 1,000 or more acres, accounting for 90 percent of the acres (table 36). As should be expected, sales prices per acre were higher for smaller parcels. Average selling price for parcels of less than 20 acres was \$12,688 per acre, compared with \$189 per acre for parcels of 1,000 or more acres. Average selling price of all reported dispositions was \$366 per acre.

Table 34--Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land  
by foreign owners, by citizenship of purchasers,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Purchaser	Parcels reported	Acres
USA	232	164,821
Foreign	49	136,787
Unknown	53	19,336
No report	18	4,756
Total	352	325,700

Table 35--Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by type of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Owner	Owners reporting	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels with partial interest reported <sup>1</sup>	Acreage equivalent <sup>2</sup>
Individual	41	52	8,405	8	7,899
Corporation	93	246	301,798	28	70,766
Partnership	18	40	10,185	0	10,185
Trust	8	10	4,903	0	4,903
Other	2	4	409	0	409
Total	162	352	325,700	36	94,162

<sup>1</sup> Parcels with partial interests are parcels owned only in part by the foreign investor; that is, a percentage interest less than 100 percent.

<sup>2</sup> Acreage equivalent equals the total acreage reported multiplied by the percentage held by the foreign owner.

**Country of Origin.** Foreign entities from Canada disposed of 75 percent of the acreage, consisting primarily of acreage in the Northeast (tables 37 and 38). The Northeast had 74 percent of the acres disposed (table 38). Foreign entities from Switzerland and the U.K. together disposed of 52 percent of the acreage in the South. Foreign persons from Canada, Japan, and South Africa accounted for 55 percent of the dispositions in the West. German entities disposed of 42 percent of the disposed acres in the Midwest.

### Land Use

Twelve percent of acres disposed were cropland, 3 percent pasture, 81 percent forest, 2 percent other agriculture, and 2 percent other nonagriculture (table 39). U.S./Japan, U.S./Switzerland, U.S./Netherlands Antilles, and U.S./Panama corporations disposed of 48 percent of the cropland; Germany and Swiss entities disposed of 37 percent of the pasture land. Entities associated with Canada, Switzerland, and the U.K. disposed of 95 percent of the forest land.

### **Trends**

The data for 1997 are generally biased toward the first part of the year. Data for 1981 through 1996 are generally more evenly distributed throughout the year (table 40). This has also been the case for current year data in past AFIDA reports. The reason relates to the AFIDA reporting requirements, which allow persons 90 days to report their transactions to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Consequently, not all transactions occurring in the 90 days preceding the closing date of the report are reported to USDA by that date. Some of the bias is also due to reports that are filed late and/or are incomplete. This means that the 1997 data and, in some cases, data for prior years are understated and should be regarded as preliminary.

Foreign ownership of U.S. agricultural land remained relatively steady from 1981 through 1997--slightly above or below 1 percent of all privately owned agricultural land in the United States (fig. 3). Most changes were in forestland, rising from 7.2 million acres in 1981 to 8.1 million in 1984, falling to 6 million in 1989, increasing to 7.3 million in 1991, declining to 6.6 million in 1994, rising to 7.5 million in 1995, and dropping to 6.4 million by 1996. These changes are mainly due to million-acre-plus transactions by large timber companies. Reviewing the crop, pasture, and other agriculture figures reveals a steady but relatively small increase in the numbers. Cropland rose from 1.7 million acres in 1981 to 2.5 million by 1995; pasture, from 2.8 to 4.0 million acres; and other agriculture, from 0.5 to 0.9 million acres.

Table 36--Dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land,  
by size of disposition, January 1 - December 31, 1997

Size (Acres)	Owners reporting (Number)	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Selling price (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Less than 20	25	30	205	2,601
20-59	25	32	918	4,326
60-99	10	14	740	3,728
100-299	38	58	6,571	14,867
300-999	41	79	25,131	38,581
1,000 or more	23	139	292,135	55,115
Total	162	352	325,700	119,218

<sup>1</sup> Selling price is value at time of disposition.



