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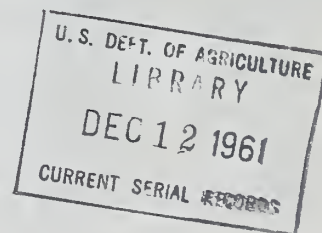
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THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM IN GEORGIA

ITS EFFECTS IN THE PIEDMONT AND COASTAL PLAIN



**Farm Economics Division
Economic Research Service
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

In cooperation with

**College Experiment Station
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE**

PREFACE

This report presents findings from a study of the effects of the Conservation Reserve Program on production and resource use in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain Areas of Georgia.

In developing the report, the author has benefited from the suggestions and comments of Charles P. Butler, E. L. Langsford, and Raymond P. Christensen, Farm Economics Division, Economic Research Service, and of J. W. Fanning, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Georgia, and Kenneth E. Valentine, Soil Bank Division, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

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THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM IN GEORGIA

Its Effects in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain

By

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The Soil Bank Program was initiated in 1956 to help reduce production of crops, increase farm income, and promote long-range conservation of resources. The program was in two parts (1) the Acreage Reserve Program, and (2) the Conservation Reserve Program. Under the Acreage Reserve Program, farmers were eligible in 1956, 1957, and 1958 to receive payments for reducing their acreages of wheat, cotton, corn, and most types of tobacco, and of peanuts in 1956 only, below their acreage allotments for these crops. This phase of the program was discontinued after 1958.

Under the Conservation Reserve Program, farmers entered into contracts with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to withhold cropland from crop production for 3, 5, or 10 years while carrying out soil, water, and wildlife conservation practices. Farmers agreed not to harvest any crop from land in the program or to pasture it during the period of the contract. They agreed also to plant a vegetative or other cover on the land. The last year farmers could enter into contracts to place land in the conservation reserve was 1960.

This report presents findings from a study of the Conservation Reserve Program in two areas of Georgia: Elbert, Henry, and Meriwether Counties in the Piedmont; Dodge, Jefferson, and Laurens Counties in the Coastal Plain.

In 1960, approximately 12 percent of the cropland in Georgia was in the conservation reserve. At the same time, almost 24 percent of the cropland in the sample counties in the Coastal Plain and 17 percent of that in the sample counties in the Piedmont were in the program.

Whole farm units accounted for about 60 percent of the acreage placed in the program in Georgia. Approximately 78 percent of the acreage in the Piedmont sample counties was contracted as whole farm units, compared with about 50 percent in the Coastal Plain sample counties.

The study showed many important differences between participants and nonparticipants and between farms in the program and those not in the program. More participants than nonparticipants in the conservation reserve resided off their farms and were engaged in part-time farm or full-time off-farm work. In the Piedmont, the larger proportion of the participants were 65 years of age or over, and more were retired or disabled; in the Coastal Plain sample, the opposite was true with respect to age and retirement. On the average, nonparticipants have operated their farms longer than participants.

Farms in the conservation reserve in both areas averaged more total land, more total cropland, and larger capital investments than farms not in the program. Farms of part-farm participants were more than twice the size of farms of whole-farm participants.

Most participants interviewed reported important reductions in the acreages planted to their main cash crops as a result of the conservation reserve. Very little change occurred, however, in total acreage per farm including rented land.

Crop yields varied considerably from year to year and by area. However, average yields of most crops were slightly higher during the years of participation than before. This suggests some selectivity

with respect to land kept in production on farms in the program.

Results of the survey indicate little if any difference on the average between participants and nonparticipants with respect to quality of the land in their farms. However, land placed in the conservation reserve by participants with part-farm units may be less productive than land retained for production of cash crops. Average crop yields on these farms were generally higher during participation in the program than before. Beginning in 1959, better quality land was placed in the program as participation with whole farm units increased.

Reductions have occurred in crop production on the farms of participants in the program. Little adjustment occurred in livestock production as livestock was not important on most sample farms. As more than half the reduction in acreage in the Piedmont and about 62 percent in the Coastal Plain came from cotton, corn, peanuts, and small grain, the program has served to reduce production of these crops substantially in both areas.

