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Structural and Financial Characteristics of U.S. Farms, 1990: 15th Annual Family Farm Report to Congress. By Judith Z. Kalbacher, Susan E. Bentley, and Donn A. Reimund, Agriculture and Rural Economy Division, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Agriculture Information Bulletin No. 690.

Abstract

About 1.8 million farms operated 1 billion acres of land in the contiguous United States in 1990, according to the Farm Costs and Returns Survey (FCRS) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The average acreage operated was 588 acres per reporting farm, and gross farm sales averaged \$63,200. Gross cash farm income totaled \$121.4 billion in 1990, with 48 percent from livestock and poultry sales, 41 percent from crop sales, 5 percent from government payments, and 6 percent from other farm-related income. This report introduces a new reporting format that will provide annual data on the major structural and financial characteristics of the farm sector as portrayed by the FCRS. Annual farm structural data are not available from any other national data source.

Keywords: Farm structure, land base and use, farm financial situation, and farm operator household income.

Preface

This publication is based on the 15th annual report to the Congress on the status of family farms. These reports have been submitted to Congress in accordance with the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 as amended.

Contents

Summary	iii
Introduction	1
Highlights	2
Farm Numbers, Land in Farms, and Gross Farm Sales	2
Type of Farm Organization	2
Operator Tenure	4
Landownership and Use	4
Farm Size Measures	6
Type of Farm	7
Farm Business Income Statement	8
Farm Balance Sheet	8
New Capital Investments	9
Farm Financial Performance	10
Selected Characteristics of Farm Operators	10
Farm Operator Households	14
References	18
Appendix A--Definitions of Terms	19
Appendix B--The Farm Costs and Returns Survey	22
Appendix Tables	24

Summary

This report, the 15th Annual Family Farm Report to Congress, introduces a new reporting format that will provide annual data on the major structural and financial characteristics of the farm sector as portrayed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Costs and Returns Survey (FCRS). Annual farm structural data are not available from any other national data source.

Estimates derived from the 1990 survey, the base year for the new data series, indicate that about 1.8 million farms operated 1 billion acres of land in the contiguous United States during the year. The average acreage operated was 588 acres per reporting farm and gross farm sales averaged \$63,200. Gross cash farm income totaled \$121.4 billion in 1990, with 48 percent from livestock and poultry sales, 41 percent from crop sales, 5 percent from government payments, and 6 percent from other farm-related income.

The variables presented in this report were selected to provide a comprehensive overview of the organization, resource base, and financial situation of the Nation's farm sector. These variables fall into three basic categories: farm structure, land base and use, and farm financial and economic well-being. Selected data on farm operator households are also included to provide a sense of the importance of farming to operator households.

Farm structure variables measure the number and distribution of farms by several classifications, such as acreage, value of production, form of organization, type of farm, and operator characteristics. The FCRS data provide the following snapshots of the U.S. farm sector:

- Farm size measures show a concentration of farms in the smaller acreage and sales classes. Farms of less than 500 acres account for slightly more than 80 percent of farms surveyed, but slightly less than 20 percent of the farmland. About 60 percent of farms reported gross farm sales of less than \$20,000 in 1990; these small farms account for only 4 percent of farm sales.
- The individual owner business organization and the full ownership land tenure arrangement make up the largest proportion of farms. Average acreage and average sales data indicate that farms operated by individuals and full owners were smaller than farms operated under other forms of business organization and tenure arrangements.
- Beef-hog-sheep operations are the most common production specialty, followed by cash grain operations. The two most common farm types operated the largest shares of farmland and, along with dairy operations, produced the bulk of gross farm sales.
- Measured by average acreage operated, operators with less than a high school education and operators primarily employed in occupations other than farming generally had the smallest farms. No significant differences were found in average acreage operated by age group. Average farm sales were lowest for farm operators 65 years old or more, operators with less than a high school education, and operators primarily employed in occupations other than farming.

Land base and use variables measure the total amount of land operated, how land is used, and the arrangements under which land is held and operated. The 1990 FCRS data provide the following information:

- Ninety-two percent of reporting farms owned land, 46 percent rented land from others, and 10 percent rented land to others. About 44 percent of the land operated, excluding Federal grazing land and other land rented on an animal-unit-month basis, was rented.
- Farms participating in the survey removed 56.1 million acres of cropland from production in compliance with the 10-year Conservation Reserve Program and other government programs and for summer fallow. Other government programs including set-aside and any other Federal and State programs accounted for 19.4 million of those acres.

Financial and economic well-being variables measure the income and wealth status of farms. The FCRS provides the following information for 1990:

- Farm operations reported \$121.4 billion in gross cash farm income, with 48 percent from livestock and poultry sales, 41 percent from crop sales, 5 percent from government payments, and 6 percent from other farm-related income. Average gross cash income was about \$73,600 per reporting farm.
- Cash expenses totaled \$100.4 billion, with an average per reporting farm of \$57,400. Net cash income (gross cash farm income after expenses) totaled \$21 billion, for an average of \$12,000 per reporting farm.
- Classification of survey farms according to their combined income and solvency status revealed that the largest share of farms surveyed were in a favorable financial position, regardless of farm size. About a third of the farms fell in the marginal income category, mostly small operations with sales of less than \$40,000. Comparatively few were classified as marginally solvent or financially vulnerable.

Farm operator household variables for farm and off-farm sources of income measure the household's financial dependence on the farming operation. The 1990 FCRS data provide the following information:

- Off-farm income significantly contributes to the total income of many farm households, offsetting some of the differences in farm income observed among operations.
- Farm operator households that are more dependent on farm income and those with negative total household income generally have larger farms than other operator households, in terms of acres operated and farm sales. Farm operator households with positive total income and farm losses have the smallest farms.

These variables, taken together, show how the Nation's farm sector is organized to use and control its resources and the financial and economic results of its activities. As more data become available over time, these variables will provide a basis for monitoring changes in the organization and well-being of the sector.

Structural and Financial Characteristics of U.S. Farms, 1990

15th Annual Family Farm Report to Congress

**Judith Z. Kalbacher, Susan E. Bentley,
and Donn A. Reimund**

Introduction

This report, the 15th Annual Family Farm Report to Congress, introduces a new reporting format that will provide annual data on the major structural and financial characteristics of U.S. farms. The new data series will be based on data obtained from the annual Farm Costs and Returns Survey (FCRS) conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service (see Appendix B--The Farm Costs and Returns Survey--for more information on the survey). Annual farm structural data are not available from any other national sources of data. Over time, the data in these reports will provide a basis for monitoring changes in the organization and well-being of the farm sector.

The term "farm structure" refers to "how farms of different sizes and types organize natural, financial, and human resources to produce food and fiber and the distribution of income and wealth that results from that activity" (Carlin, 1990). Farm structure is important to the efficiency of resource use and productivity of the natural resource base, affecting the quantity and quality of output available for domestic and foreign consumption. Structural issues affect the well-being of people involved in the farm sector, as well as those in closely linked industries. Measures of income and wealth within the sector are necessary to assess policy needs and to evaluate the effectiveness of farm policies and programs.

This report to Congress summarizes the major structural features on the Nation's farms in 1990. The report includes tables with information about farms, land in farms, and farm sales categorized by farm structural variables, land base and use variables, and variables related to the financial and economic well-being of farms. Selected data on farm operator households are also included to provide a sense of the importance of farming to operator households. The data reflect how households allocate their time between farm and nonfarm activities, thus providing insight into farm organization and structure.

Farm characteristics data are distributed by several classifications, such as acreage size, value of production, form of organization, type of farm, and operator characteristics. Land base and use data measure the total amount of land operated, how land is used, and the arrangements under which land is held and operated. Changes in the primary structural and land base and use variables generally occur over a relatively long period of time. However, the financial variables that measure the income and wealth of farms are more sensitive to current economic and policy shifts.

The first part of this report highlights major structural and financial characteristics of the farm sector in 1990. The second part presents appendixes consisting of definitions of terms, information about the data source, and detailed data tables. The detailed tables include the type of information normally requested by policymakers and the public.

Over time, these tables will provide a comprehensive information base on U.S. farm structure.

Highlights

The appendix tables include detailed information on farms in the 1990 FCRS; text tables and figures provide information which summarizes their major characteristics in the same year. Because of changes in the survey designed to improve coverage, the estimates derived from the 1990 survey are not directly comparable with those for earlier years.

Variations in sample design and survey procedures influence the conclusions reached about the structure and financial characteristics of farms based on the survey data. To provide a perspective on the reliability of the data, we include relative standard errors (RSE's) for all survey items in the tables. See appendix B for a detailed explanation of this statistic. Most statements of comparisons made in the text are statistically significant with a 95-percent or higher confidence level.

All average values indicate the average per reporting farm; that is, the total value of the item divided by the number of farms that reported a positive or negative value for that item. Definitions for table items and classifications are presented in appendix A.

Farm Numbers, Land In Farms, and Gross Farm Sales

Farms in the FCRS are defined as "all establishments that sold or would normally have sold at least \$1,000 of agricultural products during the year." Estimates derived from the 1990 survey indicate that about 1.8 million farms operated 1 billion acres of land in the contiguous United States during the year. In comparison with the official USDA estimate prepared by the National Agricultural Statistics Service, FCRS farms represent 82 percent of the official number of farms estimated for the contiguous United States in 1990 (see app. B). The average acreage operated by FCRS farms was 588 acres per reporting farm and gross farm sales averaged \$63,200.

To determine regional patterns, we examine the data by major farming regions of the Nation (fig. 1).

These data indicate that the Corn Belt has the largest number of farms, representing 20 percent of the survey's farms in 1990 (fig. 2). The Appalachian region, Southern Plains, and Lake States rank next.

Because farm size varies from one region to another with different types of agricultural activities, the geographic distribution of farmland differs from the distribution of farms. The Mountain States have by far the largest amount of farmland, representing 33 percent of total acreage operated in 1990. The extensive amount of rangeland in the Mountain States underlies the region's comparatively large amount of farmland and small number of farms. The Mountain States at 3,221 acres per farm had the highest average acreage operated of all regions. In contrast, the Corn Belt, with its large number of farms, averaged only 293 acres per farm and is among the regions with the smallest farms.

About 60 percent of total gross farm sales were produced in just four regions: the Corn Belt, Northern Plains, Pacific, and Lake States. These regions producing the bulk of farm sales in 1990 traditionally have been among the Nation's leading agricultural production areas.

Type of Farm Organization

Individually operated farms are the most common type of organization, accounting for 9 of every 10 farms in the 1990 survey (fig. 3). Partnerships and corporations make up a very small share of the farms but account for slightly more of both land operated and gross farm sales.

Data on gross value of agricultural sales indicate differences by type of farming organization. Individually owned operations, because of their large number, account for the largest share of sales. However, corporate farms have much higher average farm sales than either individual operations or partnerships (table 1). The average value of sales by partnerships was only a third of the corporate value of \$465,000 in 1990; for individual operations, the average was just a tenth of the corporate level.

Average acreage is also highest for corporate farms at 3,515 acres in 1990, compared with 1,539 acres for partnerships, and 440 acres for individuals. For all three organizational types, average acreage relates directly to the distribution of farms by sales class. The low average acreage estimate for

Figure 1

Regions of the contiguous United States

Ten regions delineate major farming regions across the Nation

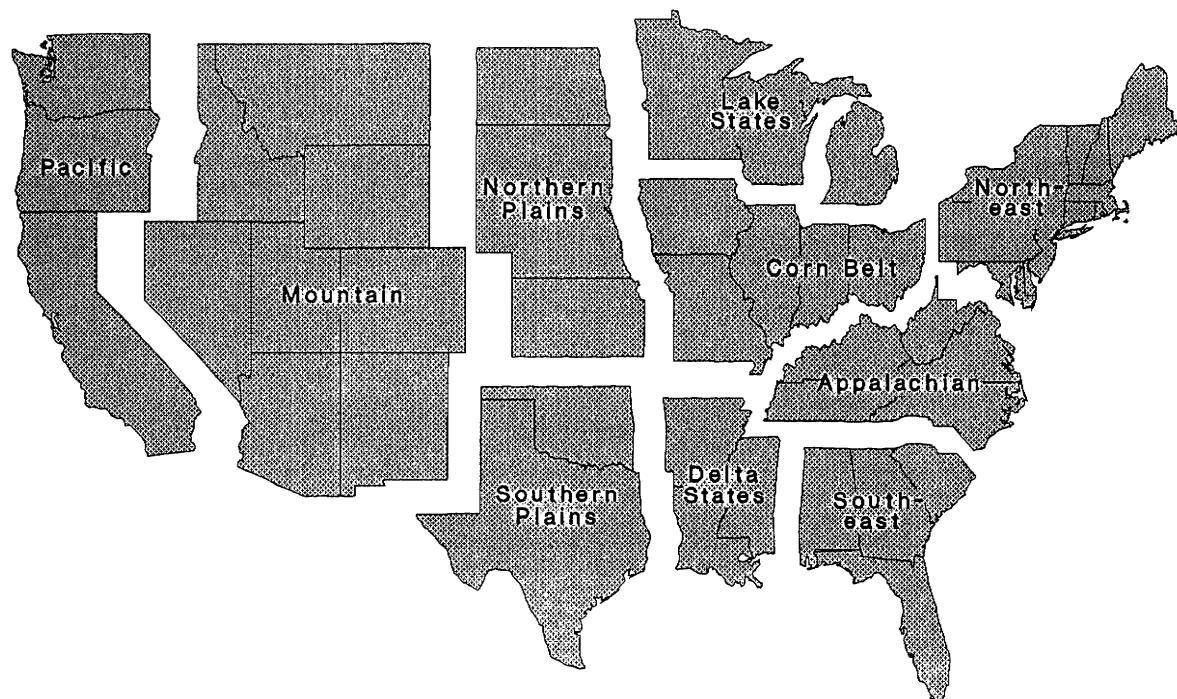
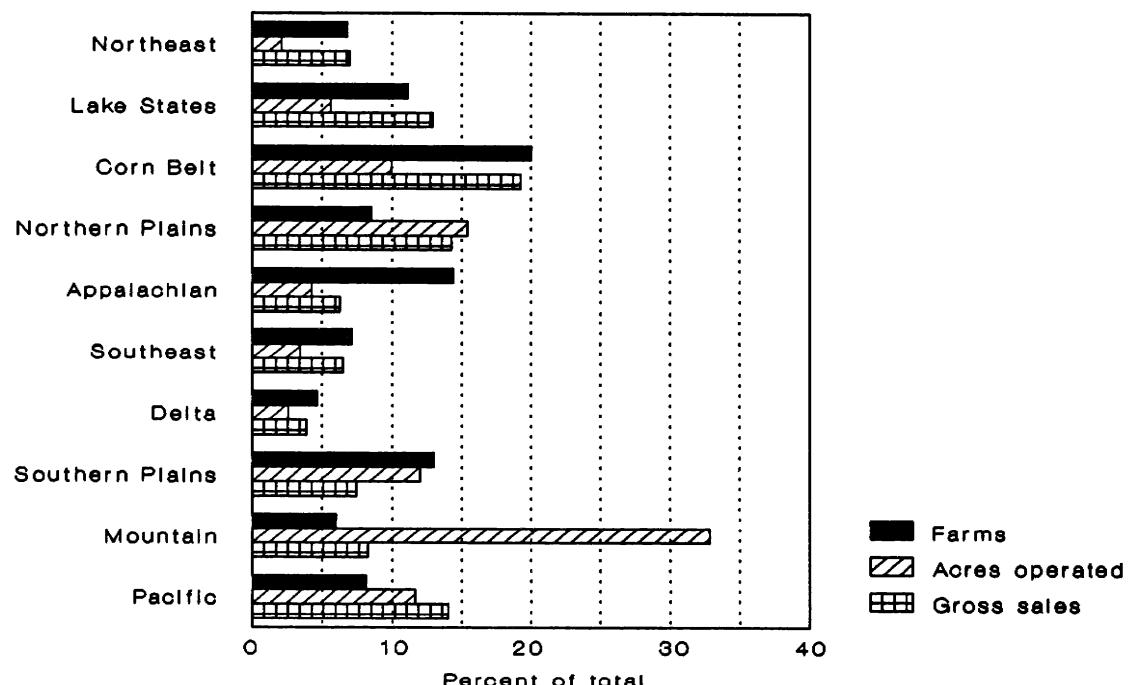


Figure 2

Farms, farmland, and gross farm sales, by region, 1990

The Mountain States have by far the largest amount of farmland, representing 33 percent of total acreage operated in 1990



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

individual operations reflects a large number of farms in the lowest sales class (\$9,999 or less per year). Consistent with the large number of small operations, data on the principal occupation of farm operators indicate that about 45 percent of individually run farms had operators with primary employment off the farm, and these operations averaged only 159 acres.

Operator Tenure

About 44 percent of the land operated by farms in the 1990 FCRS, excluding Federal grazing land and other land rented on an animal-unit-month basis (AUM land), was rented. The majority of farm operations surveyed (55 percent) reported full ownership of the land they operate, while 37 percent owned part and rented the remainder of their land (fig. 3). Only 9 percent of the operations reported that they rented all of their land.

Full ownership is the most common tenure type in all regions except two. There were nearly equal numbers of full- and part-owner (part-tenant) operated farms in the Lake States, while part-owner operations predominated in the Northern Plains.

In the Northern Plains, 9 of every 10 operations are cash grain farms or livestock ranches and both of these types of operations typically use large amounts of leased land.

Part owners generally operate the largest farms, averaging 905 acres in 1990, followed by full tenants with 714 acres per farm and full owners with 353 acres per farm (includes AUM land). Part owners, with 57 percent of the total in 1990, also account for the largest share of the acreage operated in the survey.

Gross farm sales are also concentrated on part-owner operations (58 percent of the products sold in 1990). The average value of farm sales for part owners was about \$99,500, similar to the average for full tenants at \$103,800. Average sales were lower on full owner operations at \$32,200.

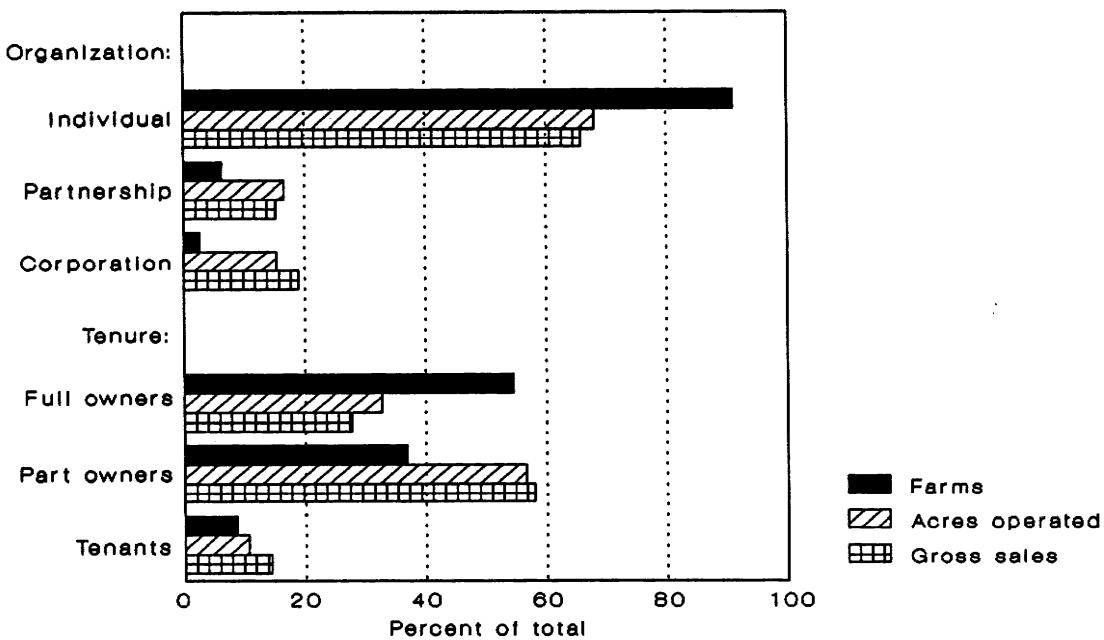
Landownership and Use

Ninety-two percent of the survey's farms owned land in 1990, 46 percent rented land from others, and 10 percent rented land to others. Farms participating in the FCRS removed 56.1 million acres of cropland

Figure 3

Farms, farmland, and gross farm sales, by type of farm organization and operator tenure, 1990

Farms operated by individuals and full owners are the most common farm types reported in the survey



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 1--Number of farms, mean acres operated, and mean sales for all regions, by farm operation characteristics, 1990

Farms operated by individuals and full owners, the most common farm types, were comparatively small in terms of acreage and sales

Category	Farms	RSE of number ¹	Mean acres operated	RSE of mean	Mean gross farm sales	RSE of mean
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent	Dollars	Percent
All farms	1,752,125	1.77	588	3.42	63,190	2.78
Organization:						
Corporate	44,839	6.54	3,515	12.10	464,963	10.31
Partnership	110,912	8.27	1,539	10.80	150,811	8.51
Individual	1,596,150	1.85	440	3.61	45,533	2.70
Tenancy:						
Full tenant	152,104	4.71	714	7.34	103,799	7.44
Part tenant	645,722	2.35	905	3.76	99,493	3.35
Full owner	954,298	2.68	353	7.70	32,153	5.58
Acreage class:						
2,000 acres or more	68,774	4.31	8,685	5.13	310,109	7.06
1,000 - 1,999 acres	96,428	6.19	1,374	.96	190,479	7.46
500 - 999 acres	171,787	3.57	691	.66	134,939	4.06
180 - 499 acres	392,452	2.73	300	.84	66,948	4.72
100 - 179 acres	264,216	4.10	134	.64	31,393	11.26
50 - 99 acres	246,847	4.39	73	.83	19,366	10.86
1 - 49 acres	511,621	4.40	21	2.75	16,598	9.01
Sales class:						
\$500,000 or more	38,921	5.32	4,505	10.85	1,018,130	5.65
\$250,000 - \$499,999	73,067	4.36	2,140	10.34	291,690	1.45
\$100,000 - \$249,999	197,844	3.08	1,286	4.40	136,240	1.05
\$40,000 - \$99,999	241,034	3.20	851	6.15	57,072	1.39
\$20,000 - \$39,999	173,168	4.33	461	8.38	24,266	1.78
\$10,000 - \$19,999	208,116	4.95	282	10.70	12,332	1.62
\$9,999 or less	819,975	3.19	123	12.64	2,801	2.41
Net farm income solvency class: ²						
Favorable	967,133	2.16	619	4.21	72,487	3.52
Marginal income	551,066	3.27	490	7.87	28,088	4.84
Marginal solvency	110,899	4.98	801	7.68	168,190	7.48
Vulnerable	123,027	5.98	597	14.81	52,681	9.48
Farm type:						
Cash grain	337,498	2.94	574	3.44	68,475	3.11
Tobacco	75,473	9.72	144	8.15	34,588	17.33
Cotton	21,508	9.16	916	9.74	180,311	11.11
Other field crops	123,095	6.31	360	26.55	41,287	9.91
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	92,762	11.37	136	16.19	94,609	16.47
Nursery or greenhouse	36,732	12.42	88	46.69	162,279	17.76
Beef, hogs, or sheep	804,380	2.60	826	4.65	42,059	5.50
Poultry	30,301	11.81	373	71.79	70,191	20.81
Dairy	138,735	4.73	342	4.31	165,072	4.62
Other livestock	91,417	10.06	253	19.87	21,601	15.82

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

²See text on page 10 for an explanation of categories.