Table 37--Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by country of foreign owner,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997

Country	Owners reporting (Number)	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Selling price (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Austria	1	1	320	116
Bermuda	2	2	55	1,521
British Virgin Islands	1	1	363	508
Canada	20	41	7,162	3,827
Cayman Islands	2	3	2,450	4,871
Egypt	1	1	605	650
France	3	3	385	135
Germany	20	24	5,948	9,799
Hong Kong	1	2	1,237	975
Italy	1	6	221	217
Japan	6	11	1,172	3,320
Korea (South)	1	1	159	91
Liechtenstein	1	1	57	83
Netherlands	3	6	1,320	3,016
Netherlands Antilles	1	1	131	163
Pakistan	1	1	80	208
Switzerland	6	7	1,054	1,485
United Kingdom	6	9	2,240	2,327
Venezuela	1	1	208	320
Multiple	2	2	1,619	694
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	80	124	26,786	34,326
US/Australia	1	1	45	77
US/Austria	3	5	2,587	1,666
US/Bahamas	1	1	197	1,258
US/British Virgin Islands	1	1	640	400
US/Canada	8	35	235,744	4,856
US/Costa Rica	1	2	40	125
US/Finland	1	1	40	4
US/France	3	7	1,692	1,616
US/Germany	15	70	5,514	5,860
US/Hong Kong	1	2	641	218
US/Ireland	1	2	22	315
US/Japan	2	13	4,198	7,776
US/Liechtenstein	1	5	2,045	3,954
US/Mexico	2	14	552	3,177
US/Netherlands	1	1	797	2,597
US/Netherlands Antilles	5	8	5,635	4,882
US/Panama	2	2	3,920	6,211
US/Peru	1	2	344	448
US/Philippines	1	1	1,035	835
US/Singapore	1	1	196	850
US/South Africa	1	3	3,160	1,920
US/Sweden	1	1	107	70
US/Switzerland	9	16	16,215	15,603
US/United Kingdom	17	32	13,229	19,233
US/Venezuela	1	1	89	855
US/multiple	1	1	230	86
Subtotal <sup>3</sup>	82	228	298,914	84,892
Total all land dispositions	162	352	325,700	119,218

<sup>1</sup> Selling price is value at time of disposition.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>3</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Table 38--Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by country of foreign owner and U.S. region,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Number)

Country	South		West		Northeast		Midwest	
	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres	Parcels reported	Acres
Austria	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	320
Bermuda	0	0	2	55	0	0	0	0
British Virgin Islands	1	363	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	0	0	12	2,168	26	3,391	3	1,603
Cayman Islands	1	2,060	2	390	0	0	0	0
Egypt	1	605	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	385
Germany	16	3,268	1	1,100	2	11	5	1,569
Hong Kong	2	1,237	0	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	221
Japan	5	230	1	2	0	0	5	940
Korea (South)	1	159	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0	1	57	0	0
Netherlands	0	0	6	1,320	0	0	0	0
Netherlands Antilles	1	131	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistan	0	0	1	80	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	4	990	1	38	1	23	1	3
United Kingdom	4	417	0	0	1	44	4	1,779
Venezuela	0	0	0	0	1	208	0	0
Multiple	0	0	0	0	1	1,616	1	3
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	36	9,460	26	5,153	33	5,350	29	6,823
US/Australia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	45
US/Austria	4	2,476	0	0	1	111	0	0
US/Bahamas	1	197	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/British Virgin Islands	0	0	1	640	0	0	0	0
US/Canada	8	288	5	2,462	21	232,795	1	199
US/Costa Rica	2	40	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Finland	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	40
US/France	0	0	2	915	5	777	0	0
US/Germany	20	1,248	3	274	5	983	42	3,009
US/Hong Kong	2	641	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Ireland	2	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Japan	0	0	13	4,198	0	0	0	0
US/Liechtenstein	0	0	5	2,045	0	0	0	0
US/Mexico	3	89	9	386	1	3	1	74
US/Netherlands	1	797	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Netherlands Antilles	8	5,635	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Panama	1	2,864	1	1,056	0	0	0	0
US/Peru	2	344	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Philippines	1	1,035	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/Singapore	1	196	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/South Africa	0	0	3	3,160	0	0	0	0
US/Sweden	0	0	0	0	1	107	0	0
US/Switzerland	9	14,496	4	465	1	493	2	761
US/United Kingdom	18	10,576	9	1,004	1	1,580	4	69
US/Venezuela	1	89	0	0	0	0	0	0
US/multiple	1	230	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	85	41,263	55	16,605	36	236,849	52	4,197
Total all land dispositions	121	50,723	81	21,758	69	242,199	81	11,020

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Table 39--Dispositions of U.S. agricultural land, by country of foreign owner and use,  
January 1 - December 31, 1997  
(Acres)