Most participants reported substantial decreases in the total amount of fertilizer used per farm as a result of placing land in the conservation reserve. Little change was reported, however, in amount of fertilizer used per acre of cropland harvested. There was some indication that owners who continued to produce cotton or other cash crops after placing part of their land in the program were the ones who initially used heavier applications of fertilizer per acre.

Slight reductions occurred on participating farms in amount of labor available, number of farm machines, and use of farm

buildings. Reductions in the farm labor force were mainly in amount of hired labor including sharecroppers.

Very few respondents reported changes in residence or in employment since placing land in the conservation reserve. Most farmers who participate in the program because of advanced age, off-farm work, or other reasons plan to continue living on their farms.

The need for a larger income, a desire to establish soil-conserving crops including trees, and problems encountered in hiring and maintaining an efficient farm labor force were the main reasons given for placing land in the conservation reserve. Other important reasons were poor health and advanced age of the operator.

The main reasons for not participating in the program were the belief that the conservation reserve would be a less profitable alternative than other uses of the land, a conflict of personal interests with program restrictions, the desire of owners to continue farming their land, and lack of understanding of the program.

Results of the study indicate that the Conservation Reserve Program in Georgia has contributed to adjustments in farm production and resource use. The program has facilitated removal of land from production on farms where conservation needs were great. It has also provided a means of shifting less profitable units out of production and of increasing income on most participating farms. The program has assisted older farm people who wanted to retire and others who have made or were making the transition from full-time farmwork to part-time farming or full-time off-farm work.

INTRODUCTION

In the last several years, many attempts have been made to find a solution to the problem of surplus farm production. One approach to this problem has been the Conservation Reserve Program of the Soil Bank Act. Initiated late in 1956, the Conservation Reserve Program was designed to help adjust farm production to market outlets, to increase farm income, and to promote conservation of soil, water, forest, and wildlife resources.

This report presents the results of a study of the effects of the Conservation Reserve Program in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain Areas of Georgia.

Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study were to determine: (1) How farmers who participate in the program differ from non-participants with respect to such factors as age, residence of operators, off-farm employment, farm organization, and resource use; and (2) the effects of the program on crop and livestock production and on use of land, labor, machinery, buildings, and other resources.

Methods and Procedures

The primary data used in the study were obtained by personal interviews with

farm operators in each of four groups: (1) farmers with contracts beginning in 1956, 1957, or 1958; (2) farmers with contracts beginning in 1956, 1957, or 1958, and modified in 1959; (3) farmers with contracts beginning in 1959; and (4) farmers who placed no land in the conservation reserve.¹ Supplemental data were obtained from records of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committees in the sample counties.

Names of farmers to be interviewed in each county in the sample were selected at random from the groups listed above. Samples were selected from three groups of participants in order to observe the effects of changes in payment rates for new contracts and other features of the program in 1959. The schedules obtained in field interviews were distributed as follows:

Sample counties in -
Piedmont : Coastal Plain

| Participants who had - | Number | Number |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1956-58 contracts----- | 56 | 48 |
| 1959 modified contracts----- | 51 | 50 |
| 1959 new contracts----- | 69 | 62 |
| All participants----- | 176 | 160 |
| Nonparticipants----- | 65 | 60 |
| Level of participation: | | |
| Whole farm units----- | 61 | 54 |
| Part farm units----- | 115 | 106 |

The sample included Elbert, Henry, and Meriwether Counties in Census Economic Area 4 (Piedmont) and Dodge, Jefferson, and Laurens Counties in Census Economic Area 6 (Coastal Plain). Hereafter in this report, the study areas are referred to as the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain. The location of counties in the sample is shown in figure 1.

Definitions used in the study follow:

(1) Farm--total land comprising the management unit, regardless of ownership or location in the sample county.

(2) Full-time farmwork--farm operators who worked off the farm less than 100 days in a year.