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

from production in compliance with the 10-year Conservation Reserve Program and other government programs and for summer fallow. Other government programs including set-aside and any other Federal and State programs accounted for 19.4 million of those acres.

Fifty-four percent of all cropland removed from production was in the Northern Plains and Mountain States. The large amount of cropland removed from production in these two regions reflects the crop-fallow rotations commonly followed in dry land cash grain production in the Mountain and Plains States, and large amounts of land taken out of production under crop reduction programs, conservation reserve, and other government programs.

Farm Size Measures

The two common measures of farm size are acres operated, a resource-based measure, and gross farm sales, an output-based measure. Gross value of sales in this report includes all sales of crops, livestock, poultry and products, and miscellaneous

agricultural products, as well as government agricultural payments and landlord's share of crops sold during the reporting year.

Acreage Class

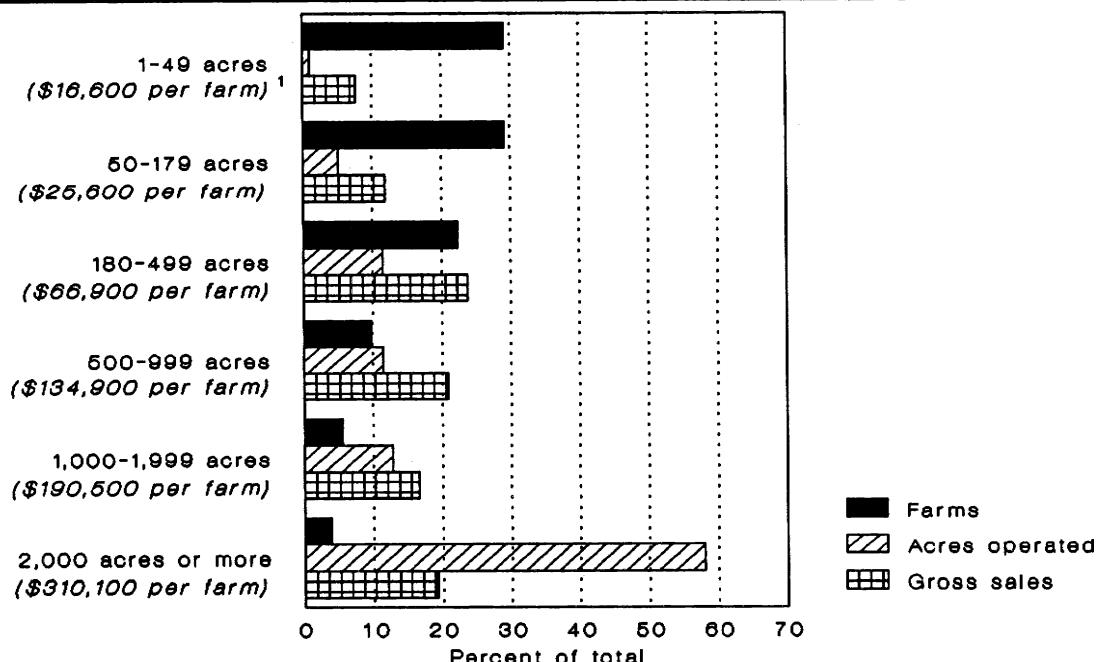
FCRS data show a concentration of farms in the smaller acreage classes, with more than 80 percent of the all farms having fewer than 500 acres (fig. 4). But, the average farm size of all farms surveyed was 588 acres. In total, farms with fewer than 500 acres operated slightly less than 20 percent of the survey's farmland. Only about 4 percent of the farms operated 2,000 or more acres, but they accounted for nearly 60 percent of the land operated. These very large farms operated 8,685 acres per farm.

Farms in the larger size classes with 500 acres or more generated about 57 percent of total gross farm sales in 1990. Average sales were also highest on farms in the largest acreage classes, generally increasing from just \$16,600 for farms with 1-49 acres to \$310,100 for farms with 2,000 or more acres.

Figure 4

Farms, farmland, and gross farm sales, by acreage class, 1990

The largest number of farms surveyed fall in the smaller acreage classes with fewer than 500 acres



¹ Numbers inside parentheses indicate average sales per reporting farm in the class.

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Sales Class

The largest share of farms in the survey were classified in the lowest sales class, with nearly 60 percent reporting gross farm sales of less than \$20,000 in 1990 (fig. 5). These small farms account for only 15 percent of the acreage operated in the survey and 4 percent of farm sales.

A relatively small number of very large farms produced the largest share of farm sales. Only 2 percent of the farms were large operations with sales of \$500,000 or more, but they generated 36 percent of gross farm sales and operated 17 percent of the land.

Average acreage increased consistently with sales class, ranging from 155 acres per farm in the lowest sales class to 4,505 acres for farms with gross receipts of \$500,000 or more. The average farm in the \$500,000 or more sales class reported farm sales of \$1.0 million, compared with sales of \$4,700 for the average farm in the lowest sales class.

A substantial number of farms in the largest sales class specialize in enterprises that generate high sales volumes per acre operated (about \$226 per acre in 1990), such as cattle feedlots, poultry, vegetables, and fruits. Farms in the lowest sales class are more likely to specialize in enterprises requiring relatively large acreage per dollar of sales (generating only \$48 per acre), such as cash grains and range livestock.

Type of Farm

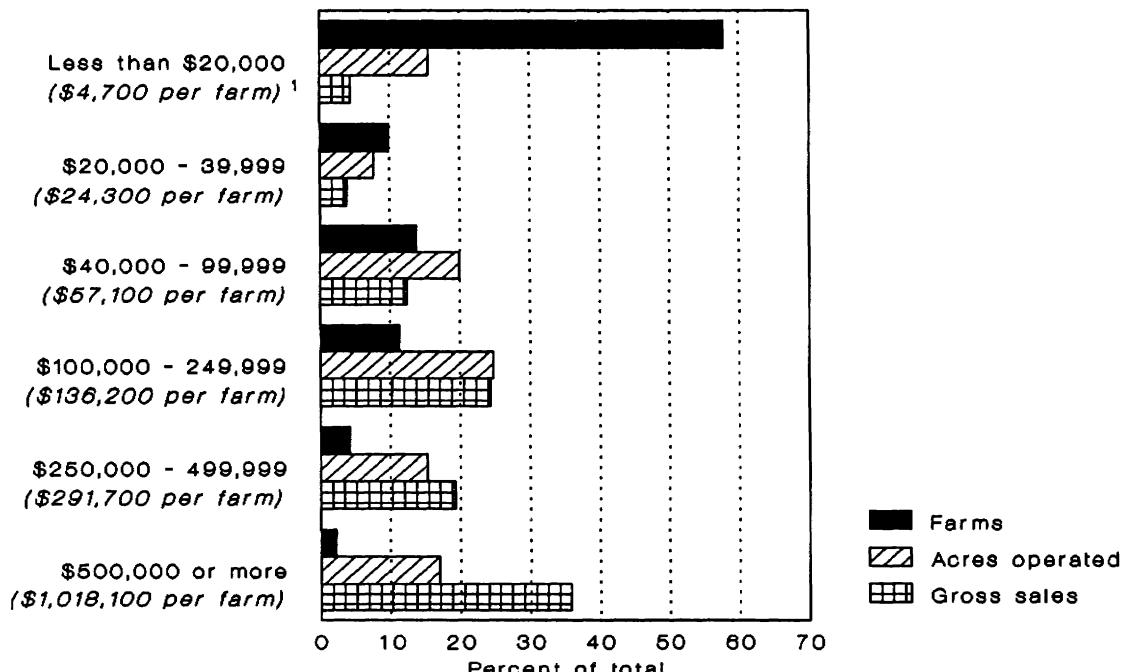
Beef-hog-sheep operations are the most common production specialty reported by farms in the 1990 survey, accounting for about 46 percent of the total. Cash grain farms (19 percent) rank second. These farm types also operated the largest shares of farmland, with beef-hog-sheep farms accounting for about 65 percent of total acreage and cash grain farms accounting for 19 percent of the total.

Beef-hog-sheep, cash grain, and dairy farms generated 73 percent of gross farm sales in 1990 (fig. 6). However, among these farm types, only

Figure 5

Farms, farmland, and gross farm sales, by sales class, 1990

The largest number of farms surveyed fall in the lowest sales class with less than \$20,000 of gross farm sales during the year



¹ Numbers inside parentheses indicate average sales per reporting farm in the class.
Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

dairy farms at \$165,100 per farm generated high average sales. Beef-hog-sheep operations averaged only \$42,100 in gross farm sales, which is below the average for all farms in the survey. The average sales value for cash grain farms at \$68,500 was similar to the all-farms average.

Farm Business Income Statement

In the 1990 FCRS, farm operations reported \$121.4 billion in gross cash farm income. Livestock and poultry sales represented 48 percent, crop sales 41 percent, government payments 5 percent, and other farm-related income 6 percent. Average gross cash income was about \$73,600 per reporting farm.

Cash expenses estimated from the 1990 survey totaled \$100.4 billion, with an average per reporting farm of \$57,400. Net cash farm income totaled \$21 billion, for an average of \$12,000 per reporting farm. After adjusting net cash income by subtracting depreciation and noncash labor expenses and adding the value of inventory change and nonmoney income, we estimated total net farm income at about \$23.6 billion, or \$13,500 per

reporting farm. Because of high relative standard errors of the net cash farm income and net farm income estimates by many of the farm and operating characteristics, we urge caution in making comparisons between categories of farms.

About a third of the survey's farms reported receiving direct government payments in 1990 at an average of nearly \$9,900 per reporting farm. About half of all payments went to two regions, the Northern Plains and Corn Belt. Farms organized as individual operations received the largest amount of direct government payments, accounting for 78 percent of the total. Government payments were also concentrated by farm type, with cash grain operations alone accounting for 55 percent of the total. Beef-hog-sheep operations rank next with 23 percent of the total.

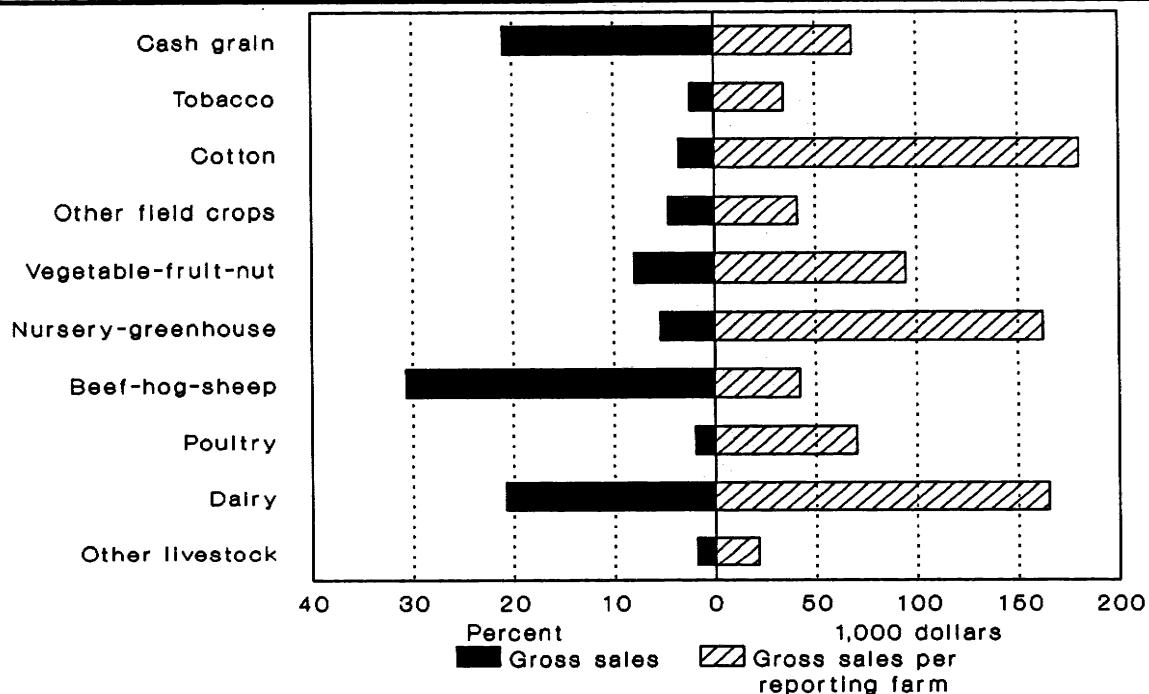
Farm Balance Sheet

Farm operations' assets and liabilities reported in the 1990 FCRS were \$719.4 billion and \$94.7 billion, resulting in total equity (the difference between assets and debts) of \$624.7 billion (fig. 7). The ratio

Figure 6

Distribution of gross farm sales and average sales, by type of farm, 1990

Three farm types in the survey--beef-hog-sheep, cash grain, and dairy--produce the bulk of farm sales, but only the dairy farms in the group generated high average sales per farm



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

of total debt to total assets was 0.13, leaving farm operations with an equity in their farm businesses equal to 87 percent of total asset value. The average value of assets per reporting farm was \$411,000, while liabilities averaged about \$55,600 per reporting farm. Equity per reporting farm averaged \$356,600.

Overall conclusions about regional patterns cannot be stated with certainty because of high relative standard errors for some of the estimates of farm assets and equity by region. However, the estimates of farm liabilities indicate that Corn Belt farms reported the largest amount of farm debt of all regions, amounting to about 20 percent of total liabilities in 1990. Average debt at about \$55,000 per reporting farm in the Corn Belt was similar to the average for all regions at about \$56,000 per reporting farm.

Farms operated by individuals accounted for 76 percent of the total assets and 78 percent of total liabilities reported in the 1990 survey. Average equity was highest on farms operated by corporations at \$1.6 million per reporting farm,

which is more than twice the estimated average equity for partnerships and five times the average for individually run farms.

New Capital Investments

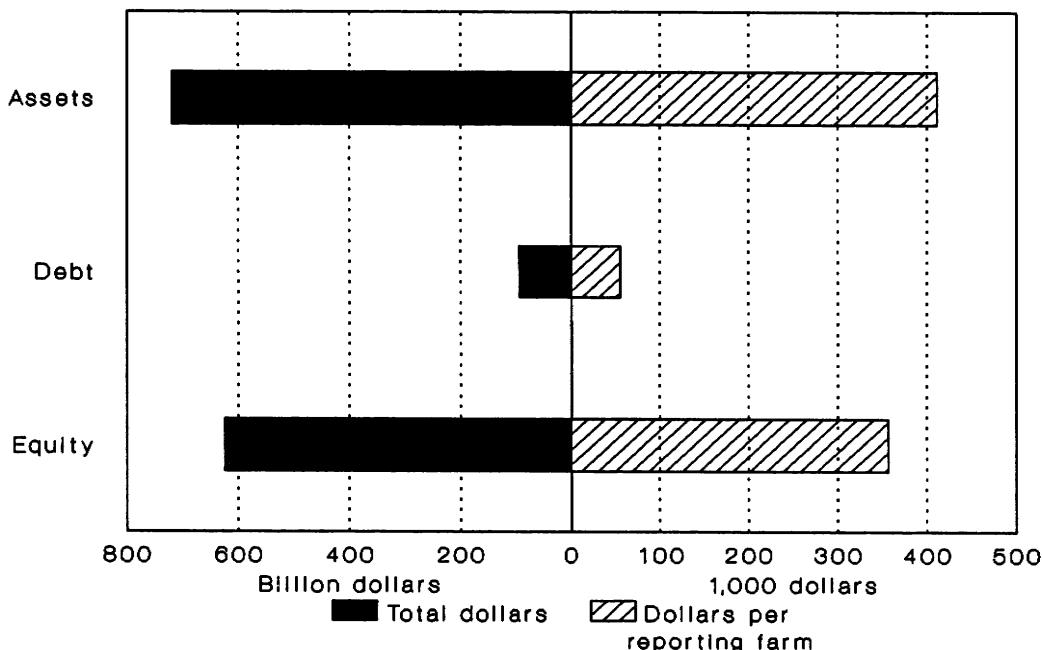
About 60 percent of farm operators in the FCRS reported new capital investments in 1990, for an average of \$13,000 per farm. They spent \$13.7 billion on capital investments, such as improvements to farm real estate and purchases of new machinery and equipment. The total amount spent on these investments was 1.9 percent of the total assets reported. This ratio indicates the rate of growth in total capital investments in the farm sector. The ratio of new capital investments to total assets suggests a general tendency toward lower levels of growth for farms classified in the smallest acreage (100 acres or fewer) and sales classes (\$20,000 or less).

About 80 percent of capital investments were made by individual operators at an average investment of \$11,500 per reporting farm. The average for farm partnerships was \$20,300 while corporate farms averaged \$36,200.

Figure 7

Farm business assets, debt, and equity, 1990

Farm operation equity equaled about 87 percent of total assets in 1990



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Farm Financial Performance

Farms are classified by financial categories based on their combined net income and solvency status. The categories are (1) favorable - positive income and debt/asset ratio below 0.40; (2) marginal income - negative income and debt/asset ratio below 0.40; (3) marginal solvency - positive income and debt/asset ratio of 0.40 or higher; and (4) vulnerable - negative income and debt/asset ratio of 0.40 or higher. The largest share of farms in the 1990 FCRS were in the favorable financial category regardless of farm size (table 2 and fig. 8). About a third overall were in the marginal income category; most of these farms were small operations with sales of less than \$40,000. Comparatively few of the survey's farms were classified as marginally solvent or vulnerable.

Farms in the marginal solvency category generally had higher average sales than farms in the other financial performance categories while farms in the marginal income category averaged the lowest farm sales (table 2). However, average farm sales by financial category varied by sales class.

Selected Characteristics of Farm Operators

Farm operator age, principal occupation, and education have implications for the managerial capability of operators and, accordingly, for farm size and volume of output. FCRS data on the characteristics of farm operators show variation among farms, and some general patterns are noted.

Age

Almost equal numbers of the survey's farm operators are in each of the age groups, except for the relatively small number less than 35 years old (fig. 9). Farmland is also nearly equally distributed among the age groups 35 years old and older. Although the youngest group of farmers operated the fewest farms and least acreage, their share of farm sales was equal to that of the oldest group.

Average acreage estimates show no significant differences by age group of operator (table 3). However, average gross farm sales data indicate that sales fall off after the traditional retirement age at 65 years. Average sales at about \$37,300 for those 65 years old and older were significantly lower than for any other age group.

Data on farm assets and liabilities suggest differences in wealth of farm operators related to their age. Assets on farms operated by the youngest farmers totaled \$55.5 billion in 1990. Liabilities against these assets amounted to about \$13.8 billion, yielding a debt/asset ratio of 0.25. Debt/asset ratios for each age group were as follows:

Age group	Debt/asset ratio
Younger than 35 years	.25
35-44 years	.20
45-54 years	.15
55-64 years	.10
65 years or older	.06

The debt/asset ratio, used as a measure of farmers' financial positions, has implications of financial security. The above ratios suggest a general tendency for farmers to start out highly leveraged and become financially solvent as they age.

The ratio of new capital investment to total assets was also highest for the youngest group of farmers at 3.8 percent, and then generally declined to a low of 1.0 percent for farmers 65 years of age or older. These data show some indication that younger farmers initially invest heavily to get their operations started, and the rate of new investment declines over time to the level needed to maintain total capital investment at a stable level.

Education

The largest number of farm operators in the 1990 survey (40 percent of the total) reported that they had completed high school but had not gone on to college. Another 19 percent had some college training, and 17 percent completed college. Operators with a high school education also operated the largest amount of the survey's farmland and generated the largest volume of total sales.

However, farm size measures suggest that the largest farms are operated by individuals with higher levels of education. Measured by acreage or sales, average farm size increases with level of education, with the exception of similar levels of average sales for operators with some college and operators with a college education (fig. 10).

The ratio of debts to assets in 1990 shows no clear pattern by educational level of operator. However, total equity per farm was comparatively high for

Table 2--Number of farms and mean sales for all regions, by farm financial category and gross farm sales class, 1990

The largest share of farms surveyed were in a favorable financial position, regardless of farm size

Farm financial category/ sales class ¹	Farms	RSE of number	Mean gross farm sales	RSE of mean
	Number	Percent	Dollars	Percent
Favorable	967,133	2.16	72,487	3.52
\$500,000 or more	24,335	7.14	1,011,106	7.33
\$250,000 - \$499,999	47,621	5.55	299,392	1.63
\$100,000 - \$249,999	123,753	3.97	139,578	1.36
\$40,000 - \$99,999	148,281	4.16	58,331	1.76
\$20,000 - \$39,999	106,387	5.70	24,586	2.38
\$10,000 - \$19,999	117,445	6.31	12,159	2.34
\$9,999 or less	399,309	4.16	3,194	3.22
Marginal income	551,066	3.27	28,088	4.84
\$500,000 or more	5,949	12.64	725,198	11.06
\$250,000 - \$499,999	7,943	10.76	270,689	4.42
\$100,000 - \$249,999	30,941	8.89	123,668	2.60
\$40,000 - \$99,999	47,328	7.25	50,905	3.22
\$20,000 - \$39,999	44,836	7.88	23,204	3.31
\$10,000 - \$19,999	72,986	9.09	12,419	2.36
\$9,999 or less	341,083	4.65	2,438	3.79
Marginal solvency	110,899	4.98	168,190	7.48
\$500,000 or more	6,909	12.45	1,228,141	14.02
\$250,000 - \$499,999	12,485	9.69	282,036	4.89
\$100,000 - \$249,999	32,103	7.53	137,524	2.15
\$40,000 - \$99,999	31,770	9.89	59,770	3.69
\$20,000 - \$39,999	7,798	21.47	27,303	6.47
\$10,000 - \$19,999	6,545	27.82	13,576	7.93
\$9,999 or less	13,289	19.94	2,243	19.95
Vulnerable	123,027	5.98	52,681	9.48
\$500,000 or more	1,728	16.22	1,285,939	16.76
\$250,000 - \$499,999	5,019	16.87	275,863	4.61
\$100,000 - \$249,999	11,046	12.43	130,330	4.20
\$40,000 - \$99,999	13,654	13.08	58,509	4.85
\$20,000 - \$39,999	14,147	16.20	23,548	5.54
\$10,000 - \$19,999	11,139	17.47	12,849	3.94
\$9,999 or less	66,294	9.52	2,418	8.44

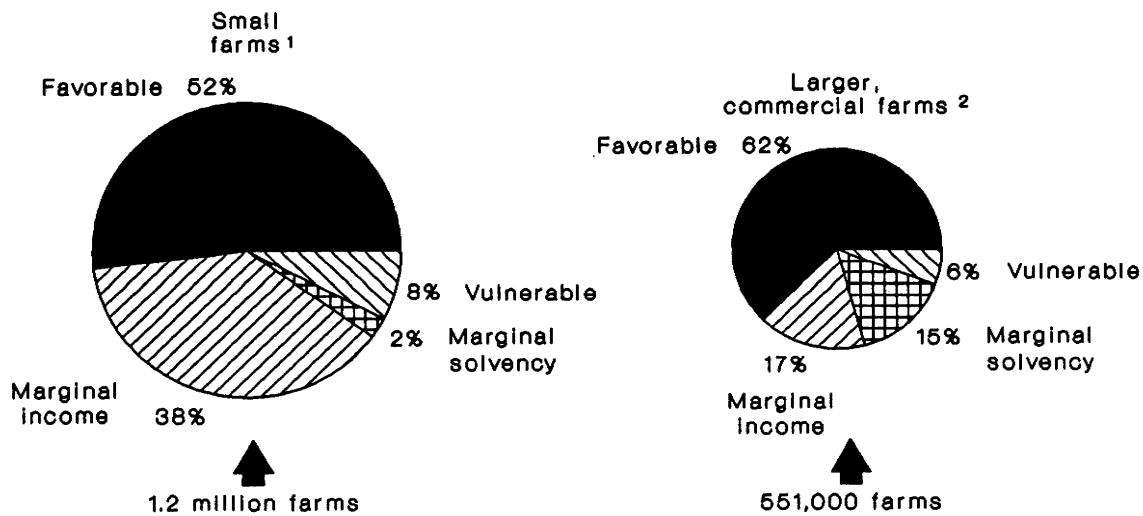
¹See text for an explanation of categories.