Country	Cropland	Pasture	Forest	Other agriculture	Other non- agriculture	Total
Austria	305	0	0	0	15	320
Bermuda	41	0	0	0	14	55
British Virgin Islands	0	0	363	0	0	363
Canada	2,329	293	3,335	841	364	7,162
Cayman Islands	1,425	764	0	261	0	2,450
Egypt	0	359	243	0	3	605
France	225	80	70	0	10	385
Germany	3,311	1,533	949	123	32	5,948
Hong Kong	0	0	1,237	0	0	1,237
Italy	10	0	211	0	0	221
Japan	1,004	102	22	0	44	1,172
Korea (South)	85	64	10	0	0	159
Liechtenstein	0	0	44	0	13	57
Netherlands	922	337	0	0	61	1,320
Netherlands Antilles	120	8	0	0	3	131
Pakistan	80	0	0	0	0	80
Switzerland	786	0	99	119	50	1,054
United Kingdom	1,226	711	220	63	20	2,240
Venezuela	208	0	0	0	0	208
Multiple	0	0	1,616	0	3	1,619
Subtotal <sup>1</sup>	12,077	4,251	8,419	1,407	632	26,786
US/Australia	0	0	0	0	45	45
US/Austria	0	0	2,584	3	0	2,587
US/Bahamas	17	180	0	0	0	197
US/British Virgin Islands	21	615	0	4	0	640
US/Canada	1,870	917	232,852	51	54	235,744
US/Costa Rica	0	40	0	0	0	40
US/Finland	0	0	40	0	0	40
US/France	602	14	777	299	0	1,692
US/Germany	1,577	992	2,891	24	30	5,514
US/Hong Kong	159	482	0	0	0	641
US/Ireland	0	22	0	0	0	22
US/Japan	3,480	0	0	0	718	4,198
US/Liechtenstein	1,963	0	0	0	82	2,045
US/Mexico	0	0	0	552	0	552
US/Netherlands	550	230	0	17	0	797
US/Netherlands Antilles	4,445	2	699	20	469	5,635
US/Panama	3,580	0	0	220	120	3,920
US/Peru	0	299	45	0	0	344
US/Philippines	496	0	539	0	0	1,035
US/Singapore	196	0	0	0	0	196
US/South Africa	0	0	0	3,160	0	3,160
US/Sweden	0	75	0	0	32	107
US/Switzerland	8,140	1,248	6,537	29	261	16,215
US/United Kingdom	850	602	9,039	0	2,738	13,229
US/Venezuela	0	0	0	89	0	89
US/multiple	71	159	0	0	0	230
Subtotal <sup>2</sup>	28,017	5,877	256,003	4,468	4,549	298,914
Total all land dispositions	40,094	10,128	264,422	5,875	5,181	325,700

<sup>1</sup> Total interests excluding U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

<sup>2</sup> Total interests of U.S. corporations with foreign shareholders.

Table 40--Acquisitions and dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by date,  
January 1981 - December 1997

Date	Acquisitions			Dispositions		
	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
1981						
January	154	67,211	106,439	53	44,136	29,207
February	152	44,004	87,272	37	11,226	17,754
March	284	2,489,023	1,922,653	44	105,183	31,220
April	177	105,803	127,461	56	50,616	35,377
May	188	144,732	224,143	55	10,853	17,352
June	197	115,763	111,843	60	50,818	35,890
July	176	137,844	183,462	55	61,668	41,815
August	483	725,206	295,961	46	26,429	58,717
September	156	50,684	104,517	40	5,287	8,718
October	159	111,397	66,286	47	18,190	13,804
November	157	75,567	77,122	50	23,154	18,752
December	149	113,428	108,537	61	31,421	35,779
Multiple	7	1,846	2,018	1	11	204
Total	2,439	4,182,508	3,417,714	605	438,992	344,589
1982						
January	193	92,524	156,961	65	33,098	44,971
February	103	51,792	73,947	36	25,870	17,294
March	144	53,674	92,623	37	12,917	13,464
April	122	55,224	67,241	38	28,722	20,708
May	119	84,260	65,485	39	9,156	26,175
June	142	80,027	66,140	47	29,471	39,797
July	136	70,556	87,916	40	11,633	19,168
August	109	192,369	98,223	31	15,860	23,957
September	78	47,116	35,028	30	24,609	10,719
October	98	38,649	34,542	43	2,830	2,727
November	91	126,089	158,751	38	19,720	66,027
December	92	36,484	55,906	58	16,699	22,828
Multiple	7	5,552	3,875	0	0	0
Total	1,434	934,316	996,638	503	230,585	307,835
1983						
January	98	31,593	59,186	30	12,705	14,841
February	79	45,927	47,407	37	125,249	23,851
March	79	22,321	46,244	33	8,104	15,202
April	112	92,058	59,255	71	26,568	24,706
May	118	37,318	67,502	69	27,507	18,535
June	74	29,725	56,413	59	7,096	41,642
July	87	46,636	46,979	54	18,700	27,779
August	71	33,826	30,901	53	34,153	23,677
September	71	104,823	98,673	40	11,272	12,203
October	48	19,091	27,416	41	4,571	28,029
November	78	55,184	325,405	61	176,802	290,889
December	79	32,502	64,826	75	15,809	34,139
Total	994	551,004	930,207	623	468,536	555,493
1984						
January	117	318,592	138,527	127	55,458	56,750
February	44	19,238	51,288	27	13,920	22,447
March	69	78,337	90,322	52	26,609	24,878
April	83	75,694	96,152	50	34,856	42,621