(3) Part-time farmwork--farm operators who worked off-farm 100 to 250 days in a year.

(4) Full-time off-farm work--farm operators who worked off-farm 250 days or more in a year.

¹ In the rest of this report, reference to these groups will be as (1) participants who had 1956, 1957, or 1958 contracts; (2) participants who had 1959 modified contracts; (3) participants who had 1959 new contracts; and (4) nonparticipants.

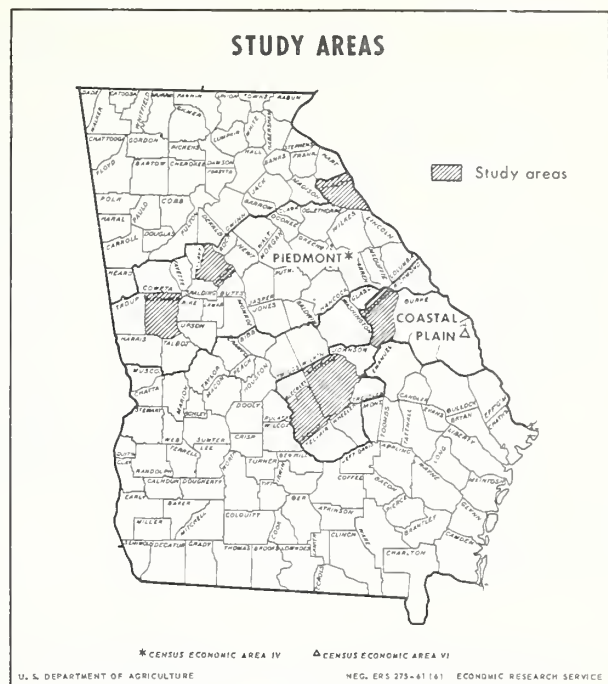


FIGURE 1

(5) Whole-farm participants--farmers who placed all their eligible land in the conservation reserve.

(6) Part-farm participants--farmers who placed part of their eligible land in the conservation reserve.

Changes in Agriculture

Important changes have occurred in the agriculture of Georgia during the last several years. According to the 1959 Census of Agriculture, the number of farms in Georgia decreased about 53 percent from 1945 to 1959.² The average size of farm increased from 105 to 185 acres during the same period.

Cotton is the major crop in Georgia, but its relative importance as a source of income is diminishing (table 1). Since 1956, broilers have contributed a larger proportion of the total cash farm income than has cotton. Approximately 54 percent of the cash farm income in Georgia in 1959 came from livestock and poultry, compared with about 35 percent in 1950. Broiler production accounted for most of this increase.

² The reduction in number of farms was about 4 percent greater because of a change in the definition of a farm in the 1959 Census of Agriculture.

TABLE 1.--Percentage distribution of cash farm income, by source, Georgia, specified years 1950 to 1959

| Item | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 | 1950 |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Cotton----- | 13.4 | 10.0 | 11.0 | 15.3 | 20.6 | 21.9 |
| Peanuts----- | 6.7 | 8.7 | 7.4 | 8.8 | 9.1 | 13.1 |
| Tobacco----- | 8.9 | 7.5 | 7.6 | 9.4 | 11.0 | 9.6 |
| Forestry----- | 4.7 | 4.6 | 5.5 | 8.7 | 6.2 | 6.9 |
| Grain crops----- | 4.8 | 4.4 | 3.7 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.4 |
| Other crops----- | 7.8 | 7.1 | 7.6 | 8.4 | 5.1 | 11.0 |
| Total crops----- | 46.3 | 42.3 | 42.8 | 53.6 | 54.1 | 64.9 |
| Broilers----- | 21.3 | 22.8 | 23.7 | 18.9 | 19.2 | 8.6 |
| Hogs----- | 7.9 | 9.6 | 9.1 | 6.8 | 6.4 | 8.3 |
| Cattle and calves----- | 8.9 | 9.7 | 7.5 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 6.1 |
| Dairy products----- | 7.3 | 6.9 | 8.1 | 7.2 | 6.8 | 7.0 |
| Other livestock and poultry-- | 8.3 | 8.7 | 8.8 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 5.1 |
| Total livestock----- | 53.7 | 57.7 | 57.2 | 46.4 | 45.9 | 35.1 |
| Grand total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Data from Agricultural Estimates Division, Statistical Reporting Service.