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Figure 8

Farm financial performance, by farm size, 1990

The largest share of both small farms and larger, commercial farms in the survey are in the favorable financial category



¹ Small farms are defined as farms with less than \$40,000 of gross farm sales per year.

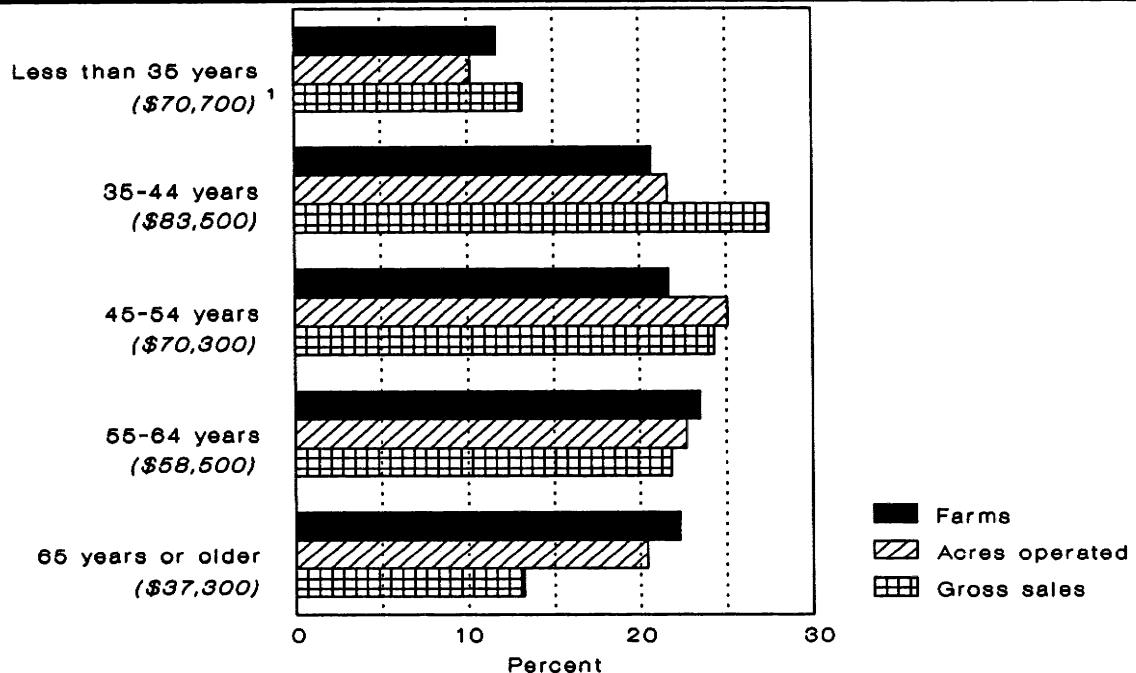
² Larger, commercial farms are defined as farms with gross farm sales of \$40,000 or more per year.

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Figure 9

Farms, farmland, and gross farm sales, by age of operator, 1990

The youngest group of farmers operates the fewest farms and least acreage, but their share of farm sales equals that of the oldest group



¹ Numbers inside parentheses indicate average sales per reporting farm in the class.

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

operators with a college education at \$583,800 per farm. Average equity for all farms was about \$356,600.

Principal Occupation

The largest number of farm operators in the survey, representing 56 percent of the total in 1990, reported farm or ranch work as their primary occupation (defined as the occupation at which the operator spent 50 percent or more of his/her work time). Operators primarily employed in farm or ranch work also operated most of the farmland (82 percent) and produced most of the farm sales (86 percent). Hired farm managers ran only 1 percent of the farms. Their operations accounted for about 5 percent of the farmland and 7 percent of the farm sales. Farms operated by individuals with principal occupations other than farming (44 percent of the farms) accounted for 8 percent of total farm sales and 13 percent of all farmland.

Data on farm size, measured by average sales or average acreage, indicate that hired farm managers run the largest farms, and operators primarily employed off the farm run the smallest (fig. 11).

These small farms reported an overall net cash farm income loss in 1990, as cash expenses exceeded gross cash income by an average of \$2,200 per farm.

Operator and Unpaid Labor

Farm operators worked an average of 32 hours per week on their farms in 1990. In addition to operator labor, nearly half of all farms reported using an average of 25 hours per week of unpaid labor. The total of operator and unpaid labor came to an average weekly labor input of 43 hours per farm.

By occupational category, operators who reported farming as their primary occupation used an average of 59 hours per week of operator and unpaid labor. Operators primarily employed in occupations other

Table 3--Number of farms, mean acres operated, and mean sales for all regions, by farm operator characteristics, 1990

Average farm sales were lowest for farm operators 65 years old and older, operators with less than a high school education, and operators primarily employed in occupations other than farming

Operator characteristics	Farms	RSE of number	Mean acres operated	RSE of mean	Mean gross farm sales	RSE of mean
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent	Dollars	Percent
Occupation:						
Farming	974,625	1.79	871	3.67	96,887	2.66
Hired farm manager	11,647	11.10	3,944	19.76	629,439	18.57
Other occupation	765,452	3.26	177	8.37	11,094	5.42
Age:						
Less than 35 years	205,437	4.89	512	10.67	70,695	5.95
35 - 44 years	363,350	3.59	612	8.12	83,472	5.85
45 - 54 years	380,727	3.64	680	6.90	70,349	4.69
55 - 64 years	411,397	3.17	569	5.01	58,461	5.85
65 years or older	390,989	3.23	538	9.04	37,251	8.62
Education:						
Less than high school	420,747	3.35	375	8.51	33,088	5.75
High school	708,597	2.40	518	5.13	60,318	3.33
Some college	331,257	4.23	666	6.54	76,806	6.86
College	291,213	4.58	978	8.62	96,162	7.11

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

than farming reported a much lower average labor input at 23 hours per week of operator and unpaid labor, pointing out that these farms are largely part-time operations.

Farm Operator Households

Because most farms are operated as sole proprietorship businesses, farm business decisions such as what to produce or whether or not to expand the farm are affected by other activities of farm household members. Such factors as whether household members work at nearby off-farm jobs that provide income comparable to that from farming, whether children plan to become involved in farming, or whether retirement is close at hand affect what the household plans to do on the farm. Even for farms operated as partnerships or family corporations, what is done on the farm is influenced by nonfarm activities of household members involved in the farming operation.

Most farm operator households receive some income from off-farm sources. Off-farm income significantly contributes to the total income of many

farm households, offsetting some of the differences in farm income observed among operations. Thus, knowing something about the relative importance of farm income to the farm household provides important insights that can help us understand the structure of the U.S. farm sector today.

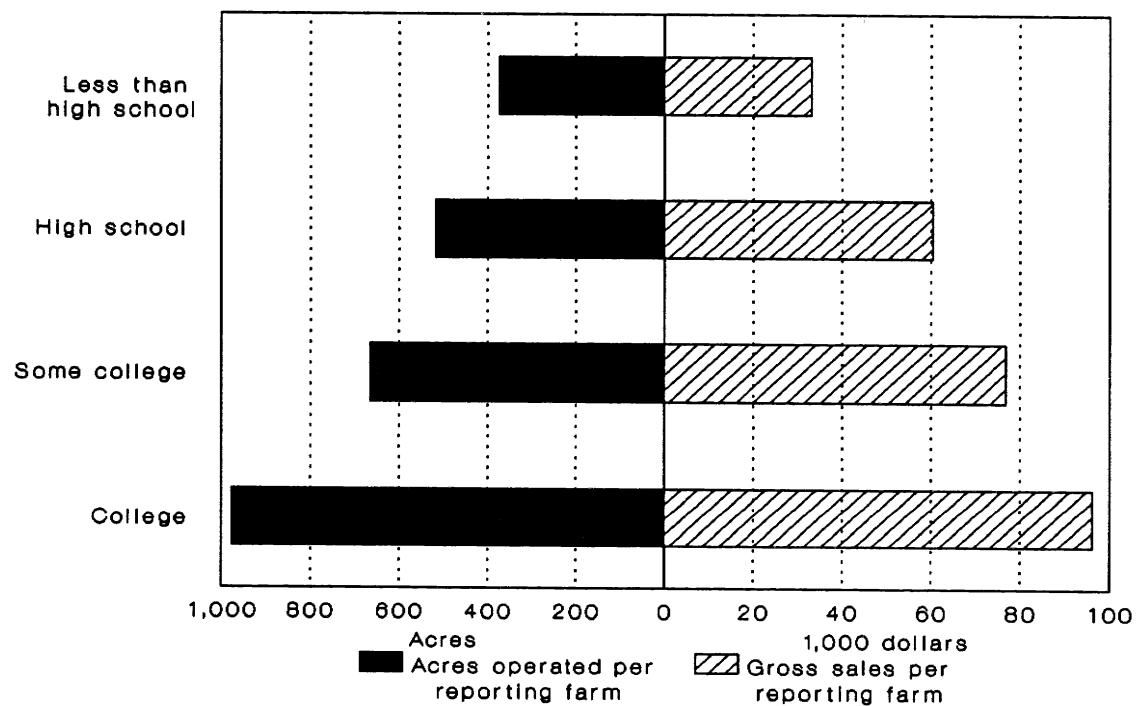
FCRS Household Data

A subset of the FCRS data provides off-farm income and other information about farm operator households. Excluded from this subset are farms operated as nonfamily corporations or cooperatives or where the operator, as a hired manager, does not receive any of the net income of the farm business. For farms with more than one operator (for example, partnership businesses), only one operator and household, usually the senior operator and his/her household, are surveyed. The households of others who may consider themselves operators were not included in the survey. While we do not know the personal or household characteristics of these excluded households, we do know the number of other households that share in the net income of the farm business.

Figure 10

Average farmland and gross farm sales, by educational level of operator, 1990

Farm size Increases with educational level of operator



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In 1990, 130,382 farm operators reported that the net income of the farm business was split with others outside their household. On average, when households shared net farm business income, it was split with another 1.5 households. In these cases where the net income from the farm was shared by two or more households, the net farm income allocated to the surveyed household was calculated by multiplying the net income from the farm business by the share that the surveyed household reported receiving (a more detailed definition is found in app. A). For a detailed examination of farm operator households and their characteristics in 1988-90, see Ahearn, Perry, and El-Osta (1993).

Average Household Income

The average household income of farm operator households was \$39,007 in 1990 (table 4). There were variations by region and when households were grouped by the organization of the farm associated with the household. Farm operator households associated with family-held corporate farms had the highest average household income at

\$101,064, while households associated with individually operated farms had the lowest average household income at \$36,134.

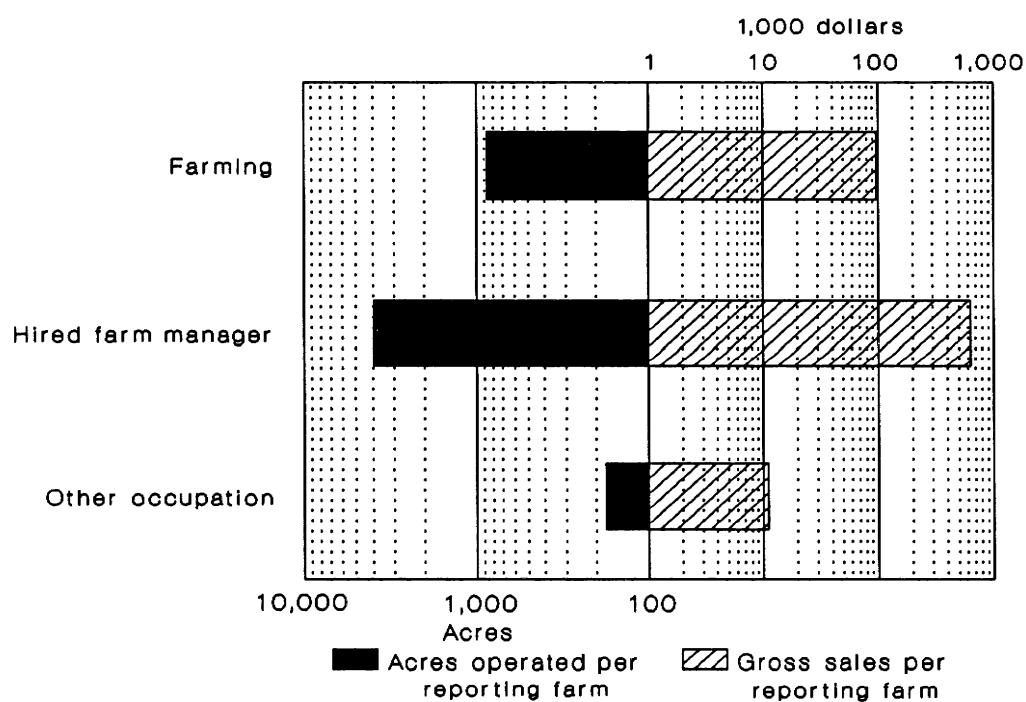
Farm operator household income also varied by the household's dependence on farm income. To measure the relative importance of farm income to the operator household, farms were grouped into categories based on the ratio of farm income to total household income, as defined in appendix A. Five categories of farm operator households with positive household income were created: loss from farming, 0-24 percent of total household income from farming, 25-49 percent from farming, 50-74 percent from farming, and 75 percent or more from farming. Farm operator households with negative total household income are in a separate group.

Farm operator households in the loss from farming category accounted for almost half of all farm operator households, and their average total household income was \$40,011 in 1990. Farm operator households in the next three categories had, on average, similar levels of total household income. Farm operator households with 75 percent or more of their

Figure 11

Average farmland and gross farm sales, by principal occupation of operator, 1990

Farm size measures indicate that hired farm managers run the largest farms and operators primarily employed off the farm run the smallest farms



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

household income from farming had a higher average household income of \$61,849, while farm operator households with negative total household income lost an average of \$25,983 in 1990.

Selected Farm Characteristics by Dependency Category

Average acreage and average sales estimates for 1990 show differences in farm size by degree of dependence on farming (fig. 12). Farm operator households that depend more on farm income and those with negative total household income generally have larger farms than other operator households. Farm operator households with positive total household income and farm losses have the smallest farms.

Farm operator households with positive total household income and farm losses had farms similar in many respects to farms associated with households in the positive household income/0-24 percent from farming dependency category. Farms

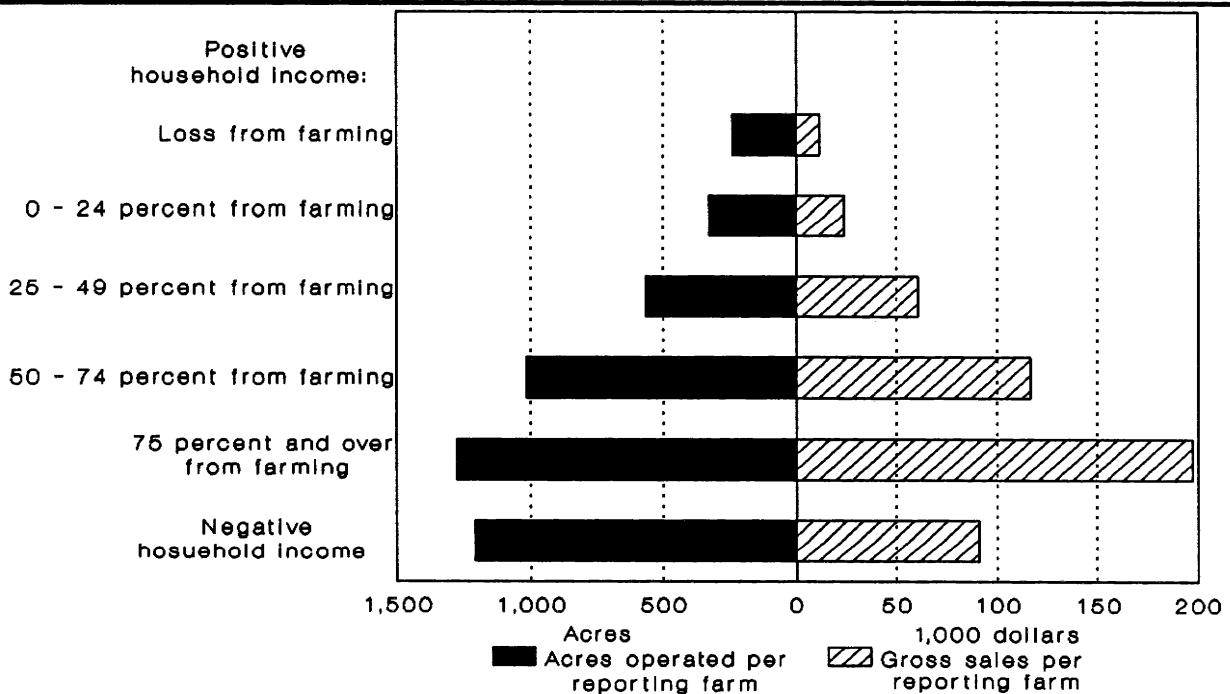
in these two categories were smaller, on average, than other farms in terms of acres operated, expenses, farm assets, liabilities, and equity. Operators of these farms also reported fewer average labor hours worked by both the operator and other unpaid labor. Average gross cash income from farming was also comparatively low for these two categories, but the average for the farm loss category was even lower than the average for the 0-24 percent dependency category.

Farm operator households with positive household incomes and 25-49 percent of it from farming reported that their farms averaged 567 acres in size, with gross cash income of \$68,814 per reporting farm. Farm operator households with positive household incomes and more than 50 percent of their income from farming and farm operator households with negative household incomes were associated with relatively large farms in terms of acres operated, gross cash income, and cash expenses. Farm assets, liabilities, and equity levels were also relatively high.

Figure 12

Average farmland and gross farm sales, by farm operator household dependency category, 1990

Farm operator households depend more on farm income as their farms' size increases



Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 4--Farm operator household income, by region, farm organization, and farm operator household dependency category, 1990

Farm operator households associated with individually operated farms, the most common business organization for farms in the survey, had a lower average household income than those associated with family-held corporate farms or partnership farms

Item	Households reporting	Average per household	RSE of average
		Number	Percent
All farm households	1,738,019	39,007	4.53
Region:			
Northeast	119,016	40,208	13.53
Lake States	193,555	32,882	4.95
Corn Belt	349,453	33,529	3.83
Northern Plains	148,887	38,541	8.84
Appalachian	251,170	28,796	4.19
Southeast	124,198	41,293	8.35
Delta	80,581	36,092	5.69
Southern Plains	227,747	38,130	5.18
Mountain	104,099	37,339	11.89
Pacific	139,315	81,465	21.13
Farm organization:			
Corporate	36,301	101,064	13.39
Partnership	110,000	60,104	10.24
Individual	1,591,718	36,134	5.19
Farm operator household farm dependency category:			
Positive household income--			
Loss from farming	825,312	40,011	10.20
0 - 24 percent from farming	267,007	45,107	7.14
25 - 49 percent from farming	129,042	43,163	5.77
50 - 74 percent from farming	103,996	45,961	5.71
75 percent and over	263,018	61,849	4.24
Negative household income	149,644	-25,983	na

na = Not applicable.

Source: Farm Costs and Returns Survey, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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Appendix A--Definitions of Terms

To simplify the use of the data in this report, the following definitions are provided:

Classification variables

Region: Regions and the States they contain are as follows:

Northeast:

Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

Lake States:

Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin

Corn Belt:

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio

Northern Plains:

Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota

Appalachian:

Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Southeast:

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina

Delta:

Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi

Southern Plains:

Oklahoma, Texas

Mountain:

Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming

Pacific:

California, Oregon, Washington

Production specialty: Farm operators were asked to identify the farm production specialty classification that represented the largest portion of gross commodity receipts from their farm operation. Possible responses included the following:

Cash grains:

Largest portion of farm receipts from corn, soybeans, other grains (such as wheat, oats, barley, rye, and sorghum), and/or rice.

Tobacco:

Largest portion of farm receipts from tobacco.

Cotton:

Largest portion of farm receipts from cotton and cottonseed.

Other field crops:

Largest portion of farm receipts from peanuts, Irish potatoes, sunflowers, sweet potatoes, sugarcane, broomcorn, popcorn, sugar beets, mint, hops, seed crops, hay, silage, and forage or any remaining farms that received the majority of farm income from the sales of other types of field crops.

Vegetables, fruits, or nuts:

Largest portion of farm receipts from vegetables, fruits, tree nuts, and/or berries.

Nursery or greenhouse:

Largest portion of farm receipts from nursery and/or greenhouse products.

Beef, hog, or sheep:

Largest portion of farm receipts from cattle (except dairy breeding stock), hogs, pigs, sheep, and/or lambs.

Poultry:

Largest portion of farm receipts from broilers, other chickens, turkeys, and/or eggs.

Dairy:

Largest portion of farm receipts from milk and dairy products.

Other livestock:

Largest portion of farm receipts from mules, horses, foals and ponies, fur farms, bees and honey, fish, minnows, or any remaining livestock farms.

Farm organization: Respondents were asked to identify their farm operation as an individual operation, partnership, corporation (family or nonfamily), or cooperative. Because of the limited number of cooperatives, this category was dropped from this classification analysis (but retained in other classification analyses), and family and nonfamily corporations were combined.

Acreage class: Acres operated includes owned land plus land rented from others (including land rented or leased on an animal-unit-month (AUM) basis), less land rented out. Seven classes were constructed: 1 - 49 acres, 50 - 99 acres, 100 - 179 acres, 180 - 499 acres, 500 - 999 acres, 1,000 - 1,999 acres, and 2,000 or more acres.

Sales class: Gross value of sales includes all sales of crops, livestock, poultry and poultry products, and miscellaneous agricultural products, all government agricultural payments, and landlords' shares of crops sold. Seven classes were constructed: \$9,999 or less, \$10,000 - \$19,999, \$20,000 - \$39,999, \$40,000 - \$99,999, \$100,000 - \$249,999, \$250,000 - \$499,999, \$500,000 or more.

Net farm income solvency class: Farms were classified into one of four categories based on their combined income and solvency status, as defined in the text.

Land tenure status: Defined as acres owned as a percentage of land operated. Full tenants rented all of the land operated, part tenants (part owners) owned at least 1 acre and rented some of the land operated, and full owners owned all of the land operated in 1990.

Operator occupation: Farm operators were asked to identify their major occupation as farm or ranch work, hired manager, or something else.

Operator age: Farm operators were asked to provide their age, and five age categories were constructed: younger than 35 years, 35 - 44 years, 45 - 54 years, 55 - 64 years, and 65 years or older.

Operator education: Operators were asked to provide the highest grade they had completed in school. Four categories were constructed: less than high school, high school, some college, and college.

Table variables

Farms and land in farms:

Total acres operated:

Agricultural land owned plus land rented or leased from others (including land rented on an AUM basis), less land rented out.