Table 40--Acquisitions and dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by date,  
January 1981 - December 1987---Continued

Date	Acquisitions			Dispositions		
	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
May	69	15,459	19,811	42	7,885	11,067
June	75	50,994	70,831	42	29,884	37,041
July	54	14,098	156,227	47	14,162	24,759
August	68	35,707	90,410	49	14,020	31,104
September	56	26,637	41,415	53	6,278	9,699
October	47	19,633	36,530	35	21,380	28,153
November	47	43,840	41,830	61	14,085	16,550
December	88	964,261	278,404	71	836,284	101,679
Multiple	1	170	575	0	0	0
Total	818	1,662,660	1,112,322	656	1,074,821	406,748
1985						
January	55	115,007	73,409	27	7,395	9,947
February	29	8,852	24,450	19	12,167	10,931
March	45	13,452	89,034	29	5,798	16,496
April	46	17,054	20,673	47	9,285	13,290
May	41	60,793	23,631	34	2,844	6,900
June	41	21,651	26,261	26	26,265	11,171
July	50	68,527	51,170	28	2,297	3,739
August	36	8,747	15,716	31	7,431	4,109
September	130	1,767,461	46,518	28	193,417	11,736
October	61	17,263	85,535	37	16,747	9,025
November	28	8,878	26,616	18	6,974	7,340
December	139	83,297	71,154	144	37,826	50,159
Multiple	1	439	293	0	0	0
Total	702	2,191,421	554,460	468	328,446	154,843
1986						
January	47	13,960	63,237	29	5,101	10,111
February	27	9,901	7,095	21	2,661	3,419
March	44	36,251	51,541	18	13,070	10,530
April	57	25,778	135,753	23	5,538	6,195
May	100	1,605,295	131,934	90	1,641,979	22,458
June	101	101,106	50,178	41	18,466	4,559
July	42	27,352	33,478	22	20,734	27,192
August	33	16,351	22,053	34	8,395	15,539
September	34	36,048	58,043	26	3,757	10,088
October	139	240,878	62,971	37	19,201	8,887
November	48	15,744	18,399	34	11,615	6,831
December	132	53,629	105,899	78	58,789	50,251
Total	804	2,182,293	740,581	453	1,809,306	176,060
1987						
January	27	9,694	20,507	26	6,016	8,305
February	32	14,316	39,974	29	6,393	6,821
March	59	139,757	53,054	43	33,646	18,865
April	64	68,547	30,108	73	27,777	30,307
May	40	44,665	30,545	33	10,634	20,567
June	47	203,785	49,532	61	227,011	25,552
July	44	29,408	36,453	35	30,206	14,904
August	47	37,944	28,895	36	7,826	36,191

Table 40--Acquisitions and dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by date,  
January 1981 - December 1997---Continued

Date	Acquisitions			Dispositions		
	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
September	41	17,779	31,840	45	6,624	13,321
October	69	24,558	58,315	39	5,349	8,730
November	50	140,936	29,998	44	15,080	16,914
December	106	99,206	67,875	161	41,475	53,524
Total	626	830,595	477,096	625	418,037	254,001
1988						
January	74	65,295	72,109	53	26,278	22,633
February	50	31,640	24,793	52	60,267	46,828
March	57	37,658	93,887	102	57,912	49,931
April	45	35,692	29,478	63	266,203	80,047
May	49	71,839	54,241	59	34,967	13,023
June	99	149,219	92,492	71	22,395	11,388
July	56	34,313	78,579	61	13,705	25,804
August	58	349,940	59,198	68	313,270	73,525
September	46	17,083	97,665	53	10,794	9,483
October	87	237,866	128,365	502	248,205	113,088
November	57	59,442	38,632	46	194,829	21,389
December	113	271,477	236,483	105	334,779	61,483
Total	791	1,361,464	1,005,922	1,235	1,583,604	528,616
1989						
January	67	50,056	81,848	47	22,172	13,651
February	45	27,258	95,276	28	6,564	7,300
March	76	135,615	97,213	50	31,694	22,845
April	42	28,191	40,283	34	22,389	19,275
May	64	30,081	126,345	41	6,218	25,796
June	63	68,619	56,850	46	17,031	7,178
July	45	15,124	39,985	21	12,187	11,971
August	53	95,753	68,283	60	68,992	27,309
September	92	299,839	135,368	44	5,607	11,299
October	48	42,285	57,801	30	2,252	5,545
November	86	530,478	95,767	25	5,769	7,217
December	118	425,787	229,219	48	44,167	25,348
Multiple	1	36	63	0	0	0
Total	800	1,749,122	1,126,301	474	245,042	184,734
1990						
January	68	33,786	70,915	39	11,080	6,813
February	51	80,887	41,719	33	11,811	10,380
March	55	143,673	93,962	35	107,807	71,017
April	55	57,958	22,397	42	10,415	11,762
May	58	20,886	94,806	46	26,220	50,245
June	62	29,240	67,232	37	8,405	19,810
July	120	294,027	110,449	32	5,561	21,388
August	73	40,357	36,999	36	5,983	9,738
September	91	627,878	70,392	34	12,473	6,893
October	68	81,829	119,406	60	137,048	54,621
November	51	32,884	48,891	40	6,599	16,425
December	196	163,087	87,946	51	25,850	27,927
Multiple	2	454	20,728	0	0	0