Significant changes have occurred also in the agriculture of both the Piedmont and Coastal Plain Areas (table 2). In the Piedmont, the number of farms decreased about 59 percent and in the Coastal Plain about 51 percent from 1945 to 1959. Cropland declined about 47 percent in the Piedmont and about 21 percent in the Coastal Plain during the same period. The average size of farm increased from 108 to 187 acres in the Piedmont and from 122 to 238 acres in the Coastal Plain.

The harvested acreages of cotton and corn have declined substantially since 1945 (table 2). The acreages of cotton harvested in the sample counties of both study areas

reached the lowest level in 1958, the last year of the Soil Bank Acreage Reserve Program (table 3). The decline in total production of cotton in the sample counties from 1945 to 1959 was less marked than the decline in acreage because of increases in yield per acre.

Farm mechanization has increased markedly in both areas, as shown by the rise in number of tractors on farms.

Employment in nonfarm work has increased substantially. For example, about 40 percent of the farm operators in the Piedmont worked 100 days and more off the farm in 1959 compared with about 13 percent in 1945.

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

The Soil Bank Program, which was started in 1956, was made up of (1) the Conservation Reserve Program and (2) the Acreage Reserve Program. Both programs were voluntary. Under the Acreage Reserve Program, farmers were eligible in 1956, 1957, and 1958 to receive payments for reducing their acreages of wheat, cotton, corn, and most types of tobacco, and in 1956 only,

of peanuts, below their acreage allotments for these crops. Agreements were for one year. No crops could be harvested from land in the program nor could the land be pastured. The Acreage Reserve Program was discontinued after 1958.

Under the Conservation Reserve Program, farmers entered into contracts with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to

TABLE 2.--Selected data relating to agriculture, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, specified years 1945 to 1959

| Item | Unit | Piedmont ¹ | | | | Coastal Plain ² | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | 1959 | 1954 | 1950 | 1945 | 1959 | 1954 | 1950 | 1945 |
| Farms ³ ----- | Number 1,000 | 19,199 | 32,833 | 39,307 | 47,074 | 9,317 | 13,558 | 17,103 | 19,014 |
| Land in farms---- | acres | 3,599 | 4,741 | 5,162 | 5,099 | 2,220 | 2,602 | 2,741 | 2,316 |
| Total cropland--- | do. | 1,209 | 1,593 | 2,112 | 2,292 | 1,008 | 1,240 | 1,364 | 1,275 |
| Cotton harvested--- | do. | 122 | 213 | 372 | 396 | 124 | 186 | 292 | 204 |
| Corn harvested--- | do. | 148 | 252 | 372 | 552 | 384 | 444 | 439 | 421 |
| Averages per farm: | | | | | | | | | |
| Land----- | Acre | 187 | 144 | 131 | 108 | 238 | 192 | 160 | 122 |
| Cropland----- | do. | 63 | 49 | 54 | 49 | 108 | 91 | 80 | 67 |
| Cattle ⁴ ----- | Number | 16 | 12 | 6 | 5 | 13 | 11 | 5 | 5 |
| Tractors----- | do. | 14,411 | 13,821 | 9,758 | 4,553 | 8,538 | 7,855 | 5,273 | 2,208 |
| Operators working off farm 100 days and more--- | Per- cent | 40 | 35 | 26 | 13 | 28 | 20 | 13 | 4 |

¹ Census Economic Area 4a and 4b.

² Census Economic Area 6.

³ The part of the 1954 to 1959 reduction in number of farms resulting from the change in definition of a farm amounted to 2,358 farms in the Piedmont and 535 farms in the Coastal Plain.

⁴ All cattle and calves.