Acres owned:

Total acres owned by the farm operation.

Land rented or leased from others: Acreage rented during the year, excluding land rented or leased on an animal-unit-month (AUM) basis.

Land rented out:

Acreage provided to other farm operations for cash rent or under a share rent agreement.

Cropland removed from production:

Land diverted from production in 1990 in compliance with government agricultural programs including set-aside, the 10-year Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and other Federal or State programs, or for summer fallow.

Government programs:

Land idled from production in 1990 through Acres in Conservation Reserve (ACR) or Conserving Uses (CU) or in other Federal or State programs.

Labor hours worked: The average hours per week worked by the farm operator and by all persons who received no cash wages or any other compensation for farmwork on the operation during 1990. Operator hours and unpaid labor hours are also reported separately.

Capital investments: Total operator capital expenditures in 1990.

Farm business income and expenses:

Gross cash farm income:

Livestock sales--Gross value of all livestock items sold from the farm or ranch, including marketing charges and livestock sold under marketing contracts.

Crop sales--Gross value of all crop items sold from the farm or ranch, including marketing charges and crops sold under marketing contracts. Also includes net Commodity Credit Corporation loans (value of crops placed under CCC loans in 1990 less the value of CCC loans repaid, not forfeited).

Government farm payments--Gross value of direct payments by the Federal Government (excluding wool and unshorn lamb wool payments) including the face value of commodity (payment in kind (PIK))

certificates, plus the premium received from PIK certificates excluding the landlord's share.

Other farm income--Income from custom work, machine hire, land rented to others, livestock grazing, contract production fees, outdoor recreation, and any other farm-related income.

Cash expenses:

Includes variable expenses for livestock purchases, feed, veterinary services and supplies, other livestock-related expenses, seed and plants, fertilizer and chemicals, labor, fuels and oils, repairs and maintenance, machine-hire and custom work, utilities, and other variable expenses, as well as fixed expenses including real estate and property taxes, interest, insurance, and rent and lease payments.

Net cash farm income:

Gross cash farm income (as defined above) less cash expenses. Represents income available to farm operators for living expenses, principal payment, income taxes, and other expenses or reinvestment in the farm.

Net farm income:

Net cash farm income minus depreciation plus the value of inventory change and nonmoney income. Reflects the return or loss to operator and unpaid family labor, management, and equity capital associated with 1990's production.

Farm Business Assets and Liabilities:

Farm assets:

The estimated market value on December 31, 1990, of all capital assets owned by the farm operation.

Farm operation liabilities:

Total amount of debt owed by the farm or ranch on December 31, 1990. Includes outstanding principal plus unpaid interest owed to any banks, individuals, co-ops, merchants, or Federal agencies.

Equity:

The difference between farm operation assets and farm operation liabilities.

Farm Operator Household Variables

Farm operator households: The households of senior operators who operate the estimated 1.8 million farms covered by the 1990 FCRS. Households associated with farms that are organized as nonfamily corporations or cooperatives, or where the operator, as a hired manager, does not receive any of the net income of the farm business, are excluded. In the case of multiple operators, only the households of the senior operators are included.

Farm operator household income: The farm income that accrues to the farm operator household, less depreciation, plus all sources of off-farm income accruing to the household in 1990. Both farm income and off-farm income may be negative.

Farm operator household farm income:

Includes the net income of the farm operated times the percent received by the household, plus cash received by the household from renting out farmland, plus net income received by the household from other farm businesses, plus wages and salaries paid to the operator and household members by the farm business. The net income of the farm operated is calculated as the net cash income of the farm business, excluding income the business receives from renting out farmland and including farm labor expenses paid to household members as expenses, less depreciation.

Farm operator household off-farm income:

Includes off-farm wages and salaries of all household members, plus the net income of any nonfarm businesses, interest and dividends, and all other cash off-farm income of household members.

Farm operator household dependency categories:

A ratio is calculated to provide information on the components of farm operator household income and their importance. There are six categories of this ratio based on the value of farm operator household income and farm income, as defined in the text.

Appendix B--The Farm Costs and Returns Survey

The 1990 Farm Costs and Returns Survey (FCRS) provided the data for this report. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conduct this survey each year. The FCRS is the most comprehensive national annual data source available on farm financial and operating characteristics. A major advantage of the FCRS over other data sources is that details on expenses, income, assets, debt, and many other items can be disaggregated by production region, farm size, production specialty, and other characteristics. Such detail is important for a thorough understanding of the farm economy because it represents a collection of diverse agricultural enterprises.

Both NASS and ERS use the FCRS data extensively for production expense summaries, financial analyses, other publications, and staff work. NASS annually releases FCRS statistics on farm production expenses, while ERS publishes a detailed summary of financial characteristics of U.S. farms (Morehart, Johnson, and Bunker, 1988, 1989, 1990, and 1992). ERS conducts research on the financial status of farms and presents the findings in USDA publications, professional journals, conference presentations, and other outlets. NASS and ERS also use the data to publish annual State and regional summaries of farm financial conditions (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, NASS and ERS, *Farm Costs and Returns Survey, Summary*).

Data Reliability and Survey Coverage

More than 24,000 farms and ranches are contacted annually through personal interviews during February and March. The sample originates from two sources. The first is a list of known operators of farms stratified by economic size and other attributes. That sample, the list frame, contains larger, more specialized operations. Maintaining a current list for smaller operations is difficult. Thus, an area frame is used to compensate for any incompleteness in the list frame. The area frame sample consists of land segments located within the 48 contiguous States stratified by land use. Rigorous procedures are followed to prevent the inclusion of any one farm in both sample frames.

The FCRS is a probability-based survey, where each respondent represents a number of farms of similar

size and type. Thus, sample data can be expanded using appropriate weights to represent all U.S. farms. Estimates based on the expanded sample differ from what would have occurred if a complete enumeration had been taken. These differences result from sampling and nonsampling variability (Ford, Nealon, and Tortora, 1986). A measure of sampling variability is available from survey results. The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error of the estimate represented as a percentage of the estimate. The RSE, also called the coefficient of variation (CV) when computed for means, is computed by dividing the standard error of the estimate and multiplying the result by 100. We question the reliability of an estimate when the RSE exceeds 25 percent, and data users should use caution when interpreting items reported with RSE's of this magnitude or higher. For the estimated number of farms reporting, RSE's not given in the tables will be noted with an asterisk if they exceed 25 percent.

The standard error can also be used to calculate a confidence interval around an estimate. The confidence interval, based on a 95-percent probability, for average acres operated for all farms, for example, is estimated to be between 549 and 627 acres. The standard error of an estimate can also evaluate the statistical significance of differences between groups. For example, the appropriate t-statistic for a comparison between average acres operated by farms in the Northeast and the Lake States can be constructed by taking the difference between the mean of the two groups and dividing by the square root of the sum of the squared standard errors of the two groups. Or

$$\begin{aligned} t &= (\text{Acres operated}_{\text{Northeast}} - \text{Acres operated}_{\text{Lake States}}) / \\ &\quad (\text{Standard error}_{\text{Northeast}}^2 + \text{Standard error}_{\text{Lake States}}^2)^{0.5} \\ &= (183 - 297) / (8.71^2 + 15.27^2)^{0.5} \\ &= -6.48 \end{aligned}$$

Although t-statistics are not reported in this report, the discussion in each section emphasizes the comparison between groups only when means were significantly different at the 95-percent level.

Survey data are also influenced by nonsampling errors. Data collection procedures are made uniform and consistent across the Nation by extensively training and supervising data collectors. Efforts are also undertaken to minimize other types

of potential nonsampling errors by using extensive edit and data analysis. Questionnaires are hand edited in State offices and through computerized routines in Washington, DC. The extent of nonsampling errors is not known or directly measurable.

NASS personnel in Washington, DC, combined the data collected in States and constructed farm size, geographic location, and production specialty variables on the basis of reported information for each farm operation. NASS is also responsible for constructing survey expansion factors, or weights. ERS provides additional information by constructing additional classification variables and by defining aggregated expense, income, asset, and debt categories as well as major financial indicators, such as net farm income and debt/asset ratio for each farm.

Comparability with Other Sources of Agricultural Data

FCRS estimates, for various reasons, often differ from other agricultural data sources. Therefore, direct comparisons between FCRS estimates published in this report and other available data should be made only with careful consideration to sample design, data collection procedures, and underlying variable definitions.

1987 Census of Agriculture

In 1987, for the first time, the Census of Agriculture (every 5 years) and the Farm Costs and Returns Survey (annual) were conducted simultaneously (U.S. Dept. of Commerce, 1989). Each survey gathers economic and physical agricultural data from a common target population: all farms that sold or normally would have sold at least \$1,000 worth of agricultural products. Aside from this similarity of purpose, there are several differences that limit comparability of data obtained from these surveys.

The most obvious differences pertain to sample design and data collection procedures. The Census of Agriculture requires mandatory participation, while the FCRS relies on voluntary response. As a result, the Census involves a complete enumeration of farms (for most items). The FCRS uses a probability-based, multiframe sampling approach, which provides estimates that are representative of the U.S. population of farms based on a smaller subsample. Questionnaires are mailed to targeted

farms and are completed by respondents for the Census. FCRS data are collected through personal interview by trained enumerators. The FCRS is conducted in the 48 contiguous States, while the Census includes Alaska and Hawaii. The Census of Agriculture also includes institutional farms, which are excluded in the FCRS.

In many instances, there are conceptual differences associated with specific pieces of information obtained from these surveys due to the wording of questions asked or the instructions associated with collecting the information. In other cases, the level of detail may differ between the types of questions asked, which prohibits direct comparisons. Finally, the inclusions of landlord and contractor shares of income and expenses may not be consistent between specific categories.

USDA Agricultural Data

Estimates of income, expenses, assets, and debt of the U.S. farm sector reported in *Economic Indicators of the Farm Sector Series* (ECIFS) are not directly comparable with estimates from this report (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1991; U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, *Agricultural Income and Finance Situation and Outlook*). ECIFS estimates represent a combination of several data sources. In many instances, procedures used and assumptions made are dictated by the format of available data. Since the FCRS estimates represent farm operators, these estimates are typically below those of ECIFS, which represent the entire farm sector (farm operators, landlords, contractors, and others). ECIFS estimates also cover all 50 States versus the 48 States covered by the FCRS.

Appendix table 1—Mean acres operated, by organization, tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and region, 1990

Item	Northeast			Lake States			Corn Belt			Northern Plains		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All farms	119,990	183	4.76	195,870	297	5.14	350,803	293	3.53	149,551	1,062	4.96
Organization:												
Corporate	2,662*	381	19.65	5,837	848	24.97	8,051	597	17.04	4,465	2,866	11.73
Partnership	11,000	312	11.32	14,026	498	11.81	18,882	564	12.92	6,165	2,512	10.50
Individual	106,305	165	5.56	175,976	263	4.85	323,858	270	3.80	138,906	939	5.75
Tenancy:												
Full tenant	8,053	174	13.29	13,990	274	15.74	38,266	384	7.70	23,310	730	8.93
Part tenant	44,318	290	6.22	82,048	450	4.89	133,483	465	3.77	76,621	1,536	5.37
Full owner	67,619	115	7.91	99,831	175	11.75	179,054	146	8.06	49,619	484	11.14
Acreage class:												
2,000 or more acres	d	d	na	d	d	na	2,503	2,641	3.85	20,884	4,028	3.64
1,000-1,999 acres	2,051*	1,267	3.10	8,814	1,324	5.41	15,955	1,328	2.09	25,214	1,431	1.65
500-999 acres	5,236	660	3.09	24,167	691	2.12	48,263	681	1.31	34,209	700	1.48
180-499 acres	35,140	291	3.00	61,427	307	1.99	98,989	295	1.96	36,741	329	2.35
100-179 acres	21,784	133	1.90	42,993	136	1.86	56,801	133	1.47	12,281	144	1.79
50-99 acres	20,568	73	2.19	23,948	74	2.85	48,658	75	2.14	6,881*	71	5.53
1-49 acres	35,022	22	6.57	33,575	25	7.83	79,634	24	5.08	13,341	20	12.61
Sales class:												
\$500,000 or more	2,686	903	13.17	4,424	977	16.70	5,559	1,264	10.78	3,884	4,626	8.54
\$250,000-\$499,999	4,740	452	9.61	9,196	829	4.42	17,816	997	3.74	10,283	2,310	9.80
\$100,000-\$249,999	14,803	299	8.23	37,694	472	4.89	56,183	565	3.86	31,569	1,670	6.37
\$40,000-\$99,999	17,120	202	9.57	39,488	309	14.48	56,825	338	4.58	42,178	1,073	11.40
\$20,000-\$39,999	8,426	184	9.88	24,202	198	11.29	39,706	237	14.64	19,721	559	11.05
\$10,000-\$19,999	10,954	198	22.16	20,918	254	22.00	45,975	168	13.60	14,434	310	13.30
\$9,999 or less	61,261	95	9.69	59,948	103	13.83	128,739	78	6.91	27,483	131	14.44
Net farm income solvency class:												
Favorable	59,637	209	6.09	107,248	306	5.18	212,600	293	4.39	86,895	1,134	6.66
Marginal income	45,216	149	9.06	56,086	276	14.50	96,193	232	8.48	30,488	837	11.93
Marginal solvency	7,344	237	13.23	18,901	354	10.03	22,175	542	8.37	19,283	1,166	8.69
Vulnerable	7,793	133	25.47	13,635	238	16.93	19,834	320	13.33	12,886	948	15.17

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 1—Mean acres operated, by organization, tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Appalachian			Southeast			Delta		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
All farms	252,383	174	4.57	125,600	281	11.22	81,471	326	5.06
Organization:									
Corporate	1,932*	529	18.39	3,398	2,170	41.52	2,688*	1,210	26.99
Partnership	12,522	442	13.63	6,181	433	20.35	3,216	1,275	12.28
Individual	237,831	157	4.93	116,020	218	10.27	75,568	254	5.00
Tenancy:									
Full tenant	15,466	186	14.58	5,540	461	26.31	7,841	821	11.22
Part tenant	92,198	265	6.68	37,013	402	12.86	29,007	426	7.05
Full owner	144,718	114	5.73	83,047	215	19.06	44,623	174	7.82
Acreage class:									
2,000 or more acres	1,034	2,875	3.98	3,249*	4,526	25.09	1,799	3,493	6.73
1,000-1,999 acres	5,524	1,296	5.27	3,630	1,310	2.93	3,953	1,393	1.96
500-999 acres	12,069	665	2.25	6,662	662	2.43	7,685	686	1.89
180-499 acres	46,066	283	2.18	19,591	300	2.98	18,872	302	2.94
100-179 acres	52,156	136	1.41	19,345	132	2.19	16,827	139	1.96
50-99 acres	49,002	74	1.59	27,346	73	2.22	13,617	69	3.01
1-49 acres	86,531	22	5.21	45,775	22	7.51	18,718	27	6.01
Sales class:									
\$500,000 or more	2,031	1,186	14.55	3,054	3,242	29.93	3,149	1,798	20.89
\$250,000-\$499,999	4,087	886	10.49	5,099*	685	23.63	3,913	952	17.05
\$100,000-\$249,999	10,978	679	11.09	5,746	681	13.06	5,356	732	9.15
\$40,000-\$99,999	21,187	324	9.19	10,439	537	22.31	7,473	438	8.91
\$20,000-\$39,999	23,937	199	8.26	9,458	387	26.52	8,551	345	11.06
\$10,000-\$19,999	36,036	156	7.84	14,455	149	13.00	9,699	224	8.42
\$9,999 or less	154,127	85	7.23	77,349	85	10.25	43,329	112	9.34
Net farm income solvency class:									
Favorable	164,888	177	5.78	66,171	315	18.24	44,161	321	6.86
Marginal income	66,318	154	7.94	45,367	229	11.52	24,843	252	8.95
Marginal solvency	9,156	313	21.95	4,874	375	20.96	6,454	500	17.24
Vulnerable	12,021	127	22.35	9,188	244	16.97	6,013	476	20.32

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 1—Mean acres operated, by organization, tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Southern Plains			Mountain			Pacific		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
All farms	228,760	543	8.08	105,039	3,221	8.53	142,660	844	17.58
Organization:									
Corporate	2,736*	5,291	49.54	5,519	13,672	13.35	7,550	4,296	41.85
Partnership	10,548	1,354	28.31	12,168*	7,258	32.92	16,205*	1,186	44.94
Individual	215,448	443	7.76	87,333	1,996	11.60	118,905	578	18.33
Tenancy:									
Full tenant	17,490	1,096	21.30	9,085	3,050	21.08	13,062	986	27.24
Part tenant	81,221	863	9.64	36,408	4,832	11.79	33,406	1,715	24.56
Full owner	130,049	269	15.78	59,546	2,262	15.30	96,192	522	32.11
Acreage class:									
2,000 or more acres	11,025	6,183	9.87	20,792	14,797	7.46	6,353	16,327	16.01
1,000-1,999 acres	13,199	1,366	2.11	13,655*	1,436	2.31	4,431	1,327	3.31
500-999 acres	20,953	717	1.92	6,968	711	2.08	5,573	726	3.34
180-499 acres	50,956	304	2.55	13,060	314	3.00	11,611	285	3.58
100-179 acres	29,251	128	1.77	5,555	137	2.20	7,224	132	2.30
50-99 acres	31,358	72	2.65	8,725	70	3.17	16,743	70	3.24
1-49 acres	72,017	21	6.81	36,284	16	9.04	90,726	14	9.13
Sales class:									
\$500,000 or more	3,185	8,187	26.76	3,403	19,108	17.20	7,546	4,573	39.07
\$250,000-\$499,999	5,748	2,354	15.33	5,875	10,952	23.57	6,311	2,592	31.94
\$100,000-\$249,999	10,577	1,839	9.51	13,196	6,864	9.94	11,742	1,908	22.28
\$40,000-\$99,999	20,210	1,343	12.65	13,948	4,150	13.45	12,168	2,004	25.08
\$20,000-\$39,999	18,671	757	10.87	9,352	2,201	24.79	11,144	619	32.79
\$10,000-\$19,999	32,146	344	11.96	10,837	939	20.91	12,661*	621	71.25
\$9,999 or less	138,222	93	8.73	48,428	614	38.03	81,088	98	45.60
Net farm income solvency class:									
Favorable	107,072	650	11.64	51,983	3,513	10.16	66,477	1,143	23.62
Marginal income	94,781	382	12.78	34,035	2,995	18.56	57,740	601	24.78
Marginal solvency	9,141	832	19.82	9,082	2,837	25.12	4,489	1,012	46.07
Vulnerable	17,766	609	23.30	9,939	2,815	38.19	13,953	370	42.26

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 2—Mean acres operated, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and region, 1990

Item	Northeast			Lake States			Corn Belt			Northern Plains		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Production specialty:												
Cash grain	12,980	238	11.49	50,294	365	7.60	134,228	416	4.11	67,549	880	4.69
Tobacco	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	0	0	na
Cotton	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	0	0	na
Other field crops	13,579	136	15.92	15,155	329	18.13	15,337	124	22.66	d	d	na
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	10,666	112	13.67	9,548	133	28.12	5,074*	113	27.63	d	d	na
Nursery or greenhouse	6,053	78	35.85	2,003*	41	32.78	5,321*	79	38.60	d	d	na
Beef, hogs, or sheep	35,508	131	13.80	40,250	276	12.23	150,726	244	6.56	65,560	1,353	7.60
Poultry	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na
Dairy	28,350	330	6.70	59,536	312	5.39	21,360	250	9.04	5,578	844	22.01
Other livestock	8,427	123	18.97	14,739	239	50.25	8,756*	110	22.94	3,754*	742	30.93
Operator characteristics:												
Occupation—												
Farming	68,247	243	5.09	130,876	375	5.20	205,905	416	3.51	118,080	1,261	4.77
Hired farm manager	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na
Other occupation	50,908	101	9.25	64,373	137	11.14	143,311	114	6.29	30,893	290	12.14
Age—												
Less than 35 years old	15,795	196	18.50	32,019	260	10.54	47,918	368	10.22	22,791	761	11.43
35-44 years old	25,503	193	10.71	45,268	356	9.08	75,699	334	7.55	33,218	1,223	7.83
45-54 years old	28,257	163	9.04	50,234	305	13.32	78,647	308	6.87	25,692	1,188	8.17
55-64 years old	27,578	193	7.88	40,231	312	7.36	76,934	282	7.05	32,539	1,221	8.29
65 years or older	22,857	176	9.42	28,118	208	11.80	71,606	197	7.58	35,311	865	18.81
Education—												
Less than high school	31,683	148	8.70	43,392	239	8.82	72,439	165	9.06	28,769	998	17.84
High school	52,391	195	7.63	92,885	306	7.38	170,126	318	5.37	59,672	1,029	7.08
Some college	13,025	203	13.31	36,543	343	12.46	60,396	333	7.29	33,548	1,144	7.87
College	22,890	195	10.51	23,050	299	15.06	47,842	353	8.49	27,561	1,099	10.59

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Item	Appalachian			Southeast			Delta		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Production specialty:									
Cash grain	17,583	357	12.94	11,591	325	15.56	13,420	601	8.57
Tobacco	63,492	134	9.08	3,654	365	14.84	0	0	na
Cotton	d	d	na	3,315*	998	37.02	4,311	1,109	13.60
Other field crops	14,677	136	16.75	7,451	355	22.00	d	d	na
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	4,781	124	29.48	11,189	304	41.92	d	d	na
Nursery or greenhouse	4,026*	23	37.34	9,077*	197	83.08	d	d	na
Beef, hogs, or sheep	120,524	167	7.27	66,606	247	18.24	52,332	210	6.54
Poultry	5,557*	128	31.26	4,917	151	26.18	3,499*	157	20.43
Dairy	9,814	326	10.36	2,528*	517	31.71	d	d	na
Other livestock	10,879	153	31.36	5,271*	101	16.45	d	d	na
Operator characteristics:									
Occupation—									
Farming	118,746	251	5.76	63,650	373	11.87	38,379	482	6.11
Hired farm manager	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na
Other occupation	132,448	104	7.11	60,890	113	9.36	42,374	170	9.08
Age—									
Less than 35 years	24,171	162	15.05	10,274	245	21.78	5,558	489	16.84
35-44 years	48,614	169	9.25	22,814	244	13.82	16,758	388	12.88
45-54 years	46,088	238	9.24	28,331	305	32.50	18,102	404	10.81
55-64 years	72,659	165	9.59	26,847	323	18.92	21,243	267	9.22
65 years or older	60,851	144	8.95	37,333	265	22.91	19,811	219	10.95
Education—									
Less than high school	101,532	115	6.14	35,347	155	17.76	20,588	194	10.76
High school	93,118	206	7.82	46,416	201	10.53	34,325	284	8.12
Some college	30,270	220	12.08	21,122	292	14.33	13,108	442	10.87
College	27,464	230	9.91	22,710	630	24.05	13,450	521	12.26