Table 40--Acquisitions and dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by date,  
January 1981 - December 1997---Continued

Date	Acquisitions			Dispositions		
	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
Total	950	1,606,946	885,842	485	369,252	307,019
1991						
January	57	17,186	58,286	30	6,312	5,757
February	48	14,023	39,317	39	5,369	11,772
March	55	45,141	48,777	20	106,049	16,612
April	41	55,930	36,676	46	50,286	19,846
May	108	21,890	37,650	30	5,740	2,765
June	50	77,799	33,855	36	190,028	23,669
July	156	133,253	170,065	16	7,352	8,828
August	54	22,687	17,475	36	4,424	6,023
September	39	22,214	29,678	21	3,495	9,025
October	35	7,589	8,583	34	16,867	7,243
November	39	8,543	14,493	30	8,082	3,294
December	78	38,048	38,965	68	162,716	27,013
Multiple	0	0	0	1	60	914
Total	760	464,303	533,820	407	566,780	142,761
1992						
January	81	12,734	19,480	53	35,518	31,318
February	49	8,642	29,902	26	5,267	4,683
March	50	42,514	41,476	55	28,884	17,374
April	50	23,211	43,721	69	15,121	10,914
May	35	43,373	14,239	55	70,463	10,521
June	34	18,730	16,472	57	28,014	14,742
July	52	38,298	50,493	60	56,186	15,267
August	47	82,631	97,812	58	52,992	103,953
September	53	158,469	58,155	59	329,075	17,110
October	51	18,358	36,788	50	42,537	7,299
November	114	108,283	48,644	258	50,197	13,121
December	75	47,573	34,064	87	61,070	40,378
Multiple	0	0	0	1	19	291
Total	691	602,816	491,246	888	775,343	286,971
1993						
January	40	10,617	21,273	59	20,134	15,460
February	39	9,789	12,986	60	14,797	19,490
March	78	75,080	53,808	75	37,447	19,953
April	62	19,286	24,852	58	29,393	21,184
May	51	90,262	41,218	51	128,442	33,984
June	56	30,528	22,830	55	33,548	15,794
July	82	164,848	23,497	60	14,113	8,064
August	32	25,683	6,440	84	17,486	8,217
September	58	32,307	42,191	60	19,378	15,780
October	39	29,494	21,435	67	208,026	44,895
November	29	8,061	7,123	55	30,250	30,144
December	57	311,194	86,129	73	39,367	33,052
Total	623	807,149	363,782	757	592,381	266,017
1994						
January	39	54,562	34,520	34	91,994	19,075
February	19	8,249	5,640	24	2,021	2,010
March	40	14,017	45,145	31	30,423	12,701
April	45	8,144	14,275	38	12,470	15,614

Table 40--Acquisitions and dispositions of foreign-owned U.S. agricultural land, by date,  
January 1981 - December 1997--Continued