Data from U. S. Censuses of Agriculture.

TABLE 3.--Cotton acreages and production, sample counties, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, 1945-59

| Year | Piedmont ¹ | | | Coastal Plain ² | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Acreage harvested | Yield per acre | Total pro- duction ³ | Acreage harvested | Yield per acre | Total production ³ |
| | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Pounds</u> | <u>Bales</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Pounds</u> | <u>Bales</u> |
| 1945----- | 59,400 | 274 | 33,895 | 77,860 | 237 | 38,145 |
| 1946----- | 59,110 | 236 | 28,950 | 78,530 | 216 | 36,580 |
| 1947----- | 56,610 | 228 | 27,500 | 83,690 | 258 | 45,850 |
| 1948----- | 57,690 | 255 | 30,340 | 83,230 | 303 | 53,100 |
| 1949----- | 58,830 | 196 | 23,990 | 114,820 | 158 | 39,100 |
| 1950----- | 40,350 | 259 | 21,890 | 75,530 | 237 | 36,570 |
| 1951----- | 50,410 | 311 | 32,620 | 104,840 | 312 | 68,220 |
| 1952----- | 55,520 | 248 | 28,060 | 107,210 | 176 | 40,070 |
| 1953----- | 49,260 | 299 | 30,640 | 95,060 | 225 | 43,690 |
| 1954----- | 37,440 | 281 | 21,660 | 73,300 | 245 | 37,830 |
| 1955----- | 33,530 | 448 | 30,820 | 64,440 | 317 | 42,900 |
| 1956----- | 30,460 | 332 | 21,120 | 61,120 | 325 | 41,410 |
| 1957----- | 18,560 | 325 | 12,630 | 40,580 | 318 | 26,920 |
| 1958----- | 9,930 | 444 | 9,140 | 27,745 | 412 | 24,030 |
| 1959----- | 20,290 | 411 | 17,140 | 47,400 | 377 | 35,820 |

¹ Elbert, Henry, and Meriwether Counties.

² Dodge, Jefferson, and Laurens Counties.

³ 500-pound gross-weight bales.

Data from reports of Georgia Crop Reporting Service.

withhold cropland from crop production for 3, 5, or 10 years while carrying out soil, water, and wildlife conservation practices. Farmers agreed not to harvest any crop from land in the program nor to pasture it during the period of the contract. They also agreed to reduce the total acreage of cropland farmed by the amount of land placed in the conservation reserve. The same agreement applied to the acreage reserve in 1958, but not in 1956 and 1957.

Farm operators who placed land in the conservation reserve agreed also, if the land was without adequate cover, to plant a permanent vegetative cover on it or to plant trees to protect the soil. They could also agree to establish wildlife feed plots or habitat, or construct water reservoirs. The minimum contract period was 3 years if a vegetative cover was already on the land. If trees were to be planted, the contract period was 10 years.

Farmers who participated in the conservation reserve were eligible to receive two kinds of payments on the land: (1) annual rental payments per acre for duration of the contract, and (2) cost-sharing payments for carrying out approved conservation practices.

The last year farmers could enter into contract to place land in the conservation reserve was 1960. However, as some of the 1960 contracts were for 10 years, some land will remain in the program through 1969.

Changes in Program

The rental payments for new contracts were increased in 1959. The average basic rental rate for Georgia was increased from \$8 to \$12 per acre. Beginning in 1959, a premium of 10 percent was allowed for placing all eligible land on a farm in the conservation reserve. This premium provided a greater incentive for farmers to participate in the program with whole farm units and to place relatively higher yielding land in the conservation reserve.

Another change was the establishment and use of a priority system for accepting offers of farmers to place land in the pro-

gram. Priorities for contracts were based on land productivity ratings and the rental rates farmers indicated on their application forms that they would accept. Farms with high productivity ratings relative to the rental rates at which farmers offered their lands were the first to be selected for contracts. Many farm owners offered land at rates per acre slightly lower than the maximum rates established for their farms. This made it possible to contract more acres with the limited program funds available for making rental payments.