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 2—Mean acres operated, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Southern Plains			Mountain			Pacific		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Production specialty:									
Cash grain	10,542	801	11.45	13,711	1,446	10.40	5,614	1,891	36.11
Tobacco	0	0	na	0	0	na	0	0	na
Cotton	9,608	1,012	11.38	935	868	16.32	d	d	na
Other field crops	13,748	250	24.22	22,488	852	60.49	13,178	336	21.86
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	d	d	na	3,320	203	30.70	44,739	99	26.06
Nursery or greenhouse	d	d	na	d	d	na	5,596	36	36.01
Beef, hogs, or sheep	170,516	558	9.92	54,855	5,196	10.28	47,653	1,997	20.50
Poultry	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na
Dairy	2,777	509	17.65	2,855	568	52.72	4,298	286	13.48
Other livestock	13,250*	405	58.85	5,279*	541	47.46	19,637*	199	61.46
Operator characteristics:									
Occupation—									
Farming	108,413	875	8.58	60,959	4,527	9.74	61,398	1,717	17.72
Hired farm manager	d	d	na	961	29,527	26.94	3,399	936	31.28
Other occupation	119,387	189	13.01	43,037	788	30.61	77,863	151	34.15
Age—									
Less than 35 years	18,131	484	34.07	12,520	2,878	33.07	16,300*	302	36.93
35-44 years	39,494	626	24.36	22,480	2,928	22.84	33,515	730	29.31
45-54 years	44,449	737	15.54	27,968	3,363	19.17	33,010	922	29.33
55-64 years	59,783	536	13.41	20,762	3,514	12.36	32,874	709	24.27
65 years or older	66,903	388	11.23	21,309	3,259	16.36	26,960	1,382	38.56
Education—									
Less than high school	52,741	320	16.18	18,659*	2,843	22.49	15,596	704	42.96
High school	77,558	465	11.49	41,443	2,168	12.02	40,711	1,201	30.69
Some college	48,909	578	15.72	25,284	2,637	14.72	49,097	683	28.10
College	49,551	868	18.07	19,571	6,578	16.93	37,256	724	29.77

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 3—Mean sales, by organization, tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and region, 1990

Item	Northeast			Lake States			Corn Belt			Northern Plains		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All farms	119,990	64,900	9.20	195,870	73,375	5.49	350,803	60,713	4.41	149,551	105,757	8.43
Organization:												
Corporate	2,662*	462,002	38.82	5,837	264,496	26.46	8,051	249,954	20.23	4,465	787,392	33.92
Partnership	11,000	128,091	17.80	14,026	175,227	13.72	18,882	141,080	15.20	6,165	262,729	18.97
Individual	106,305	44,840	7.70	175,976	58,814	5.64	323,858	51,324	4.78	138,906	76,489	5.14
Tenancy:												
Full tenant	8,053	139,540	36.80	13,990	88,792	29.17	38,266	77,312	8.80	23,310	81,996	17.86
Part tenant	44,318	109,540	11.04	82,048	112,119	5.90	133,483	103,680	5.48	76,621	139,938	9.58
Full owner	67,619	26,753	14.27	99,831	39,372	9.30	179,054	25,135	8.38	49,619	64,137	23.64
Acreage class:												
2,000 or more acres	d	d	na	d	d	na	2,503	452,443	17.22	20,884	278,129	17.53
1,000-1,999 acres	2,051*	391,336	23.97	8,814	207,303	14.99	15,955	232,191	8.02	25,214	170,525	18.42
500-999 acres	5,236	309,996	28.34	24,167	165,115	11.67	48,263	146,711	4.83	34,209	82,844	6.49
180-499 acres	35,140	78,887	8.86	61,427	86,163	6.00	98,989	60,623	5.88	36,741	54,601	13.68
100-179 acres	21,784	29,316	15.84	42,993	31,922	12.06	56,801	29,616	25.70	12,281	29,053	28.86
50-99 acres	20,568	39,214	24.67	23,948	19,237	24.79	48,658	11,281	9.39	6,881*	12,791	28.89
1-49 acres	35,022	18,275	28.89	33,575	22,840	22.62	79,634	14,420	19.18	13,341	31,710	30.64
Sales class:												
\$500,000 or more	2,686	1,011,737	18.85	4,424	632,987	16.83	5,559	687,491	7.65	3,884	1,404,352	21.24
\$250,000-\$499,999	4,740	320,836	2.99	9,196	299,045	3.48	17,816	278,036	2.18	10,283	292,774	2.85
\$100,000-\$249,999	14,803	141,438	3.09	37,694	139,727	2.42	56,183	130,062	2.32	31,569	133,132	1.94
\$40,000-\$99,999	17,120	57,529	5.35	39,488	65,478	2.47	56,825	56,090	2.91	42,178	56,698	3.41
\$20,000-\$39,999	8,426	24,429	9.70	24,202	24,264	4.44	39,706	24,679	3.98	19,721	24,271	3.27
\$10,000-\$19,999	10,954	11,747	5.69	20,918	11,288	5.98	45,975	13,541	2.53	14,434	12,323	5.34
\$9,999 or less	61,261	2,222	8.38	59,948	2,432	10.91	128,739	3,311	5.58	27,483	3,655	9.43
Net farm income solvency class:												
Favorable	59,637	84,569	10.36	107,248	80,956	6.25	212,600	66,875	5.73	86,895	111,776	10.83
Marginal income	45,216	26,498	16.41	56,086	36,976	15.32	96,193	31,296	9.47	30,488	52,898	16.09
Marginal solvency	7,344	191,244	30.64	18,901	148,207	14.19	22,175	136,291	8.22	19,283	178,966	21.56
Vulnerable	7,793	18,131	31.26	13,635	59,739	21.27	19,834	52,842	16.63	12,886	80,678	17.67

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 3—Mean sales, by organization, tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Appalachian			Southeast			Delta		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent
All farms	252,383	27,611	6.95	125,600	57,107	10.87	81,471	53,027	8.35
Organization:									
Corporate	1,932*	422,952	42.96	3,398	702,991	22.52	2,688*	273,785	31.93
Partnership	12,522	81,747	16.16	6,181	145,386	21.57	3,216	295,195	18.09
Individual	237,831	21,554	6.70	116,020	33,485	12.17	75,568	34,871	9.21
Tenancy:									
Full tenant	15,466	30,566	19.18	5,540	134,709	30.02	7,841	166,561	15.66
Part tenant	92,198	51,360	8.64	37,013	94,720	15.46	29,007	72,523	11.36
Full owner	144,718	12,165	11.95	83,047	35,167	15.95	44,623	20,404	18.15
Acreage class:									
2,000 or more acres	1,034	402,827	14.66	3,249*	589,612	30.65	1,799	762,830	12.14
1,000-1,999 acres	5,524	188,582	14.82	3,630	283,446	24.39	3,953	301,103	11.52
500-999 acres	12,069	114,078	11.69	6,662	128,879	20.92	7,685	99,961	11.04
180-499 acres	46,066	42,207	9.78	19,591	65,245	15.84	18,872	29,237	9.94
100-179 acres	52,156	24,189	24.48	19,345	11,206	20.50	16,827	12,148	12.86
50-99 acres	49,002	9,726	17.67	27,346	19,194	39.52	13,617	8,951	45.21
1-49 acres	86,531	5,211	12.63	45,775	29,478	22.88	18,718	5,943	37.15
Sales class:									
\$500,000 or more	2,031	797,983	15.34	3,054	1,207,489	16.34	3,149	588,233	22.00
\$250,000-\$499,999	4,087	298,425	3.52	5,099*	304,064	2.95	3,913	216,768	18.39
\$100,000-\$249,999	10,978	138,793	5.43	5,746	149,235	4.38	5,356	138,102	4.10
\$40,000-\$99,999	21,187	53,153	6.06	10,439	47,842	10.56	7,473	56,042	7.18
\$20,000-\$39,999	23,937	24,343	5.13	9,458	20,785	7.89	8,551	24,824	5.07
\$10,000-\$19,999	36,036	12,384	3.26	14,455	11,703	4.95	9,699	11,599	5.72
\$9,999 or less	154,127	2,917	5.06	77,349	2,734	7.10	43,329	3,145	6.48
Net farm income solvency class:									
Favorable	164,888	29,564	7.13	66,171	64,015	15.65	44,161	57,680	11.45
Marginal income	66,318	14,504	16.72	45,367	33,236	16.94	24,843	22,367	11.94
Marginal solvency	9,156	95,979	30.47	4,874	195,179	23.54	6,454	127,547	23.32
Vulnerable	12,021	21,063	43.77	9,188	51,982	30.76	6,013	65,545	26.59

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 3—Mean sales, by organization, tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Southern Plains			Mountain			Pacific		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Farms</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All farms	228,760	36,185	9.31	105,039	87,278	8.73	142,660	108,901	13.56
Organization:									
Corporate	2,736*	293,064	33.03	5,519	424,486	15.27	7,550	723,126	23.34
Partnership	10,548	91,243	26.25	12,168*	142,172	34.06	16,205*	185,911	37.56
Individual	215,448	30,232	10.58	87,333	58,291	10.76	118,905	59,405	16.01
Tenancy:									
Full tenant	17,490	70,120	17.88	9,085	152,908	16.38	13,062	261,210	25.07
Part tenant	81,221	66,234	11.88	36,408	107,861	13.08	33,406	178,948	23.20
Full owner	130,049	12,854	15.13	59,546	64,679	15.33	96,192	63,893	20.42
Acreage class:									
2,000 or more acres	11,025	262,948	14.90	20,792	174,679	5.40	6,353	469,806	22.99
1,000-1,999 acres	13,199	129,513	12.88	13,655*	84,797	28.61	4,431	362,165	28.56
500-999 acres	20,953	68,739	11.81	6,968	211,051	21.17	5,573	311,833	20.97
180-499 acres	50,956	31,643	17.80	13,060	79,994	16.05	11,611	324,739	25.41
100-179 acres	29,251	8,197	11.83	5,555	120,959	53.39	7,224	228,404	38.22
50-99 acres	31,358	5,032	15.23	8,725	22,172	26.80	16,743	83,727	30.85
1-49 acres	72,017	3,042	26.77	36,284	27,476	34.53	90,726	26,301	21.92
Sales class:									
\$500,000 or more	3,185	848,077	11.77	3,403	1,204,823	11.09	7,546	1,440,601	12.29
\$250,000-\$499,999	5,748	306,969	3.20	5,875	310,107	4.77	6,311	296,897	4.32
\$100,000-\$249,999	10,577	136,963	3.85	13,196	147,539	3.12	11,742	133,471	5.76
\$40,000-\$99,999	20,210	55,389	5.07	13,948	55,969	2.41	12,168	54,473	5.01
\$20,000-\$39,999	18,671	25,047	5.94	9,352	25,967	5.08	11,144	22,290	8.68
\$10,000-\$19,999	32,146	12,353	2.83	10,837	12,860	6.56	12,661*	10,802	16.25
\$9,999 or less	138,222	2,743	6.64	48,428	2,805	12.31	81,088	2,173	6.93
Net farm income solvency class:									
Favorable	107,072	46,487	12.66	51,983	111,392	13.45	66,477	150,761	16.58
Marginal income	94,781	12,783	12.36	34,035	42,301	13.45	57,740	33,023	16.53
Marginal solvency	9,141	171,924	24.70	9,082	135,228	19.07	4,489	561,378	28.49
Vulnerable	17,766	29,107	19.31	9,939	71,355	27.77	13,953	77,869	42.67

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 4—Mean sales, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and region, 1990

Item	Northeast			Lake States			Corn Belt			Northern Plains		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent
Production specialty:												
Cash grain	12,980	34,048	18.57	50,294	59,276	9.53	134,228	70,028	5.05	67,549	74,043	5.53
Tobacco	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	0	0	na
Cotton	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	0	0	na
Other field crops	13,579	21,727	33.78	15,155	33,317	22.98	15,337	11,610	29.57	d	d	na
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	10,666	52,233	25.02	9,548	69,600	51.57	5,074*	38,655	41.73	d	d	na
Nursery or greenhouse	6,053	169,629	39.24	2,003*	227,928	35.72	5,321*	204,900	51.92	d	d	na
Beef, hogs, or sheep	35,508	11,940	29.51	40,250	58,831	16.43	150,726	51,110	6.89	65,560	144,433	13.59
Poultry	d	d	na	d	d	na	2,066	24,255	64.68	d	d	na
Dairy	28,350	152,238	6.35	59,536	113,962	5.95	21,360	108,617	9.47	5,578	118,097	12.94
Other livestock	8,427	12,829	48.30	14,739	25,102	32.44	8,756*	28,399	38.68	3,754*	65,395	38.17
Operator characteristics:												
Occupation—												
Farming	68,247	94,235	6.18	130,876	102,356	5.29	205,905	91,782	4.30	118,080	119,197	7.84
Hired farm manager	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na
Other occupation	50,908	8,037	20.03	64,373	12,931	15.11	143,311	13,944	8.29	30,893	16,127	10.50
Age—												
Less than 35 years old	15,795	59,224	16.36	32,019	86,496	13.65	47,918	69,823	9.09	22,791	82,851	11.59
35-44 years old	25,503	88,492	21.93	45,268	79,638	8.41	75,699	83,847	10.07	33,218	141,263	17.49
45-54 years old	28,257	72,865	19.97	50,234	78,520	13.24	78,647	68,263	8.81	25,692	123,758	10.43
55-64 years old	27,578	57,400	14.42	40,231	76,324	10.49	76,934	52,507	8.15	32,539	123,424	22.76
65 years old or older	22,857	41,700	17.75	28,118	34,941	19.37	71,606	30,686	11.08	35,311	57,761	18.29
Education—												
Less than high school	31,683	55,995	13.06	43,392	51,947	10.73	72,439	25,780	10.79	28,769	70,268	13.03
High school	52,391	57,256	9.48	92,885	82,682	7.80	170,126	64,474	5.93	59,672	89,890	7.50
Some college	13,025	79,090	18.05	36,543	83,074	13.78	60,396	74,738	11.78	33,548	139,193	17.30
College	22,890	86,647	29.76	23,050	60,834	16.16	47,842	82,528	9.98	27,561	136,455	26.22

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 4—Mean sales, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Appalachian			Southeast			Delta		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent
Production specialty:									
Cash grain	17,583	53,813	15.13	11,591	24,757	25.50	13,420	99,844	10.54
Tobacco	63,492	25,982	9.90	3,654	113,918	17.02	0	0	na
Cotton	d	d	na	3,315*	183,849	44.87	4,311	317,085	15.34
Other field crops	14,677	16,256	31.04	7,451	46,993	20.43	d	d	na
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	4,781	50,487	38.77	11,189	127,011	29.30	d	d	na
Nursery or greenhouse	4,026*	87,682	70.59	9,077*	119,505	37.24	d	d	na
Beef, hogs, or sheep	120,524	14,561	12.90	66,606	17,128	14.35	52,332	16,129	17.37
Poultry	5,557*	39,854	72.98	4,917	80,505	21.42	3,499*	17,956	30.23
Dairy	9,814	124,496	10.27	2,528*	547,437	37.11	d	d	na
Other livestock	10,879	22,410	38.06	5,271*	15,762	42.92	d	d	na
Operator characteristics:									
Occupation—									
Farming	118,746	50,624	7.97	63,650	89,817	11.55	38,379	94,698	9.19
Hired farm manager	d	d	na	d	d	na	718	423,288	51.94
Other occupation	132,448	6,808	9.34	60,890	11,635	23.02	42,374	9,008	10.91
Age—									
Less than 35 years old	24,171	33,943	19.24	10,274	52,020	21.00	5,558	71,006	18.70
35-44 years old	48,614	33,181	12.87	22,814	59,066	18.38	16,758	83,572	17.84
45-54 years old	46,088	34,725	12.30	28,331	93,792	19.62	18,102	75,404	16.67
55-64 years old	72,659	23,928	10.88	26,847	56,305	20.42	21,243	33,391	14.34
65 years old or older	60,851	19,655	24.86	37,333	30,048	35.84	19,811	22,757	24.79
Education—									
Less than high school	101,532	15,184	11.66	35,347	22,372	18.04	20,588	22,109	22.52
High school	93,118	29,678	10.87	46,416	35,562	14.94	34,325	41,787	13.52
Some college	30,270	39,300	13.99	21,122	89,234	23.62	13,108	75,182	12.68
College	27,464	53,663	19.89	22,710	119,038	20.56	13,450	107,450	18.78

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 4—Mean sales, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and region, 1990—Continued

Item	Southern Plains			Mountain			Pacific		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent
Production specialty:									
Cash grain	10,542	73,387	15.13	13,711	87,921	11.07	5,614	131,043	14.55
Tobacco	0	0	na	0	0	na	0	0	na
Cotton	9,608	117,176	11.40	935	465,102	15.39	d	d	na
Other field crops	13,748	29,991	32.70	22,488	59,700	18.28	13,178	104,036	24.45
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	d	d	na	3,320	84,321	30.92	44,739	115,135	28.05
Nursery or greenhouse	d	d	na	d	d	na	5,596	323,082	39.55
Beef, hogs, or sheep	170,516	26,642	13.26	54,855	63,689	11.15	47,653	45,537	38.79
Poultry	d	d	na	d	d	na	d	d	na
Dairy	2,777	369,995	20.54	2,855	498,593	29.82	4,298	815,691	12.43
Other livestock	13,250*	10,740	44.13	5,279*	46,776	73.32	19,637*	7,649	29.67
Operator characteristics:									
Occupation—									
Farming	108,413	63,629	9.93	60,959	119,747	9.40	61,398	196,998	12.38
Hired farm manager	959	360,153	39.01	961	1,075,160	36.09	3,399	743,223	30.19
Other occupation	119,387	8,661	12.33	43,037	19,384	27.75	77,863	11,742	25.06
Age—									
Less than 35 years old	18,131	46,517	28.21	12,520	82,985	26.14	16,300*	119,831	32.04
35-44 years old	39,494	55,988	26.37	22,480	114,131	18.22	33,515	128,890	23.54
45-54 years old	44,449	43,107	15.15	27,968	76,538	20.75	33,010	88,062	19.99
55-64 years old	59,783	34,297	11.89	20,762	110,417	13.71	32,874	94,837	24.79
65 years old or older	66,903	18,784	12.77	21,309	53,023	15.78	26,960	120,107	31.10
Education—									
Less than high school	52,741	21,634	17.36	18,659*	37,881	24.97	15,596	87,774	36.84
High school	77,558	28,958	10.63	41,443	71,029	12.06	40,711	116,656	16.05
Some college	48,909	46,609	16.68	25,284	76,862	13.65	49,097	80,103	30.20
College	49,551	52,696	21.60	19,571	182,600	15.00	37,256	147,222	26.03

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 5—Mean acres operated, by tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and farm organization, 1990

Item	Corporate			Partnership			Individual		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
All farms	44,839	3,515	12.10	110,912	1,539	10.80	1,596,150	440	3.61
Tenancy:									
Full tenant	6,213	1,813	18.44	12,206	1,452	23.20	133,659	595	8.29
Part tenant	18,706	4,420	13.86	57,420	1,655	15.31	569,509	714	3.85
Full owner	19,920	3,195	24.50	41,286	1,403	19.57	892,982	242	8.26
Acreage class:									
2,000 or more acres	8,029	17,130	12.23	11,112	11,456	10.87	49,577	6,701	6.26
1,000-1,999 acres	7,370	1,502	4.18	15,576*	1,406	1.49	73,482	1,354	1.08
500-999 acres	7,405	717	3.12	15,858	691	2.09	148,524	690	0.72
180-499 acres	8,871	334	5.59	22,717	328	3.25	360,793	298	0.88
100-179 acres	2,612*	148	3.41	14,284	138	2.47	247,293	134	0.66
50-99 acres	2,490*	71	5.57	10,085	71	6.16	234,272	73	0.83
1-49 acres	8,061	17	10.76	21,281*	19	16.77	482,209	21	2.78
Sales class:									
\$500,000 or more	11,082	8,131	18.64	9,409	5,038	18.56	18,334	2,057	10.10
\$250,000-\$499,999	7,189	3,503	17.84	14,450	2,560	23.21	51,424	1,830	13.86
\$100,000-\$249,999	8,540	3,381	16.31	19,720	1,917	14.46	169,570	1,107	4.76
\$40,000-\$99,999	6,039	1,424	23.03	11,874	1,676	23.81	223,121	792	6.52
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,625*	670	30.64	10,149	1,240	42.35	159,382	406	6.14
\$10,000-\$19,999	d	d	na	12,363*	161	29.69	191,969	292	11.11
\$9,999 or less	d	d	na	32,947	425	41.14	782,350	109	12.71
Net farm income solvency class:									
Favorable	25,119	4,039	16.45	67,019	1,606	11.44	874,902	445	3.88
Marginal income	13,659	2,779	22.31	29,330	1,386	26.09	507,988	376	8.96
Marginal solvency	3,574	1,917	34.14	6,952	2,390	27.88	100,344	651	6.74
Vulnerable	2,486	4,557	41.06	7,610*	761	47.87	112,916	498	16.94

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 6—Mean acres operated, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and farm organization, 1990

Item	Corporate			Partnership			Individual		
	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean acres	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Production specialty:									
Cash grain	9,018	1,435	8.27	18,068	1,250	11.81	310,413	509	3.87
Tobacco	d	d	na	d	d	na	72,350	132	8.50
Cotton	d	d	na	2,058	1,857	11.24	18,686	760	12.08
Other field crops	2,560	1,187	21.33	4,932	553	23.25	115,603	333	30.39
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	5,600	801	33.64	8,686	248	25.65	78,476	77	13.93
Nursery or greenhouse	3,200	95	38.92	d	d	na	30,027	86	58.06
Beef, hogs, or sheep	15,268	8,242	17.46	45,753	2,771	15.50	743,359	553	4.68
Poultry	d	d	na	d	d	na	27,720	383	76.38
Dairy	3,850	760	11.06	16,135	559	7.77	118,749	299	5.04
Other livestock	d	d	na	d	d	na	80,768	191	18.06
Operator characteristics:									
Occupation—									
Farming	30,754	3,868	14.59	72,877	2,004	10.98	870,994	670	3.77
Hired farm manager	5,465	6,168	25.10	d	d	na	4,774	845	27.32
Other occupation	8,620	570	25.56	36,627	438	27.88	720,205	159	9.07
Age—									
Less than 35 years old	6,684	1,545	41.88	20,973	1,506	32.49	177,780	356	7.33
35-44 years old	9,560	3,155	19.44	27,977	1,408	21.34	325,814	468	9.65
45-54 years old	11,882	3,355	23.04	27,313	1,515	20.58	341,532	520	7.55
55-64 years old	9,918	4,003	18.18	18,073	1,547	17.25	383,406	433	5.24
65 years old or older	6,795	5,524	35.49	16,575	1,832	20.38	367,619	387	8.26
Education—									
Less than high school	4,123	3,307	31.64	18,898*	1,225	20.10	397,726	304	9.28
High school	16,728	3,310	26.97	41,028	973	11.14	650,841	417	4.16
Some college	9,404	2,308	17.60	26,821	1,680	28.22	295,032	522	6.56
College	14,584	4,586	16.50	24,166	2,588	21.19	252,464	616	11.25

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller relative standard error indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 7—Mean sales, by tenancy, acreage, sales, solvency, and farm organization, 1990