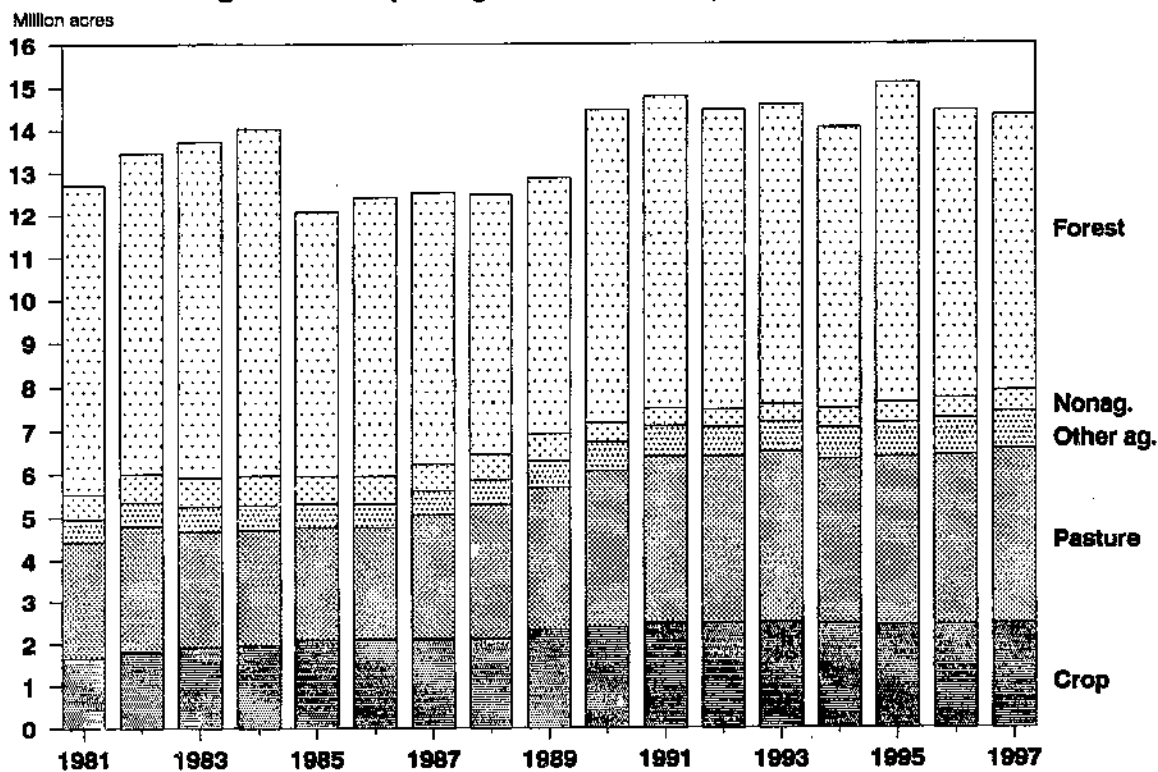
Date	Acquisitions			Dispositions		
	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Parcels reported (Number)	Acres (Number)	Value (1,000 dollars) <sup>1</sup>
May	32	8,107	19,940	36	6,015	7,748
June	34	11,558	14,895	54	12,414	32,830
July	28	3,213	18,704	53	103,183	18,708
August	35	7,867	24,095	85	14,331	16,248
September	30	7,128	8,282	64	13,322	13,302
October	20	4,473	8,420	38	8,702	4,331
November	15	3,766	12,557	50	7,769	15,797
December	32	920,086	95,877	82	29,789	24,995
Total	369	1,051,170	302,350	589	332,433	183,359
1995						
January	58	87,322	39,525	116	59,982	47,732
February	31	11,871	9,639	42	17,570	13,644
March	53	17,534	49,019	41	4,072	3,842
April	86	84,500	76,661	53	41,981	37,404
May	27	3,066	5,313	47	25,443	23,889
June	43	110,022	16,152	40	6,365	13,314
July	42	23,528	19,216	58	7,852	8,008
August	34	47,110	85,350	42	22,010	37,226
September	32	4,500	14,574	37	40,716	13,192
October	33	33,157	18,888	35	6,571	7,602
November	33	24,070	19,376	28	7,187	5,499
December	107	105,349	38,667	73	36,824	31,201
Total	579	552,029	392,380	612	276,573	242,553
1996						
January	33	6,065	17,793	60	162,685	80,355
February	59	302,731	21,264	35	10,864	15,197
March	80	1,042,737	841,537	199	924,164	773,972
April	56	24,531	17,251	111	294,552	34,664
May	42	8,787	8,969	99	882,342	79,841
June	43	36,634	17,326	36	5,285	4,928
July	33	58,625	34,740	60	19,742	27,261
August	35	9,535	12,675	86	286,841	42,131
September	43	12,332	17,437	47	7,241	6,428
October	36	25,057	22,274	51	380,005	244,164
November	31	8,454	47,559	26	4,712	7,331
December	71	39,175	32,930	67	18,248	24,531
Total	562	1,574,663	1,091,755	877	2,996,681	1,340,803
1997						
January	49	14,370	24,675	55	8,953	13,225
February	37	22,095	20,496	29	10,457	12,898
March	46	365,203	274,942	41	6,379	9,276
April	35	25,331	12,766	39	89,683	6,069
May	34	15,558	13,228	31	17,900	8,652
June	32	14,537	24,392	40	16,688	15,576
July	28	11,299	12,919	25	7,451	7,191
August	29	7,518	27,770	25	17,952	24,052
September	29	5,911	4,697	24	16,148	8,506
October	18	29,770	12,893	31	132,520	3,702
November	14	2,043	1,561	7	692	1,713
December	1	1,768	2,500	5	877	1,101
Total	352	515,403	432,839	352	325,700	111,961

<sup>1</sup> Value is purchase price or nonpurchase price (estimated value) at time of acquisition.