Item	Corporate			Partnership			Individual		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent
All farms	44,839	464,963	10.31	110,912	150,811	8.51	1,596,150	45,533	2.70
Tenancy:									
Full tenant	6,213	668,540	16.75	12,206	225,851	18.52	133,659	66,424	7.29
Part tenant	18,706	490,667	15.00	57,420	169,819	13.70	569,509	78,806	3.17
Full owner	19,920	377,333	18.76	41,286	102,190	13.26	892,982	21,185	5.04
Acreage class:									
2,000 or more acres	8,029	929,816	15.71	11,112	377,691	8.41	49,577	186,595	7.27
1,000-1,999 acres	7,370	412,906	27.92	15,576*	255,142	28.69	73,482	154,463	5.75
500-999 acres	7,405	520,594	16.88	15,858	226,004	8.81	148,524	105,989	3.34
180-499 acres	8,871	263,413	35.79	22,717	123,688	12.83	360,793	58,477	4.10
100-179 acres	2,612*	434,984	52.34	14,284	40,581	23.38	247,293	26,602	11.35
50-99 acres	2,490*	351,010	45.47	10,085	40,619	40.13	234,272	14,927	9.99
1-49 acres	8,061	265,149	24.23	21,281*	55,115	33.54	482,209	10,701	10.70
Sales class:									
\$500,000 or more	11,082	1,528,040	10.86	9,409	856,016	6.10	18,334	773,486	7.70
\$250,000-\$499,999	7,189	309,560	3.05	14,450	301,961	2.07	51,424	286,296	1.95
\$100,000-\$249,999	8,540	139,109	4.67	19,720	153,342	3.42	169,570	134,106	1.13
\$40,000-\$99,999	6,039	61,693	6.40	11,874	62,963	3.38	223,121	56,634	1.49
\$20,000-\$39,999	3,625*	20,136	17.42	10,149	26,358	8.50	159,382	24,226	1.81
\$10,000-\$19,999	d	d	na	12,363*	12,136	14.36	191,969	12,340	1.49
\$9,999 or less	d	d	na	32,947	3,655	13.42	782,350	2,770	2.38
Net farm income solvency class:									
Favorable	25,119	525,467	12.91	67,019	175,529	9.75	874,902	51,190	3.44
Marginal income	13,659	168,466	16.29	29,330	66,304	16.48	507,988	22,062	5.38
Marginal solvency	3,574	1,191,028	25.91	6,952	311,226	12.36	100,344	121,616	6.14
Vulnerable	2,486	438,777	24.28	7,610*	112,277	42.64	112,916	39,677	10.90

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 8—Mean sales, by production specialty, selected operator characteristics, and farm organization, 1990

Item	Corporate			Partnership			Individual		
	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹	Expanded count	Mean sales	RSE of mean ¹
	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent	Farms	Dollars	Percent
Production specialty:									
Cash grain	9,018	185,424	9.24	18,068	176,796	12.35	310,413	58,773	3.35
Tobacco	d	d	na	d	d	na	72,350	26,594	9.61
Cotton	d	d	na	2,058	578,189	14.42	18,686	120,920	15.30
Other field crops	2,560	304,213	26.34	4,932	130,789	24.87	115,603	31,647	11.26
Vegetable, fruit, or nuts	5,600	619,441	22.98	8,686	169,625	26.04	78,476	48,853	22.03
Nursery or greenhouse	3,200	891,157	24.29	d	d	na	30,027	82,161	24.27
Beef, hogs, or sheep	15,268	475,364	22.78	45,753	83,078	16.37	743,359	30,634	4.48
Poultry	d	d	na	d	d	na	27,720	35,422	20.63
Dairy	3,850	679,555	17.62	16,135	322,534	8.90	118,749	126,994	4.96
Other livestock	d	d	na	d	d	na	80,768	18,021	19.43
Operator characteristics:									
Occupation—									
Farming	30,754	472,784	11.55	72,877	205,264	8.71	870,994	74,546	2.60
Hired farm manager	5,465	1,028,564	22.33	d	d	na	4,774	228,045	44.13
Other occupation	8,620	79,777	29.82	36,627	31,285	22.70	720,205	9,245	4.93
Age—									
Less than 35 years old	6,684	232,650	29.55	20,973	113,709	18.61	177,780	59,531	6.31
35-44 years old	9,560	584,901	20.02	27,977	194,942	10.76	325,814	59,188	6.18
45-54 years old	11,882	411,748	16.32	27,313	120,758	22.42	341,532	54,440	4.55
55-64 years old	9,918	463,391	24.90	18,073	178,765	13.31	383,406	42,315	5.07
65 years old or older	6,795	620,100	22.83	16,575	142,309	17.82	367,619	21,741	7.63
Education—									
Less than high school	4,123	293,974	22.89	18,898*	94,387	28.42	397,726	27,471	6.08
High school	16,728	330,361	15.59	41,028	166,027	9.23	650,841	46,714	3.26
Some college	9,404	560,938	24.37	26,821	136,525	23.43	295,032	55,944	6.07
College	14,584	605,803	16.30	24,166	184,955	12.91	252,464	58,222	8.08

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller relative standard error indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 9—Selected characteristics of farms, by region, 1990

Item	All regions				Northeast				Lake States			
	Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm		
		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	1,030,490	1,751,795	588	3.19	21,982	119,990	183	5.71	58,200	195,609	298	5.43
Acres owned	471,896	1,620,324	291	3.19	15,950	112,972	141	6.58	38,333	182,476	210	6.89
Acres rented in	342,011	797,474	429	2.77	6,563	52,371	125	9.48	21,693	95,909	226	6.94
Acres rented out	37,093	179,222	207	10.28	487	8,931	54	26.25	1,729	22,311	77	17.38
Cropland removed from production	56,080	480,937	117	3.73	612	15,198	40	24.55	3,504	89,391	39	10.92
Govt. programs	19,416	369,783	53	5.44	362	10,417	35	23.35	1,713	69,642	25	7.54
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	121,410,826	1,648,892	73,632	2.36	8,271,646	110,353	74,956	8.09	15,885,522	185,705	85,542	4.99
Livestock sales	58,528,658	1,127,918	51,891	3.44	4,913,306	71,579	68,642	6.62	9,300,054	124,004	74,998	5.94
Crop sales	49,498,924	846,342	58,486	3.64	2,789,661	57,155	48,809	20.65	4,828,289	102,196	47,245	8.75
Govt. payments	5,532,896	559,789	9,884	2.55	118,180	18,606	6,352	19.13	701,497	101,723	6,896	7.75
Other farm-related income	7,850,349	758,512	10,350	6.02	450,498	51,569	8,736	14.75	1,055,682	128,158	8,237	19.86
Cash expenses	100,370,806	1,750,127	57,351	2.32	7,087,076	119,990	59,064	7.49	12,436,014	195,870	63,491	5.45
Net cash farm income	21,040,021	1,751,617	12,012	5.05	1,184,570	119,990	9,872	22.24	3,449,508	195,870	17,611	9.24
Net farm income	23,579,840	1,752,125	13,458	5.47	1,378,250	119,990	11,486	33.57	3,080,057	195,870	15,725	10.06
Farm assets	719,422,739	1,750,281	411,033	4.42	63,859,851	119,558	534,133	11.48	69,309,981	195,740	354,093	4.87
Liabilities	94,708,220	1,702,300	55,635	2.36	6,744,766	117,445	57,429	8.42	14,050,343	192,577	72,960	5.94
Equity	624,714,519	1,751,890	356,595	5.00	57,115,085	119,990	476,000	12.69	55,259,638	195,740	282,312	5.22
Capital investments	13,714,758	1,058,074	12,962	3.14	1,158,333	76,683	15,105	10.38	1,908,905	138,575	13,775	5.78
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	74,819	1,729,721	43	1.67	6,871	118,603	58	6.48	11,685	193,123	61	4.68
Operator	54,661	1,708,785	32	1.53	4,564	116,207	39	5.62	8,192	192,508	43	4.51
Unpaid	20,158	814,899	25	2.82	2,308	74,957	31	9.92	3,493	112,182	31	6.96

See footnote at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 9—Selected characteristics of farms, by region, 1990—Continued

Item	Corn Belt				Northern Plains				Appalachian			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	
			Number	Acres			Number	Acres			Number	Acres
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	102,923	350,803	293	3.54	158,758	149,551	1,062	5.32	43,813	252,383	174	4.95
Acres owned	54,130	315,982	171	5.04	88,510	128,162	691	8.38	28,623	240,578	119	5.52
Acres rented in	53,105	171,748	309	4.40	77,222	99,932	773	4.28	16,340	107,665	152	6.98
Acres rented out	4,283	42,962	100	13.97	8,726	31,218	280	12.60	850	22,217	38	20.01
Cropland removed from production	6,346	149,694	42	7.39	19,073	99,062	193	5.20	1,555	31,531	49	12.58
Govt. programs	3,247	123,552	26	6.84	4,671	79,808	59	4.73	915	22,983	40	14.28
	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars		
Gross cash income	22,972,331	339,175	67,730	3.96	17,196,494	148,859	115,522	7.65	7,602,733	237,621	31,995	6.13
Livestock sales	9,876,456	225,911	43,718	5.18	9,663,821	97,852	98,770	12.78	3,375,422	156,348	21,589	9.26
Crop sales	10,805,865	216,587	49,892	5.99	5,080,099	106,979	47,487	5.49	3,435,314	127,713	26,899	8.80
Govt. payments	1,162,298	166,750	6,970	5.33	1,461,451	109,391	13,360	3.98	165,452	40,799	4,055	9.52
Other farm-related income	1,127,711	173,007	6,518	14.53	991,123	106,479	9,308	12.58	626,545	94,844	6,606	16.86
Cash expenses	17,995,803	350,211	51,386	3.88	13,615,655	149,447	91,107	7.67	6,503,008	252,383	25,766	6.29
Net cash farm income	4,976,528	350,803	14,186	7.66	3,580,838	149,551	23,944	11.68	1,099,724	252,030	4,363	17.94
Net farm income	5,326,010	350,803	15,182	9.52	3,620,627	149,551	24,210	12.28	2,021,288	252,383	8,009	14.00
Farm assets	116,559,693	350,790	332,278	3.39	64,387,228	149,507	430,663	3.92	71,015,952	251,992	281,818	7.99
Liabilities	18,683,050	341,823	54,657	4.89	12,975,493	146,382	88,641	5.14	6,158,069	245,527	25,081	7.54
Equity	97,876,643	350,803	279,008	3.53	51,411,736	149,507	343,874	4.39	64,857,883	252,383	256,982	8.61
Capital investments	3,020,316	231,662	13,040	7.46	1,515,456	106,148	14,277	6.02	1,326,033	145,136	9,136	10.55
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours		
Labor hours worked	15,840	347,198	46	3.79	8,463	147,209	57	3.78	8,454	249,220	34	4.81
Operator	11,833	345,798	34	3.50	6,170	146,008	42	3.43	6,281	245,780	26	4.40
Unpaid	4,007	171,468	23	6.29	2,293	71,987	32	7.52	2,173	110,066	20	8.06

See footnote at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 9—Selected characteristics of farms, by region, 1990—Continued

Item	Southeast				Delta				Southern Plains			
	Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm		
		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres owned	35,307	125,600	281	11.19	26,556	81,471	326	4.80	124,272	228,760	543	6.35
Acres rented in	25,896	121,138	214	14.05	14,165	76,501	185	6.86	69,631	215,218	324	8.24
Acres rented out	10,717	42,553	252	14.47	13,383	36,848	363	6.30	57,319	98,711	581	8.45
Cropland removed from production	1,210	9,048	134	32.72	1,069	5,240	204	22.00	3,460	17,697	196	14.59
Govt. programs	2,080	18,760	111	17.56	1,641	15,654	105	10.74	5,799	27,560	210	10.15
	1,254	13,014	96	22.16	929	10,509	88	8.80	3,091	19,740	157	10.05
Gross cash income	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars		
Livestock sales	7,672,680	110,728	69,293	9.99	4,992,582	75,677	65,972	7.05	9,068,130	212,263	42,721	7.31
Crop sales	2,973,123	74,669	39,818	13.31	1,295,191	54,709	23,674	12.74	5,493,364	182,163	30,156	10.33
Govt. payments	4,001,175	43,250	92,512	15.28	2,885,491	23,161	124,581	9.57	2,322,994	56,015	41,471	8.54
Other farm-related income	250,890	24,057	10,429	21.92	360,076	20,550	17,522	6.93	567,277	38,707	14,656	8.32
Cash expenses	447,491	28,846	15,513	16.31	451,825	23,993	18,832	17.24	684,496	65,054	10,522	13.56
Net cash farm income	6,508,931	124,856	52,132	9.17	4,019,571	80,913	49,677	6.57	8,643,859	228,760	37,786	7.40
Net farm income	1,163,749	125,535	9,270	27.89	973,011	81,471	11,943	15.53	424,271	228,669	1,855	52.06
Farm assets	1,338,615	125,600	10,658	27.59	922,185	81,471	11,319	17.23	935,972	228,760	4,092	24.97
Liabilities	56,371,564	125,600	448,819	14.25	22,357,326	81,471	274,420	5.68	78,515,658	228,698	343,316	7.36
Equity	4,828,810	121,292	39,812	9.36	3,335,617	74,909	44,529	8.80	8,238,204	222,526	37,021	7.74
Capital investments	51,542,754	125,600	410,373	15.28	19,021,709	81,471	233,478	5.93	70,277,453	228,698	307,294	8.08
Labor hours worked	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours		
Operator	3,769	122,008	31	6.66	2,831	80,896	35	5.68	7,517	227,593	33	5.14
Unpaid	3,081	121,086	25	6.74	2,168	78,634	28	5.33	5,701	221,758	26	4.76
	688	31,545	22	11.17	663	28,732	23	10.45	1,816	97,228	19	9.57

See footnote at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 9—Selected characteristics of farms, by region, 1990—Continued

Item	Mountain				Pacific			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹
			Acres	Percent			Acres	Percent
Acres operated	338,297	104,969	3,223	7.21	120,384	142,660	844	14.57
Acres owned	102,490	96,755	1,059	8.14	34,168	130,542	262	17.89
Acres rented in	60,760	45,338	1,340	8.90	24,911	46,400	537	14.80
Acres rented out	12,768	9,584	1,332	27.09	2,511	10,015	251	25.31
Cropland removed from production	11,355	22,638	502	10.76	4,116	11,451	359	23.69
Govt. programs	2,420	13,430	180	35.90	814	6,688	122	24.88
Gross cash income	9,997,846	98,241	101,768	6.58	17,750,863	130,271	136,262	9.36
Livestock sales	5,414,900	66,978	80,846	10.25	6,223,020	73,714	84,421	15.68
Crop sales	3,494,792	47,798	73,116	7.93	9,855,243	65,487	150,492	12.75
Govt. payments	456,677	26,786	17,049	7.22	289,098	12,421	23,275	15.20
Other farm-related income	631,477	43,644	14,469	10.46	1,383,502	42,918	32,236	22.53
Cash expenses	8,328,917	105,039	79,294	5.86	15,231,971	142,660	106,771	8.92
Net cash farm income	1,668,929	105,039	15,889	16.76	2,518,892	142,660	17,657	23.23
Net farm income	2,327,802	105,039	22,161	20.21	2,629,036	142,660	18,429	22.94
Farm assets	53,112,214	105,039	505,645	6.64	123,933,271	141,886	873,471	22.54
Liabilities	8,236,670	101,670	81,014	5.69	11,457,197	138,149	82,934	10.86
Equity	44,875,544	105,039	427,229	7.52	112,476,074	142,660	788,421	24.48
Capital investments	990,267	69,948	14,157	7.78	1,243,355	69,608	17,862	17.52
Labor hours worked	4,675	104,467	45	5.14	4,714	139,405	34	8.05
Operator	3,351	103,813	32	5.03	3,320	137,193	24	6.49
Unpaid	1,324	47,099	28	7.78	1,394	69,634	20	13.62

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 10—Selected characteristics of farms, by organization, 1990

Item	Individual				Partnership				Corporate			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	
			RSE of total ¹	Percent			RSE of total ¹	Percent			RSE of total ¹	Percent
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	701,950	1,595,890	440	3.41	170,682	110,912	1,539	9.59	157,588	44,769	3,520	11.20
Acres owned	332,327	1,480,963	224	3.04	60,340	99,738	605	11.05	79,038	39,425	2,005	12.06
Acres rented in	259,553	702,896	369	3.04	46,846	69,614	673	9.08	35,597	24,849	1,433	10.56
Acres rented out	27,733	165,050	168	11.97	5,040	8,694	580	31.54	4,313	5,451	791	23.91
Cropland removed from production	44,458	430,654	103	4.01	6,243	31,441	199	10.40	5,358	18,744	286	17.83
Govt. programs	14,661	329,513	44	3.80	2,458	24,919	99	9.91	2,293	15,252	150	37.95
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	79,677,971	1,498,182	53,183	2.34	18,231,718	106,838	170,648	5.25	23,014,934	43,649	527,278	8.91
Livestock sales	38,493,667	1,025,885	37,524	3.12	9,228,814	76,161	121,174	7.29	10,731,000	25,780	416,259	14.21
Crop sales	31,601,715	762,733	41,432	3.88	7,335,671	54,983	133,417	7.82	10,715,858	28,535	356,607	11.58
Govt. payments	4,290,989	501,296	8,560	2.90	766,436	38,371	19,975	6.88	471,990	20,023	23,572	10.42
Other farm-related income	5,291,600	676,725	7,819	5.14	900,797	58,127	15,497	14.97	1,616,085	23,567	69,424	22.09
Cash expenses	67,191,889	1,594,152	42,149	2.39	14,103,414	110,912	127,158	5.45	18,661,807	44,839	416,199	8.44
Net cash farm income	12,486,081	1,595,994	7,823	5.82	4,128,304	110,560	37,340	9.14	4,353,127	44,839	97,084	15.75
Net farm income	14,696,315	1,596,150	9,207	5.57	3,980,234	110,912	35,886	10.00	4,820,457	44,839	107,507	19.02
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	63,681	1,578,723	40	1.84	8,156	108,445	75	5.61	2,965	42,379	70	7.86
Operator	48,622	1,559,644	31	1.67	4,153	106,716	39	5.50	1,877	42,277	44	6.40
Unpaid	15,059	704,681	21	3.28	4,003	89,820	45	6.40	1,089	20,272	54	14.15

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 11—Selected characteristics of farms, by tenure, 1990

Item	Full tenant				Part tenant				Full owner						
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		RSE of total ¹
			Acres	Percent				Acres	Percent				Acres	Percent	
Acres operated	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent		1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent		1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	
Acres owned	108,563	151,905	715	7.24		584,585	645,722	905	3.66		337,342	954,168	354	7.50	
Acres owned	88	20,303	4	23.71		242,588	645,722	376	4.46		229,220	954,298	240	4.81	
Acres rented in	96,770	151,751	638	7.01		245,241	645,722	380	2.85		0	0	0	na	
Acres rented out	3,107	4,668*	666	44.96		11,849	46,203	256	12.28		22,137	128,350	172	14.67	
Cropland removed from production	7,318	64,393	114	9.79		34,087	248,959	137	4.63		14,675	167,585	88	8.52	
Govt. programs	3,386	58,383	58	9.36		11,832	214,545	55	3.59		4,198	96,854	43	21.94	
	1,000 dollars		Dollars			1,000 dollars		Dollars			1,000 dollars		Dollars		
Gross cash income	17,508,890	149,572	117,060	7.26		69,785,316	634,798	109,933	2.93		34,116,620	864,522	39,463	5.06	
Livestock sales	5,533,572	91,605	60,407	9.46		34,074,046	472,728	72,080	4.19		18,921,039	563,585	33,573	7.34	
Crop sales	10,081,456	99,325	101,500	10.14		28,165,896	381,438	73,841	4.47		11,251,572	365,579	30,777	7.40	
Govt. payments	821,201	74,476	11,026	7.65		3,578,746	291,930	12,259	3.10		1,132,948	193,382	5,859	6.03	
Other farm-related income	1,072,660	75,506	14,206	19.50		3,966,628	357,985	11,080	7.58		2,811,061	325,022	8,649	10.86	
Cash expenses	14,068,026	152,104	92,489	7.13		56,727,295	645,722	87,851	2.96		29,575,484	952,300	31,057	4.67	
Net cash farm income	3,440,864	152,059	22,629	13.02		13,058,021	645,722	20,222	5.43		4,541,136	953,836	4,761	14.44	
Net farm income	3,935,425	152,104	25,873	17.67		13,373,971	645,722	20,712	6.01		6,270,445	954,298	6,571	12.13	
Farm assets	25,400,084	150,273	169,026	8.63		312,373,531	645,722	483,758	2.16		381,649,124	954,285	399,932	8.14	
Liabilities	6,260,864	133,239	46,990	7.23		54,719,378	642,672	85,144	3.02		33,727,978	926,389	36,408	4.38	
Equity	19,139,220	151,869	126,025	10.70		257,654,152	645,722	399,017	2.32		347,921,146	954,298	364,583	8.79	
Capital investments	1,543,712	100,713	15,328	7.58		7,929,460	476,968	16,625	3.81		4,241,587	480,393	8,829	6.90	
	1,000 hours per week		Hours			1,000 hours per week		Hours			1,000 hours per week		Hours		
Labor hours worked	8,095	151,386	53	5.23		37,344	643,456	58	2.25		29,381	934,880	31	2.93	
Operator	6,125	150,912	41	4.94		26,750	639,603	42	2.06		21,786	918,271	24	2.73	
Unpaid	1,970	72,753	27	8.86		10,594	350,021	30	3.67		7,594	392,124	19	4.83	

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

na=Not applicable

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 12—Selected characteristics of farms, by acreage class, 1990

Item	100 or fewer acres				101-250 acres				251-500 acres																
	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹										
		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent											
Acres operated	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent									
Acres owned	29,875	770,521	39	3.38	66,473	402,392	165	3.21	87,920	246,391	357	3.27	33,223	729,183	46	8.90	54,339	370,062	147	3.81	56,613	222,891	254	3.97	
Acres rented in	5,428	186,005	29	8.32	18,174	183,737	99	5.59	34,726	160,813	216	4.76	5,428	186,005	29	8.32	18,174	183,737	99	5.59	34,726	160,813	216	4.76	
Acres rented out	8,233	73,360	112	33.79	6,135	49,299	124	13.86	3,342	22,089	151	15.89	8,233	73,360	112	33.79	6,135	49,299	124	13.86	3,342	22,089	151	15.89	
Cropland removed from production	1,245	60,881	20	12.65	4,028	112,430	36	9.27	5,941	110,911	54	9.31	303	29,199	10	17.15	1,390	79,601	17	10.80	2,494	92,256	27	11.82	
Govt. programs	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		
Gross cash income	15,834,432	682,135	23,213	6.61	16,310,542	390,840	41,732	6.74	20,777,938	244,352	85,033	5.44	Livestock sales	6,666,745	426,126	15,645	8.92	8,924,885	285,423	31,269	7.06	13,004,789	177,607	73,222	7.90
Crop sales	7,518,878	287,781	26,127	10.46	5,534,028	181,095	30,559	15.36	6,059,878	146,230	41,441	5.91	Govt. payments	125,663	64,953	1,935	13.41	481,992	138,958	3,469	8.13	783,331	128,298	6,106	6.04
Other farm-related income	1,523,146	194,318	7,838	15.28	1,369,637	190,626	7,185	14.42	929,940	144,035	6,456	11.58													
Cash expenses	15,175,783	769,764	19,715	6.03	13,693,950	401,564	34,102	6.78	16,478,627	246,307	66,903	5.30	Net cash farm income	658,649	770,342	855	79.41	2,616,591	402,392	6,503	13.15	4,299,311	246,391	17,449	9.09
Net farm income	2,839,133	770,851	3,683	21.22	3,425,939	402,392	8,514	14.49	4,186,358	246,391	16,991	10.16													
Farm assets	179,414,850	769,543	233,145	15.53	119,202,312	401,960	296,553	4.01	115,054,896	246,329	467,078	6.68	Liabilities	17,100,349	735,594	23,247	6.88	13,506,032	395,068	34,187	5.42	15,656,872	241,870	64,733	5.16
Equity	162,314,501	770,721	210,601	16.90	105,696,279	402,392	262,670	4.26	99,398,023	246,329	403,517	7.54	Capital investments	2,292,167	356,893	6,423	11.23	2,468,655	249,792	9,883	9.17	2,443,323	181,834	13,437	6.20
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours														
Labor hours worked	19,668	757,576	26	3.96	16,941	397,186	43	3.85	14,451	244,615	59	3.61	Operator	14,697	744,870	20	3.55	12,793	392,562	33	3.59	10,635	241,816	44	3.46
Unpaid	4,971	326,377	15	6.67	4,148	183,731	23	6.38	3,815	126,800	30	5.58													

See footnote at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 12—Selected characteristics of farms, by acreage class, 1990—Continued

Item	501-1000 acres				1,001-2,000 acres				More than 2,000 acres						
	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹
		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent	
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	
Acres operated	120,873	171,733	704	3.60	128,035	91,985	1,392	6.56	597,314	68,774	8,685	5.31	2,000	68,774	
Acres owned	63,549	153,457	414	4.77	63,101	83,171	759	9.89	201,072	61,560	3,266	6.43	Number	61,560	
Acres rented in	62,237	138,460	449	4.54	64,876	74,952	866	4.92	156,570	53,507	2,926	5.45	Acres	2,926	
Acres rented out	5,509	16,652	331	19.60	3,269	9,326	351	20.40	10,605	8,496	1,248	19.39	Percent	19.39	
Cropland removed from production	8,737	100,565	87	6.60	11,264	56,080	201	6.20	24,866	40,071	621	7.29	Number	40,071	
Govt. programs	4,088	87,972	46	5.38	4,269	49,129	87	6.82	6,871	31,625	217	13.73	Acres	217	
	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars	
Gross cash income	25,357,050	171,004	148,284	4.61	19,630,946	91,860	213,705	5.93	23,499,920	68,702	342,057	6.94	Number	342,057	
Livestock sales	11,099,589	120,533	92,087	5.71	7,867,799	65,514	120,093	11.48	10,964,851	52,713	208,009	10.33	Acres	208,009	
Crop sales	11,569,387	125,081	92,495	6.91	9,444,474	64,930	145,456	6.48	9,372,280	41,224	227,348	9.99	Percent	9.99	
Govt. payments	1,351,886	115,414	11,713	5.36	1,301,876	64,396	20,217	4.93	1,488,146	47,771	31,152	6.01	Number	31,152	
Other farm-related income	1,336,187	116,089	11,510	13.11	1,016,796	62,896	16,166	9.25	1,674,643	50,548	33,130	17.12	Acres	33,130	
Cash expenses	20,376,140	171,733	118,650	4.64	16,200,149	91,985	176,118	6.67	18,446,156	68,774	268,215	6.47	Percent	6.47	
Net cash farm income	4,980,910	171,733	29,004	8.14	3,430,797	91,985	37,298	8.94	5,053,763	68,774	73,484	11.88	Number	73,484	
Net farm income	4,832,023	171,733	28,137	12.04	3,488,922	91,985	37,929	12.22	4,807,465	68,774	69,903	12.79	Acres	69,903	
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours	
Labor hours worked	11,615	170,765	68	4.11	6,613	91,429	72	4.81	5,531	68,152	81	4.75	Number	68,152	
Operator	8,366	170,266	49	3.74	4,599	91,210	50	4.55	3,571	68,061	52	4.31	Acres	68,061	
Unpaid	3,249	90,535	36	6.84	2,014	47,847	42	7.58	1,960	39,610	49	8.15	Percent	8.15	

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 13—Selected characteristics of farms, by sales class, 1990

Item	\$9,999 or less				\$10,000-\$19,999				\$20,000-\$39,999			
	Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm		
		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	100,705	819,975	123	12.86	58,699	208,116	282	11.05	79,778	173,168	461	8.90
Acres owned	71,473	782,330	91	8.35	38,090	197,032	193	7.05	45,315	155,756	291	7.51
Acres rented in	19,252	217,479	89	12.36	12,517	88,096	142	10.59	24,817	88,686	280	9.52
Acres rented out	10,949	82,517	133	27.06	3,688	24,171	153	17.55	4,692	22,926	205	17.41
Cropland removed from production	3,764	81,933	46	12.02	3,329	47,337	70	14.75	5,109	60,590	84	10.47
Govt. programs	683	30,479	22	19.50	849	32,192	26	30.35	1,050	44,236	24	10.24
	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars		
Gross cash income	2,781,709	722,252	3,851	3.61	3,167,719	204,385	15,499	8.54	4,825,199	172,057	28,044	4.46
Livestock sales	1,479,238	492,988	3,001	4.31	1,459,251	145,093	10,057	6.42	2,215,302	114,584	19,333	6.14
Crop sales	617,763	243,713	2,535	5.74	927,171	107,264	8,644	9.48	1,696,922	103,525	16,391	6.04
Govt. payments	206,024	91,781	2,245	10.86	208,007	56,212	3,700	11.63	351,815	72,815	4,832	9.15
Other farm-related income	478,683	189,105	2,531	10.08	573,290	86,263	6,646	37.98	561,159	89,545	6,267	13.78
Cash expenses	6,158,086	817,976	7,528	5.15	3,450,455	208,116	16,580	9.00	4,505,722	173,168	26,019	5.86
Net cash farm income	-3,376,377	819,466	-4,120	na	-282,736	208,116	-1,359	na	319,477	173,168	1,845	53.69
Net farm income	-347,470	819,975	-424	na	203,044	208,116	976	109.6	721,379	173,168	4,166	23.53
Farm assets	179,905,071	818,836	219,708	14.96	61,392,752	208,076	295,049	8.21	59,079,230	173,168	341,167	5.62
Liabilities	12,745,717	783,786	16,262	7.09	5,035,065	203,540	24,737	10.66	6,088,848	171,322	35,540	9.51
Equity	167,159,354	819,975	203,859	15.88	56,357,687	208,116	270,800	8.67	52,990,382	173,168	306,005	5.79
Capital investments	1,962,848	374,700	5,238	9.76	871,506	117,608	7,410	18.65	1,156,045	109,343	10,573	20.22
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours		
Labor hours worked	17,609	804,730	22	3.83	7,484	206,898	36	5.89	7,907	172,342	46	5.13
Operator	13,551	789,728	17	3.49	5,525	204,224	27	5.12	6,004	170,785	35	5.06
Unpaid	4,058	324,733	12	6.75	1,959	100,877	19	10.24	1,903	80,280	24	7.89

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 13—Selected characteristics of farms, by sales class, 1990—Continued

Item	\$40,000-\$99,999				\$100,000-\$249,999			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹
			1,000 acres	Percent			1,000 acres	Percent
Acres operated	205,237	240,774	852	6.46	254,384	197,775	1,286	4.49
Acres owned	87,921	212,002	415	8.55	96,120	172,993	556	4.97
Acres rented in	75,539	158,698	476	6.94	98,081	155,933	629	4.42
Acres rented out	7,889	24,143	327	21.48	4,781	13,832	346	24.07
Cropland removed from production	11,961	111,598	107	6.28	18,069	116,078	156	7.90
Govt. programs	3,848	98,730	39	7.37	6,603	106,514	62	13.50
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	15,565,320	240,449	64,734	3.32	28,998,454	197,823	146,588	3.08
Livestock sales	7,479,624	165,521	45,188	4.88	13,803,964	140,489	98,256	4.25
Crop sales	5,589,140	158,323	35,302	4.11	12,045,528	147,896	81,446	4.41
Govt. payments	1,020,690	135,442	7,536	4.86	1,799,891	132,280	13,607	4.53
Other farm-related income	1,475,865	164,638	8,964	9.68	1,349,071	145,092	9,298	7.98
Cash expenses	12,200,314	241,034	50,617	3.49	22,198,472	197,844	112,202	3.23
Net cash farm income	3,365,006	241,034	13,961	7.19	6,799,982	197,844	34,370	5.03
Net farm income	2,887,112	241,034	11,978	10.19	6,755,111	197,844	34,144	7.94
Farm assets	109,343,000	240,367	454,900	5.71	129,280,975	197,844	653,448	4.23
Liabilities	14,789,161	235,890	62,695	4.70	22,422,342	196,146	114,315	4.14
Equity	94,553,839	240,799	392,668	6.42	106,858,633	197,844	540,115	4.77
Capital investments	2,052,584	184,673	11,115	5.92	3,232,448	172,182	18,773	4.30
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	15,704	240,103	65	4.00	15,957	196,363	81	3.59
Operator	11,583	239,363	48	3.72	11,481	196,069	59	3.31
Unpaid	4,121	132,893	31	6.26	4,476	115,389	39	5.74

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix table 13—Selected characteristics of farms, by sales class, 1990—Continued

Item	\$250,000-\$499,999				\$500,000 or more			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹
			1,000 acres	Number			1,000 acres	Percent
Acres operated	156,360	73,067	2,140	10.19	175,328	38,921	4,505	10.54
Acres owned	55,073	66,368	830	7.48	77,904	33,844	2,302	12.00
Acres rented in	60,134	59,257	1,015	7.32	51,671	29,324	1,762	8.38
Acres rented out	2,184	6,555	333	20.41	2,910	5,077	573	20.86
Cropland removed from production	8,401	43,687	192	12.13	5,448	19,716	276	10.63
Govt. programs	3,534	40,514	87	6.74	2,848	17,116	166	11.81
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	23,357,876	73,067	319,677	4.33	42,714,549	38,860	1,099,201	5.95
Livestock sales	10,352,101	47,389	218,449	5.81	21,739,176	21,853	994,784	8.41
Crop sales	10,671,027	58,143	183,531	6.12	17,951,372	27,479	653,286	8.90
Govt. payments	1,116,129	49,717	22,450	5.53	830,339	21,541	38,546	9.85
Other farm-related income	1,218,619	56,700	21,492	11.83	2,193,662	27,169	80,741	15.47
Cash expenses	17,460,238	73,067	238,962	4.32	34,397,519	38,921	883,769	5.90
Net cash farm income	5,897,639	73,067	80,715	6.47	8,317,030	38,921	213,688	9.73
Net farm income	5,295,498	73,067	72,474	7.08	8,065,167	38,921	207,217	11.73
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	6,559	71,464	92	4.92	3,600	37,822	95	6.80
Operator	4,308	70,819	61	4.43	2,209	37,796	58	5.54
Unpaid	2,250	41,221	55	7.75	1,391	19,506	71	11.51

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 14—Selected characteristics of farms, by production specialty, 1990—Continued

Item	Cash grain				Tobacco				Cotton						
	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹
		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent	
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent		1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent		1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	
Acres operated	193,718	337,251	574	3.46		10,862	75,473	144	8.81		19,706	21,508	916	11.35	
Acres owned	91,140	293,794	310	3.82		6,881	69,542	99	10.24		6,123	16,062	381	16.44	
Acres rented in	109,989	208,308	528	3.52		4,432	37,011	120	12.89		13,842	16,305	849	10.98	
Acres rented out	9,713	45,100	215	11.12		d	d	d	na		256	2,281*	112	24.91	
Cropland removed from production	31,521	238,191	132	4.94		537	12,446	43	16.08		2,830	17,741	160	12.07	
Govt. programs	9,432	188,584	50	4.69		328	9,671	34	17.81		1,955	14,958	131	10.51	
	1,000 dollars	Dollars				1,000 dollars	Dollars				1,000 dollars	Dollars			
Gross cash income	26,044,626	328,876	79,193	3.00		2,683,761	75,473	35,559	16.39		4,350,353	21,508	202,269	11.49	
Livestock sales	2,800,564	110,281	25,395	5.98		199,094	28,713	6,934	15.24		96,807	4,196	23,070	21.83	
Crop sales	18,535,214	290,460	63,813	3.23		2,370,045	72,103	32,870	18.20		3,601,275	19,088	188,664	12.02	
Govt. payments	3,046,850	254,556	11,969	3.40		45,336	12,798	3,542	18.40		408,083	18,659	21,870	14.15	
Other farm-related income	1,661,999	213,149	7,797	6.19		69,285	21,006	3,298	20.46		244,188	12,089	20,199	12.12	
Cash expenses	19,761,581	336,071	58,802	2.99		1,860,278	75,473	24,648	15.76		3,378,037	21,508	157,061	10.89	
Net cash farm income	6,283,045	337,511	18,616	5.11		823,483	75,473	10,911	19.08		972,315	21,508	45,208	18.28	
Net farm income	6,055,355	337,511	17,941	5.61		1,270,691	75,473	16,836	31.94		911,854	21,508	42,396	19.30	
	1,000 hours per week	Hours				1,000 hours per week	Hours				1,000 hours per week	Hours			
Labor hours worked	14,491	330,876	44	2.96		2,898	74,895	39	9.47		1,071	20,863	51	9.14	
Operator	11,262	328,757	34	2.72		2,166	74,863	29	9.13		894	20,177	44	10.19	
Unpaid	3,229	142,709	23	5.58		732	34,709	21	13.93		177	6,804	26	11.64	

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 14—Selected characteristics of farms, by production specialty, 1990—Continued

Item	Other field crops				Vegetable, fruit, or nuts				Nursery or greenhouse			
	Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm			Total	Average per reporting farm		
		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹		Farms reporting	Acres	RSE of total ¹
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	44,264	123,095	360	26.15	12,653	92,762	136	13.10	3,243	36,793	88	48.06
Acres owned	24,916	118,675	210	14.09	9,641	88,834	109	17.86	3,076	33,992	90	50.60
Acres rented in	11,712	37,417	313	9.38	4,212	21,147	199	17.83	287	9,112*	32	23.00
Acres rented out	5,408	16,786	322	51.46	1,181	10,658	111	31.86	111	2,014*	55	48.17
Cropland removed from production	2,665	25,459	105	15.17	568	9,925	57	17.68	d	d	d	na
Govt. programs	912	13,409	68	19.78	304	4,072	75	22.65	d	d	d	na
	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars		
Gross cash income	6,209,361	113,801	54,563	8.74	10,524,436	83,808	125,577	12.63	6,519,412	33,588	194,101	15.05
Livestock sales	316,970	27,752	11,421	16.16	115,634	6,885	16,794	41.15	d	d	d	na
Crop sales	4,807,029	99,791	48,171	9.58	9,275,398	82,513	112,411	12.77	6,329,962	32,541	194,523	15.38
Govt. payments	264,134	30,274	8,725	11.03	167,186	10,856	15,401	26.23	d	d	d	na
Other farm-related income	821,229	50,118	16,386	16.28	966,217	28,217	34,243	30.38	172,548	6,235*	27,673	49.74
Cash expenses	5,429,271	122,537	44,307	8.50	8,936,939	92,762	96,343	12.41	4,837,502	36,793	131,478	15.72
Net cash farm income	780,090	123,095	6,337	23.74	1,587,496	92,671	17,131	28.73	1,681,910	36,729	45,793	19.33
Net farm income	910,110	123,095	7,394	21.23	2,124,197	92,762	22,899	27.81	1,971,725	36,793	53,589	22.17
Farm assets	40,816,348	123,095	331,585	7.35	84,682,443	92,762	912,902	29.78	16,971,542	36,442	465,711	14.23
Liabilities	7,061,873	121,303	58,217	9.30	5,672,328	88,312	64,230	16.30	1,819,564	36,320	50,099	16.63
Equity	33,754,475	123,095	274,215	7.93	79,010,115	92,762	851,753	31.40	15,151,978	36,793	411,813	15.39
Capital investments	739,718	59,654	12,400	10.58	708,267	43,874	16,143	13.37	296,780	22,165	13,390	16.29
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours		
Labor hours worked	3,633	117,400	31	6.74	3,188	89,258	36	8.65	1,548	35,301	44	13.35
Operator	2,879	115,726	25	6.62	2,242	87,576	26	7.46	1,103	35,132	31	12.92
Unpaid	754	45,440	17	11.38	946	42,152	22	13.39	445	16,139	28	20.79

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 14—Selected characteristics of farms, by production specialty, 1990—Continued

Item	Beef, hogs, or sheep				Poultry			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	664,160	804,459	826	4.34	11,289	30,301	373	71.43
Acres owned	279,774	756,221	370	4.87	2,692	29,447	91	13.82
Acres rented in	174,670	344,995	506	4.83	813	7,223	113	23.61
Acres rented out	17,743	76,340	232	12.98	231	3,377*	68	37.16
Cropland removed from production	16,219	130,031	125	8.25	d	d	d	na
Govt. programs	5,597	100,170	56	16.43	d	d	d	na
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	36,089,531	743,462	48,543	5.00	3,061,394	29,880	102,456	14.48
Livestock sales	29,223,516	722,781	40,432	5.79	2,073,789	18,890	109,782	19.69
Crop sales	3,587,997	184,243	19,474	5.09	56,322	5,555	10,139	25.31
Govt. payments	1,272,726	164,470	7,738	4.81	d	d	d	na
Other farm-related income	2,005,292	270,937	7,401	10.68	925,757	20,859	44,381	14.03
Cash expenses	32,381,315	804,529	40,249	4.50	2,374,584	30,301	78,365	14.45
Net cash farm income	3,708,216	804,529	4,609	16.78	686,810	30,301	22,666	23.33
Net farm income	5,364,058	804,529	6,667	12.41	565,475	30,301	18,662	26.52
Farm assets	299,340,327	803,711	372,447	4.40	10,642,299	30,301	351,214	11.20
Liabilities	29,787,989	779,439	38,217	3.96	2,481,128	29,570	83,908	14.15
Equity	269,552,339	804,485	335,062	4.79	8,161,171	30,301	269,333	12.83
Capital investments	4,638,831	477,445	9,716	5.63	283,121	20,986	13,491	20.61
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	29,040	803,769	36	2.50	1,509	30,290	50	12.20
Operator	21,566	791,432	27	2.41	930	28,618	33	11.86
Unpaid	7,474	366,071	20	4.21	579	16,449	35	16.88

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 14—Selected characteristics of farms, by production specialty, 1990—Continued

Item	Dairy				Other livestock			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	47,445	138,735	342	4.88	23,150	91,417	253	19.13
Acres owned	30,049	126,376	238	4.87	17,604	87,381	201	21.93
Acres rented in	17,098	91,778	186	7.24	4,957	24,177	205	19.81
Acres rented out	591	6,268	94	28.83	1,600	11,510	139	26.39
Cropland removed from production	1,161	39,248	30	13.82	501	5,541	90	25.88
Govt. programs	743	34,595	21	9.14	109	3,296	33	25.28
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	23,453,973	137,170	170,985	4.50	2,473,980	81,327	30,420	15.06
Livestock sales	21,951,335	134,710	162,953	4.63	1,740,902	71,846	24,231	16.18
Crop sales	736,403	44,398	16,586	9.76	199,280	15,650	12,734	24.86
Govt. payments	263,023	55,501	4,739	6.87	53,175	9,737	5,461	18.58
Other farm-related income	503,213	99,294	5,068	16.96	480,622	36,608	13,129	38.78
Cash expenses	18,268,599	138,735	131,680	4.58	3,142,699	91,417	34,377	15.39
Net cash farm income	5,185,374	138,735	37,376	6.77	-668,719	91,065	-7,343	na
Net farm income	4,341,358	138,735	31,293	8.63	65,016	91,417	711	768.8
Farm assets	76,236,013	138,303	551,224	4.14	31,833,083	91,417	348,217	14.97
Liabilities	15,330,177	138,158	110,961	5.13	3,837,005	89,679	42,786	17.38
Equity	60,905,836	138,735	439,009	4.46	27,996,078	91,417	306,244	16.12
Capital investments	2,359,912	119,353	19,772	5.33	576,471	44,689	12,900	35.01
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	13,980	137,654	102	4.95	3,461	89,414	39	11.98
Operator	9,148	137,537	67	4.69	2,471	88,964	28	10.26
Unpaid	4,833	96,994	50	6.78	990	47,433	21	18.98

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 15—Selected characteristics of farms, by operator occupation, 1990

Item	Farming				Hired farm manager				Other occupation						
	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹
		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent	
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	
Acres operated	848,523	974,760	870	3.60	46,581	11,812	3,944	17.78	135,387	765,223	177	8.24			
Acres owned	364,974	881,846	414	3.75	26,601	10,344	2,572	23.26	80,321	728,133	110	4.10			
Acres rented in	293,193	549,156	534	2.97	11,612	4,323	2,686	20.79	37,207	243,996	152	8.64			
Acres rented out	27,791	106,146	262	13.08	d	d	d	na	8,228	71,281	115	13.44			
Cropland removed from production	46,494	364,913	127	4.14	534	2,614	204	19.48	9,053	113,410	80	9.52			
Govt. programs	17,038	306,383	56	5.94	236	1,942	121	21.91	2,142	61,458	35	14.44			
	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars					
Gross cash income	103,728,906	949,525	109,243	2.44	8,035,344	11,649	689,814	16.50	9,646,576	687,719	14,027	5.10			
Livestock sales	50,813,372	671,847	75,632	3.54	3,549,797	5,895	602,206	25.07	4,165,489	450,176	9,253	6.78			
Crop sales	41,268,211	562,634	73,348	3.64	4,198,492	6,638	632,467	22.87	4,032,221	277,070	14,553	8.74			
Govt. payments	4,875,349	426,255	11,438	2.77	66,211	2,592	25,544	17.43	591,336	130,942	4,516	7.43			
Other farm-related income	6,771,975	553,868	12,227	6.80	220,844	5,012	44,066	32.91	857,529	199,632	4,296	9.72			
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours					
Cash expenses	82,112,447	974,521	84,259	2.45	6,898,702	11,812	584,040	16.22	11,359,656	763,794	14,873	4.40			
Net cash farm income	21,616,459	974,674	22,178	4.38	1,136,642	11,812	96,227	30.32	-1,713,081	765,131	-2,239	na			
Net farm income	21,100,898	974,830	21,646	4.85	1,823,052	11,812	154,339	36.04	655,890	765,483	857	75.31			
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours					
Labor hours worked	57,192	967,844	59	1.85	513	11,291	45	10.89	17,114	750,587	23	3.85			
Operator	41,870	962,349	44	1.72	427	11,239	38	10.90	12,364	735,197	17	3.46			
Unpaid	15,322	475,859	32	3.14	86	2,981	29	20.83	4,750	336,058	14	6.29			

d=Data insufficient for disclosure.

na=Not applicable.