Figure 3

**Trends in Foreign Ownership of Agricultural Land by Type of Use, 1981-97**



**Program Costs and Penalties**

Administration of the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978 for obtaining and analyzing the data required an estimated 13.7 staff-years at a cost of approximately \$750,000 to USDA for the past year, of which the Farm Services Agency contributed approximately 12.6 staff-years at an estimated cost of \$636,000. The remaining costs and staff-years are attributable primarily to the Economic Research Service, with some contributions by the Office of the General Counsel and the Office of Public Affairs. During 1997, USDA assessed 172 penalties for late filings, totaling \$142,008.

# Appendix: Report Form FSA-153

Formerly ASCS-153, use old stock.

Form Approved - OMB No. 0560-0097

**FSA-153**  
(03-19-96)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

## AGRICULTURAL FOREIGN INVESTMENT DISCLOSURE ACT REPORT

NOTE: Read instructions on reverse before filling in any data below. If additional space is needed, use reverse.

### 1. TYPE ACTIVITY (See Reverse) (Check one)

- A. Land Holding ☐ B. Land Acquisition ☐ C. Land Disposition ☐  
D. Land Use Change To Agriculture ☐ E. Land Use Change To Non-Agriculture ☐

ITEM	OFFICE USE ONLY	ITEM	CHECK
<b>2. Tract Location and Description</b>		<b>5. Type of Interest Held in the Agricultural Land (Check One)</b>	
<b>A. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR FSA TRACT NUMBER</b>		A. Fee Interest (ownership) Whole	
<b>B. COUNTY OR PARISH</b>		B. Fee Interest (ownership) Partial WHAT PERCENT %	
<b>C. NO. OF ACRES</b>		C. Life Estate	
<b>D. STATE</b>		D. Trust Beneficiary	
		E. Purchase Contract	
		F. Other (explain)	
<b>3. Owner of Tract (in item 2A) (See Reverse)</b>		<b>6. How was this Tract Acquired or Transferred?</b>	
<b>A. NAME</b>		A. Cash Transaction	
<b>B. ID NO. (Nine digits)</b>		B. Credit or Installment Transaction	
CHECK IF NO NOT KNOWN <input type="checkbox"/>		C. Trade	
<b>C. LEGAL ADDRESS (Street, City, State/Province, Country)</b>		D. Gift or Inheritance	
		E. Foreclosure	
		F. Other (explain)	
<b>D. Type of Owner (Check One)</b>		<b>7. Value of Agricultural Land</b>	
<b>1. Individual (including husband/wife)</b>		A. Purchase Price of Land or if a land disposition, the original price paid by seller \$	
<b>a. Citizen</b>		B. Non-Purchase, Estimated Value at the Time of Acquisition \$	
<b>2. Government (name of country)</b>		C. What is the estimated current value or if a land disposition, the selling price of the tract of land? \$	
<b>3. Organization</b>		D. How much of purchase price in item 7A remains to be paid? \$	
<b>a. Type</b>		<b>8. Date of Acquisition or Transfer (See Reverse)</b> MONTH DAY YEAR	
<b>1) Corporation</b>		<b>9. Current Land Use (Usual use of land. For idle land, report as other Agriculture.) Report in Whole Numbers</b> ACRES	
<b>2) Partnership</b>		A. Crop	
<b>3) Estate</b>		B. Pasture	
<b>4) Trust</b>		C. Forest or Timber	
<b>5) Institution</b>		D. Other Agriculture	
<b>6) Association</b>		E. Non-Agriculture	
<b>7) Other</b>		F. Total (Should equal 2C)	
<b>b. Gov't. or country under whose law the organization is created</b>		<b>10. Intended Use as of This Date (Check One)</b> CHECK	
<b>c. Principal place of business (for organizations only)</b>		A. No Change	
<b>d. List on separate sheet, the Name, Address and Country of all foreign persons who individually or in the aggregate hold significant interest or substantial control 1/ in the person owning the land.</b>		B. Other Agriculture	
<b>E. Complete only if item 1C - Land Disposition - is checked</b>		C. Non-Agriculture	
<b>1. NAME OF PERSON RECEIVING TRACT</b>		<b>11. Relationship of Owner to Producer (if applicable)</b> CHECK	
<b>2. ADDRESS (Street, City, State/Province, Country)</b>		A. Producer is:	
<b>3. CITIZENSHIP</b> USA <input type="checkbox"/> FOREIGN <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN <input type="checkbox"/>		1. Owner	
<b>4. Representative of Foreign Person (completing form, if applicable)</b>		2. Manager	
<b>A. NAME</b>		3. Tenant or sharecropper	
<b>B. ADDRESS (Street, State, Country)</b>		B. Rental agreement is:	
<b>C. TELEPHONE NO. (Area Code)</b>		1. A crop share	
<b>D. Relationship of Representative to Foreign Person</b> CHECK		2. Cash or fixed rent	
<b>1. Attorney</b>		<b>12. The Producer on This Tract is:</b> CHECK	
<b>2. Manager</b>		A. The same person as when the tract was acquired	
<b>3. Agent</b>		B. A new person	
<b>4. Other (Explain on Reverse)</b>			
<b>13. CERTIFICATION - I certify that the information entered in this report is complete and correct. I understand that falsification of reporting is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed 25% of the fair market value of the interest held in the tract of land.</b>			
<b>14. SIGNATURE (Owner or legally authorized representative)</b>		<b>TITLE</b>	
		<b>DATE</b>	