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 16—Selected characteristics of farms, by operator age, 1990

Item	Less than 35 years old				35-44 years old				45-54 years old						
	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹	Total	Average per reporting farm			RSE of total ¹
		Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent			Farms reporting	Acres	Percent	
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres
Acres operated	105,253	205,406	512	10.35	222,246	363,365	612	7.84	258,839	380,776	680	380,776	680	6.80	380,776
Acres owned	28,894	154,180	187	8.76	80,225	327,359	245	7.06	111,888	359,162	312	359,162	312	7.75	359,162
Acres rented in	53,111	136,336	390	7.78	93,127	193,873	480	5.42	82,727	189,782	436	189,782	436	6.24	189,782
Acres rented out	1,323	10,999	120	23.83	4,227	26,961	157	22.07	6,809	31,349	217	31,349	217	18.84	31,349
Cropland removed from production	4,687	60,025	78	9.86	13,973	106,138	132	10.70	12,921	110,605	117	110,605	117	6.74	110,605
Govt. programs	1,997	50,265	40	8.36	5,698	89,006	64	16.08	4,862	88,092	55	88,092	55	6.60	88,092
	1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			1,000 dollars	Dollars			Dollars		
Gross cash income	16,046,597	194,611	82,455	5.69	32,978,198	345,270	95,514	5.18	30,091,426	354,426	84,902	354,426	84,902	4.22	354,426
Livestock sales	7,701,913	136,609	56,379	7.50	15,905,828	240,858	66,038	7.34	13,552,086	237,517	57,057	237,517	57,057	5.52	237,517
Crop sales	6,543,066	110,808	59,049	7.90	14,006,820	182,235	76,861	8.05	12,814,883	186,781	68,609	186,781	68,609	6.79	186,781
Govt. payments	611,509	69,070	8,853	6.42	1,321,338	120,160	10,996	5.56	1,401,182	129,505	10,820	129,505	10,820	5.16	129,505
Other farm-related income	1,190,109	101,372	11,740	19.47	1,744,211	162,636	10,725	10.36	2,323,275	168,667	13,774	168,667	13,774	12.28	168,667
Cash expenses	12,930,979	205,476	62,932	5.48	27,701,066	363,365	76,235	5.25	25,146,049	380,184	66,142	380,184	66,142	4.36	380,184
Net cash farm income	3,115,619	205,123	15,189	11.83	5,277,132	363,365	14,523	9.80	4,945,377	380,776	12,988	380,776	12,988	9.63	380,776
Net farm income	3,002,565	205,476	14,613	12.39	6,557,991	363,365	18,048	11.88	5,600,459	380,776	14,708	380,776	14,708	10.42	380,776
Farm assets	55,450,903	205,393	269,975	5.49	140,372,163	362,159	387,598	6.03	177,472,287	380,351	466,602	380,351	466,602	6.90	380,351
Liabilities	13,827,357	195,665	70,669	6.16	27,665,917	354,931	77,947	4.48	25,996,886	373,018	69,693	373,018	69,693	4.47	373,018
Equity	41,623,546	205,432	202,615	6.08	112,706,246	363,365	310,174	7.18	151,475,401	380,715	397,871	380,715	397,871	7.90	380,715
Capital investments	2,120,496	143,275	14,800	6.82	3,474,710	256,017	13,572	5.18	3,727,943	249,652	14,933	249,652	14,933	7.02	249,652
	1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			1,000 hours per week	Hours			Hours		
Labor hours worked	10,397	203,176	51	5.20	17,630	361,954	49	3.80	17,152	374,669	46	374,669	46	3.57	374,669
Operator	7,791	202,125	39	4.85	12,525	360,543	35	3.53	12,182	371,183	33	371,183	33	3.29	371,183
Unpaid	2,606	103,586	25	8.69	5,105	194,006	26	5.94	4,971	196,841	25	196,841	25	5.47	196,841

See footnote at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 16—Selected characteristics of farms, by operator age, 1990—Continued

Item	55-64 years old					65 years old or older			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	
Acres operated	233,938	411,189	569	4.69	210,214	391,059	538	8.95	
Acres owned	122,883	398,778	308	5.12	128,006	380,846	336	7.63	
Acres rented in	74,329	171,072	434	5.87	38,717	106,411	364	8.74	
Acres rented out	7,571	38,377	197	19.55	17,163	71,536	240	18.28	
Cropland removed from production	13,964	108,955	128	6.73	10,536	95,215	111	7.72	
Govt. programs	4,395	82,964	53	6.14	2,463	59,456	41	12.70	
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		
Gross cash income	26,389,329	387,412	68,117	5.24	15,905,276	367,173	43,318	8.29	
Livestock sales	12,638,800	260,282	48,558	8.38	8,730,030	252,651	34,554	11.23	
Crop sales	10,782,437	208,284	51,768	7.25	5,351,718	158,234	33,821	13.30	
Govt. payments	1,363,631	127,449	10,699	4.97	835,235	113,605	7,352	8.61	
Other farm-related income	1,604,460	175,306	9,152	9.89	988,294	150,531	6,565	19.67	
Cash expenses	21,302,334	410,975	51,834	4.84	13,290,378	390,127	34,067	7.64	
Net cash farm income	5,086,994	411,403	12,365	10.45	2,614,898	390,949	6,689	18.11	
Net farm income	5,370,735	411,449	13,053	10.65	3,048,090	391,059	7,794	16.41	
Farm assets	193,045,763	411,319	469,334	6.91	153,081,624	391,059	391,454	5.98	
Liabilities	18,527,538	402,920	45,983	4.38	8,690,523	375,766	23,127	10.87	
Equity	174,518,225	411,319	424,289	7.52	144,391,101	391,059	369,231	6.08	
Capital investments	2,808,368	230,282	12,195	8.78	1,583,241	178,848	8,852	6.64	
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours		
Labor hours worked	17,134	408,997	42	3.25	12,506	380,926	33	3.66	
Operator	12,663	405,317	31	3.08	9,501	369,617	26	3.58	
Unpaid	4,471	177,685	25	5.21	3,005	142,781	21	6.31	

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 17—Selected characteristics of farms, by operator education, 1990

Item	Less than high school					High school			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	
Acres operated	157,777	420,487	375	8.91	367,062	708,731	518	4.99	
Acres owned	87,507	396,700	221	9.63	178,203	652,058	273	5.04	
Acres rented in	40,521	168,508	240	9.05	128,708	346,895	371	3.73	
Acres rented out	6,591	48,251	137	13.12	13,681	65,007	210	22.18	
Cropland removed from production	7,447	83,115	90	8.90	22,940	211,203	109	7.05	
Govt. programs	2,010	58,875	34	7.54	8,266	163,957	50	11.13	
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars		
Gross cash income	15,323,791	391,849	39,106	5.48	47,148,223	667,900	70,592	3.15	
Livestock sales	8,428,962	279,987	30,105	6.58	23,503,168	465,042	50,540	3.89	
Crop sales	4,959,677	177,456	27,949	10.48	18,202,609	347,419	52,394	5.05	
Govt. payments	650,722	101,214	6,429	6.98	2,355,892	248,340	9,487	4.11	
Other farm-related income	1,284,429	156,795	8,192	15.60	3,086,555	319,813	9,651	9.62	
Cash expenses	12,441,215	420,542	29,584	5.74	38,085,415	707,021	53,867	3.12	
Net cash farm income	2,882,576	420,747	6,851	9.46	9,062,808	708,731	12,787	6.29	
Net farm income	3,658,702	420,747	8,696	11.31	9,329,748	708,731	13,164	6.76	
Farm assets	120,770,458	420,185	287,422	6.92	260,220,495	708,586	367,239	3.47	
Liabilities	10,546,394	404,929	26,045	5.98	37,411,772	688,846	54,311	3.46	
Equity	110,224,064	420,617	262,054	7.46	222,808,723	708,626	314,424	3.84	
Capital investments	2,026,058	223,081	9,082	10.06	5,790,661	439,578	13,173	4.17	
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours		
Labor hours worked	16,951	417,676	41	4.19	32,094	700,458	46	2.46	
Operator	12,129	413,399	29	3.68	23,766	692,687	34	2.40	
Unpaid	4,822	189,086	26	7.10	8,327	327,593	25	3.81	

See footnote at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 17—Selected characteristics of farms, by operator education, 1990—Continued

Item	Some college				College			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ¹
	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent	1,000 acres	Number	Acres	Percent
Acres operated	220,719	331,302	666	5.80	284,933	291,275	978	7.74
Acres owned	88,246	301,319	293	5.51	117,940	270,246	436	7.01
Acres rented in	82,299	163,358	504	5.29	90,483	118,713	762	7.25
Acres rented out	7,254	30,502	238	18.40	9,567	35,462	270	17.79
Cropland removed from production	12,820	100,416	128	6.51	12,873	86,204	149	7.57
Govt. programs	4,567	83,303	55	6.35	4,573	63,648	72	9.41
	1,000 dollars		Dollars		1,000 dollars		Dollars	
Gross cash income	27,930,044	309,900	90,126	5.79	31,008,769	279,243	111,046	6.02
Livestock sales	13,482,122	215,565	62,543	9.50	13,114,406	167,324	78,377	9.46
Crop sales	11,514,171	161,423	71,329	7.70	14,822,467	160,044	92,615	8.29
Govt. payments	1,248,500	112,761	11,072	4.82	1,277,782	97,474	13,109	6.34
Other farm-related income	1,685,251	147,968	11,389	10.15	1,794,114	133,937	13,395	14.90
Cash expenses	23,326,405	331,302	70,408	5.79	26,517,771	291,262	91,045	5.57
Net cash farm income	4,603,639	331,257	13,897	11.30	4,490,998	290,882	15,439	15.38
Net farm income	5,021,995	331,302	15,158	11.64	5,569,395	291,345	19,116	16.00
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Farm assets	144,029,012	330,528	435,754	6.30	194,402,774	290,981	668,095	12.03
Liabilities	22,448,075	325,291	69,009	5.82	24,301,979	283,234	85,802	5.05
Equity	121,580,937	331,302	366,979	7.20	170,100,795	291,345	583,847	13.47
Capital investments	2,989,228	210,811	14,180	7.99	2,908,810	184,604	15,757	6.57
	1,000 hours per week		Hours		1,000 hours per week		Hours	
Labor hours worked	14,542	326,914	44	4.27	11,233	284,673	39	3.74
Operator	10,487	323,727	32	3.68	8,279	278,972	30	3.65
Unpaid	4,055	166,782	24	7.18	2,954	131,438	22	5.79

¹The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 18—Farm size, by farm operator household dependency category and region, 1990¹

Household dependency category	All regions			Northeast			Lake States			Corn Belt		
	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²
	Farms	Acres	Percent									
Positive household income:												
Loss from farming	825,312	241	7.51	63,173	120	8.34	75,753	157	10.69	143,700	144	8.50
0 to 24 percent from farming	267,007	328	7.43	12,714	152	11.80	19,816	191	15.64	53,902	215	10.97
25 to 49 percent from farming	129,042	567	8.20	6,585	263	11.54	16,816	275	12.16	33,275	343	10.32
50 to 74 percent from farming	103,996	1,016	7.92	5,420	334	11.14	10,445	442	8.52	30,723	380	6.71
75 percent and more from farming	263,018	1,276	5.89	20,241	286	7.37	49,520	426	5.61	59,464	566	4.62
Negative household income	149,644	1,208	10.68	10,883	265	18.05	21,205	472	10.29	28,389	473	9.76
Sales (dollars):												
Positive household income:												
Loss from farming	825,312	11,752	4.95	63,173	9,460	18.43	75,753	15,314	13.10	143,700	14,851	9.79
0 to 24 percent from farming	267,007	24,140	5.59	12,714	38,637	16.50	19,816	23,881	16.16	53,902	32,504	12.85
25 to 49 percent from farming	129,042	60,822	4.88	6,585	82,950	14.49	16,816	64,515	12.26	33,275	64,344	10.04
50 to 74 percent from farming	103,996	116,658	5.05	5,420	147,875	10.78	10,445	131,086	10.82	30,723	97,669	8.75
75 percent and more from farming	263,018	197,419	4.15	20,241	175,227	8.33	49,520	162,249	7.07	59,464	161,660	6.45
Negative household income	149,644	91,384	6.85	10,883	70,463	20.41	21,205	93,864	11.16	28,389	83,527	10.24

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 18—Farm size, by farm operator household dependency category and region, 1990¹—Continued

Household dependency category	Northern Plains			Appalachian			Southeast			Delta		
	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Positive household income:												
Loss from farming	38,703	402	10.04	125,123	115	6.95	63,926	129	9.72	42,387	168	8.62
0 to 24 percent from farming	15,277	597	11.71	59,272	119	7.38	24,553	150	11.58	14,296	200	11.04
25 to 49 percent from farming	16,541	771	9.70	20,923	201	12.66	4,927	219	17.21	4,828	361	10.76
50 to 74 percent from farming	20,439	1,508	15.77	10,662	351	12.66	4,699	937	30.75	3,471	620	17.37
75 percent and more from farming	39,870	1,509	5.33	24,042	409	9.48	11,661	587	20.77	9,341	832	11.24
Negative household income	18,057	1,585	11.38	11,148	384	22.37	14,431	288	22.20	6,258	536	13.24
Sales (dollars):												
Positive household income:												
Loss from farming	38,703	28,494	17.42	125,123	6,301	9.16	63,926	10,442	23.54	42,387	10,707	12.57
0 to 24 percent from farming	15,277	38,725	12.29	59,272	13,600	10.59	24,553	13,438	13.16	14,296	17,508	16.27
25 to 49 percent from farming	16,541	63,998	8.86	20,923	28,249	14.28	4,927	52,994	14.43	4,828	40,240	15.41
50 to 74 percent from farming	20,439	94,203	12.20	10,662	62,408	12.57	4,699	248,773	23.95	3,471	126,124	23.91
75 percent and more from farming	39,870	199,066	12.68	24,042	124,916	10.51	11,661	236,238	14.64	9,341	234,884	13.71
Negative household income	18,057	108,908	14.76	11,148	71,463	23.22	14,431	62,505	21.82	6,258	68,790	17.69

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 18—Farm size, by farm operator household dependency category and region, 1990¹—Continued

Household dependency category	Southern Plains			Mountain			Pacific		
	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Positive household income:									
Loss from farming	136,463	249	10.37	47,016	1,203	21.92	89,066	259	33.92
0 to 24 percent from farming	44,550	368	14.65	11,502	1,958	21.93	11,124	769	36.10
25 to 49 percent from farming	12,933	693	14.97	6,537	2,779	22.31	5,678	1,491	43.64
50 to 74 percent from farming	6,078	1,278	15.48	5,737	4,819	14.33	6,322*	1,739	36.35
75 percent and more from farming	12,175	1,978	16.47	22,101	5,276	16.71	14,604	3,406	29.38
Negative household income	15,546	1,689	23.18	11,206	6,611	23.71	12,520*	1,095	36.45
Positive household income:									
Loss from farming	136,463	10,205	16.05	47,016	12,312	10.22	89,066	9,246	16.68
0 to 24 percent from farming	44,550	17,638	13.84	11,502	29,187	13.65	11,124	56,604	25.70
25 to 49 percent from farming	12,933	53,418	15.60	6,537	91,098	19.77	5,678	120,658	21.80
50 to 74 percent from farming	6,078	102,618	13.46	5,737	154,916	8.03	6,322*	197,821	12.49
75 percent and more farming	12,175	243,272	11.07	22,101	195,833	21.21	14,604	517,104	15.69
Negative household income	15,546	95,523	31.12	11,206	126,311	14.73	12,520*	123,832	36.94

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

¹The farm operator household population described in this table differs slightly from the farm operator population. See text for more information.

²The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller relative standard error indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 19—Farm size, by farm operator household dependency category and farm organization, 1990¹

Household dependency category	Corporate			Partnership			Individual		
	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²	Expanded count	Mean	RSE of mean ²
	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent	Farms	Acres	Percent
Positive household income:									
Loss from farming	6,948	786	31.19	37,718	859	31.38	780,647	207	6.93
0 to 24 percent from farming	3,904	2,268	29.82	12,052	1,126	25.08	251,051	259	7.71
25 to 49 percent from farming	3,269	1,963	33.16	12,635	1,222	32.02	113,138	453	5.79
50 to 74 percent from farming	3,543	3,718	26.69	9,013	1,657	14.82	91,441	848	9.33
75 percent and more from farming	13,665	4,688	22.48	29,377	2,385	14.80	219,976	916	4.96
Negative household income	4,973	4,565	38.20	9,205*	1,737	36.97	135,466	1,049	12.16
				Sales (dollars)			Sales (dollars)		Sales (dollars)
Positive household income:									
Loss from farming	6,948	41,754	25.51	37,718	29,797	20.90	780,647	10,613	5.04
0 to 24 percent from farming	3,904	80,126	25.61	12,052	99,505	16.17	251,051	19,651	5.41
25 to 49 percent from farming	3,269	206,856	20.22	12,635	113,879	16.45	113,138	50,677	4.85
50 to 74 percent from farming	3,543	475,895	16.00	9,013	211,342	8.93	91,441	93,408	5.85
75 percent and more from farming	13,665	694,398	15.03	29,377	302,539	15.88	219,976	152,507	3.55
Negative household income	4,973	279,292	27.75	9,205*	182,924	32.42	135,466	78,266	7.56

*=The relative standard error for the estimated number of farms reporting exceeds 25 percent.

¹The farm operator household population described in this table differs slightly from the farm operator population. See text for more information.

²The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller relative standard error indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

Appendix table 20—Selected characteristics of farms, by household dependency, 1990¹

Item	Positive household income											
	Loss from farming				0 to 24 percent from farming				25 to 49 percent from farming			
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ²	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ²	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm	RSE of total ²
1,000 acres					1,000 acres				1,000 acres			
Acres operated	199,140	825,312	241	7.34	87,518	267,007	328	7.24	73,135	129,042	567	8.19
Acres owned	106,171	791,120	134	4.65	46,918	241,350	194	6.01	42,566	119,021	358	8.78
Acres rented in	47,646	266,360	179	5.51	30,067	109,192	275	8.91	24,275	65,594	370	8.49
Acres rented out	8,694	73,626	118	14.70	4,762	37,381	127	15.02	6,587	18,567	355	42.26
Cropland removed from production	7,242	117,436	62	8.01	6,070	69,018	88	10.42	5,907	55,205	107	11.25
Govt. programs	2,432	74,588	33	8.14	1,764	43,978	40	18.53	1,638	42,709	38	9.18
1,000 dollars					1,000 dollars				1,000 dollars			
Gross cash income	10,601,581	729,975	14,523	4.57	7,071,485	266,330	26,552	5.53	8,875,159	128,974	68,814	5.63
Livestock sales	5,674,180	516,541	10,985	6.02	3,109,053	169,301	18,364	6.12	4,011,183	81,877	48,990	8.33
Crop sales	3,476,983	291,922	11,911	6.95	2,948,612	133,026	22,166	9.08	3,609,093	78,848	45,773	7.61
Govt. payments	631,233	136,375	4,629	6.59	471,408	81,094	5,813	8.56	552,800	65,561	8,432	8.41
Other farm-related income	819,186	230,769	3,550	10.66	542,412	107,832	5,030	10.81	702,083	74,789	9,388	11.63
Cash expenses	15,250,704	825,312	18,479	3.89	5,319,866	265,317	20,051	5.79	6,162,671	128,733	47,872	6.21
Net cash farm income	-4,649,123	824,804	-5,637	na	1,751,619	267,007	6,560	5.83	2,712,489	129,042	21,020	5.60
Net farm income	-1,772,814	825,312	-2,148	na	2,139,958	267,007	8,015	5.76	2,654,273	129,042	20,569	7.38
Farm assets	232,072,918	825,312	281,194	10.85	71,259,083	265,829	268,063	5.18	59,803,471	129,042	463,441	10.22
Liabilities	24,641,435	803,265	30,677	4.99	5,283,446	250,934	21,055	8.17	6,699,847	125,080	53,564	8.55
Equity	207,431,483	825,312	251,337	11.93	65,975,637	267,007	247,093	5.31	53,103,623	129,042	411,522	11.28
Capital investments	3,492,697	447,792	7,800	8.55	982,784	134,920	7,284	7.72	927,883	76,684	12,100	9.15
1,000 hours per week					1,000 hours per week				1,000 hours per week			
Labor hours worked	22,977	813,974	28	3.19	8,117	262,438	31	4.90	6,255	127,812	49	5.95
Operator	17,284	802,847	22	2.89	6,097	258,114	24	4.53	4,460	125,339	36	5.46
Unpaid	5,693	368,056	15	5.46	2,020	107,847	19	8.49	1,796	65,267	28	9.25

See footnotes at end of table.

Continued—

Appendix table 20—Selected characteristics of farms, by household dependency, 1990¹—Continued

Item	Positive household income												Negative household income			
	50 to 74 percent from farming				75 percent and more from farming				Negative household income							
	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		RSE of total ²	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		RSE of total ²	Total	Farms reporting	Average per reporting farm		RSE of total ²	
			Number	Acres		Number	Acres	Number	Acres		Number	Number	Acres	Percent		
Acres operated	1,000 acres					1,000 acres					1,000 acres					
Acres operated	105,639	103,996	1,016	8.70	335,585	262,688	1,278	6.09	180,780	149,644	1,208	10.01				
Acres owned	54,337	94,343	576	12.43	127,558	229,827	555	6.93	63,465	132,346	480	8.53				
Acres rented in	37,738	70,212	537	8.16	126,516	185,482	682	4.77	65,494	95,352	687	7.74				
Acres rented out	3,786	14,931	254	22.27	8,246	20,267	407	21.61	3,277	12,484	263	23.45				
Cropland removed from production	7,738	57,266	135	8.18	20,729	127,449	163	7.70	7,611	52,017	146	9.48				
Govt. programs	2,351	49,157	48	7.97	7,843	113,501	69	11.58	2,969	43,792	68	9.17				
	1,000 dollars					1,000 dollars					1,000 dollars					
			Dollars					Dollars					Dollars			
Gross cash income	13,350,756	103,996	128,378	6.01	56,947,471	262,916	216,599	3.84	14,832,623	142,657	103,974	6.15				
Livestock sales	5,931,347	65,407	90,684	7.79	28,054,102	184,677	151,909	5.68	7,958,611	102,493	77,650	8.65				
Crop sales	5,776,124	73,460	78,630	9.68	23,233,765	179,064	129,751	5.28	5,123,545	82,999	61,730	9.43				
Govt. payments	763,355	65,712	11,617	8.32	2,228,892	146,675	15,196	4.23	806,485	61,832	13,043	6.71				
Other farm-related income	879,931	76,385	11,520	12.23	3,430,712	182,582	18,790	10.96	943,982	80,629	11,708	12.77				
Cash expenses	9,220,480	103,996	88,662	6.64	36,936,436	263,018	140,433	4.02	18,830,254	149,644	125,834	5.78				
Net cash farm income	4,130,276	103,996	39,716	5.54	20,011,035	263,018	76,082	4.18	-3,997,631	149,644	-26,714	na				
Net farm income	3,837,405	103,996	36,900	6.41	18,328,142	263,018	69,684	4.58	-3,456,212	149,644	-23,096	na				
Farm assets	54,800,955	103,996	526,952	5.17	165,434,515	262,351	630,585	3.68	84,006,794	149,644	561,377	6.69				
Liabilities	7,799,426	102,002	76,463	6.17	29,794,638	259,377	114,870	3.69	16,994,423	147,979	114,843	6.51				
Equity	47,001,530	103,996	451,955	5.57	135,639,877	262,782	516,168	4.11	67,012,371	149,644	447,812	7.73				
Capital investments	1,305,493	75,887	17,023	6.88	4,604,663	209,829	21,945	4.92	2,029,666	104,089	19,499	8.12				
	1,000 hours per week					1,000 hours per week					1,000 hours per week					
			Hours					Hours					Hours			
Labor hours worked	6,589	102,799	64	5.24	20,616	260,987	79	3.26	9,584	148,821	64	5.32				
Operator	4,885	101,381	48	5.15	14,625	260,396	56	3.12	6,826	147,922	46	4.99				
Unpaid	1,704	50,835	34	8.59	5,991	143,658	42	4.83	2,759	76,410	36	8.04				

na=Not applicable.

¹The farm operator household population described in this table differs slightly from the farm operator population. See text for more information.²The relative standard error (RSE) provides the means of evaluating the survey results. A smaller RSE indicates greater reliability of the estimate.

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