**NOTE:**

The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is P.L. 95-460. The information will be used to determine the effects of foreign persons acquiring, transferring and holding agricultural land, and the effects of such activity on family farms and rural communities. Furnishing the requested information is mandatory. Failure to comply or falsification of reporting is subject to civil penalty, not to exceed 25 percent of the fair market value of the interest held in the tract on the date of the assessment of such penalty.

Federal Agencies may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM (OMB No. 0580-0057), AG Box 7630, Washington, D.C. 20250. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

**DETERMINATION OF "FOREIGN PERSON" STATUS**

**DEFINITION:** "Person" means any individual, corporation, company, association, firm, partnership, society, joint stock company, trust, estate, or any other legal entity.

You are a "foreign person" under the provisions of P.L. 95-460 and must complete the front side of this form (FSA-153) if your answer is "NO" to all the statements numbered 1, 2, and 3 below.

	YES	NO
1. I AM a citizen of the United States.		
2. I AM a citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands.		
3. I AM lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence, or paroled into the United States, under the Immigration and Nationality Act.		

You are a "foreign person" under the provisions of P.L. 95-460 and must complete the front side of this form (FSA-153) if your answer is "YES" to any of the statements numbered 4a, 4b, and 5 below.

	YES	NO
4. I AM a "person" other than an individual or government, which is created or organized under the laws of: a. A foreign government of which has its principal place of business located outside the United States.		
b. Any State of the United States, and in which significant interest or substantial control <u>1/</u> is held directly or indirectly by any foreign individual, government, or person.		
5. I AM a foreign government.		

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Complete this form in an original and three copies for each tract of land. Insertion of carbons is necessary. Report as a tract all acreages under the same ownership in each county or parish acquired or transferred on the same date. Land in different counties or parishes and land acquired or transferred on different dates must be reported as separate tracts.

Return the original and two copies to the County Farm Service Agency (FSA) Office where the tract of land is located. Retain the last copy (Foreign Person Copy) for your records. **DO NOT SEND THIS FORM DIRECTLY TO WASHINGTON, D.C. UNLESS GRANTED PERMISSION BY THE FSA IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

After the original disclosure on FSA-153 on the tract(s) of land owned by the same person within a county or parish, each subsequent change of ownership or use must be reported by filing another FSA-153.

**ITEM INSTRUCTIONS AND REPORTING DATES****ITEM 1. ONLY ONE BOX MAY BE CHECKED**

If the tract of land to be listed under item 2 on the front side of this document was:

-Owned on February 1, 1979, check **A. Land Holding** ☒ **Reporting Date:** This document is required to be completed and returned by August 1, 1979.

If the tract of land to be listed under item 2 on the front side of this document was, on or after February 2, 1979:

-Acquired, check **B. Land Acquisition** ☒  
-Disposed of, check **C. Land Disposition** ☒  
-Changed from non-agricultural to agricultural use, check **D. Land Use Change To Agriculture** ☒  
-Changed from agricultural to non-agricultural use, check **E. Land Use Change To Non-Agriculture** ☒  
**Reporting Date:** If any of these activities are checked in Item 1, return the completed FSA-153 within ninety (90) days from the date of the transaction.

**ITEM 2. The date entered would be as follows for the activity checked in Item 1:**

Box A or B - Date acquired  
Box C - Date disposed of.  
Box D or E - Date land use changed

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** (Use additional sheets if more space is needed)

1/ Significant interest or substantial control as defined in 7 CFR 781.2 (k).