County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committees were authorized to establish payment rates for land on individual farms. The rates they established could not be larger than 50 percent above the county average payment rate. The rental rates, however, could not exceed 20 percent of the value of the land and were also limited to a maximum of \$25 per acre.

Extent of Participation

Approximately 12 percent of the cropland in Georgia was in the conservation reserve in 1960 (table 4). During the same period, almost 24 percent of the cropland in the sample counties in the Coastal Plain Area was placed in the program compared with about 17 percent of the cropland in the Piedmont sample counties. The percentage of cropland placed in the conservation reserve through 1960 was larger in the study areas and in Economic Area 5 than in other areas of the State (fig. 2). The largest proportion of land placed in the program in most areas was planted to trees (fig. 3).

The land contracted averaged 87 acres per farm in the Coastal Plain sample counties and 50 acres per farm in the Piedmont sample counties. The acreage contracted in Georgia averaged 70 acres per farm.

About 60 percent of the acreage placed in the program in the State as a whole was contracted as whole farm units. Approximately 78 percent of the acreage in the Piedmont sample counties and about 50 percent in the Coastal Plain sample counties was contracted as whole farm units.

TABLE 4.--Data relating to the Conservation Reserve Program in Georgia and in sample counties, 1960

| Item | Unit | Georgia | Sample counties in- | | Remainder of State |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | | Piedmont | Coastal Plain | |
| Contracts: | | | | | |
| Total----- | Number | 15,227 | 705 | 1,238 | 13,284 |
| All eligible land in farm- | do. | 9,150 | 493 | 615 | 8,042 |
| Acreage contracted: | | | | | |
| Total----- | Acre | 1,061,731 | 35,586 | 107,890 | 918,255 |
| Average per farm----- | do. | 70 | 50 | 87 | 69 |
| As whole-farm units----- | do. | 651,951 | 28,000 | 54,796 | 569,155 |
| As part-farm units----- | do. | 397,618 | 7,586 | 53,094 | 336,938 |
| Planted to trees----- | do. | 687,957 | 17,620 | 76,666 | 593,671 |
| Average rental rate per acre- | Dollar | 11.57 | 12.63 | 10.58 | 11.65 |
| Percentage of farms with | | | | | |
| contracts ¹ ----- | Percent | 9.2 | 15.3 | 23.6 | 8.5 |
| Percentage of cropland in | | | | | |
| program ¹ ----- | do. | 11.9 | 17.2 | 23.6 | 11.1 |

¹ Percentage of all farms and total cropland reported by the 1954 Census of Agriculture.

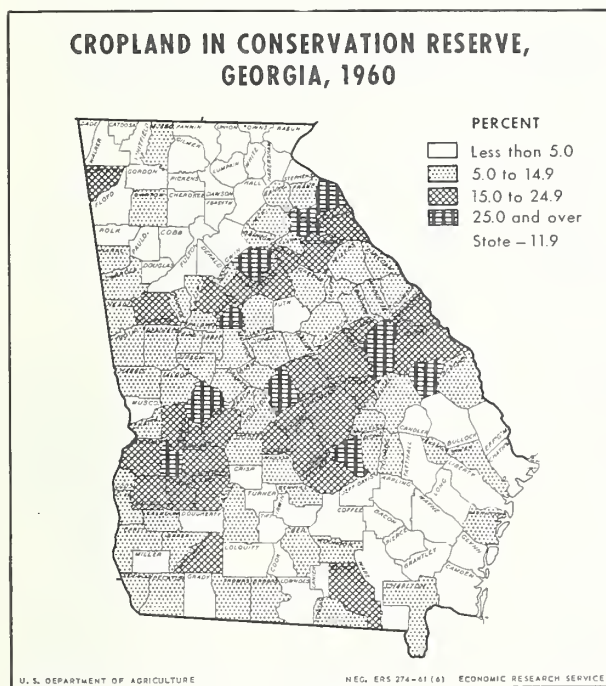


FIGURE 2

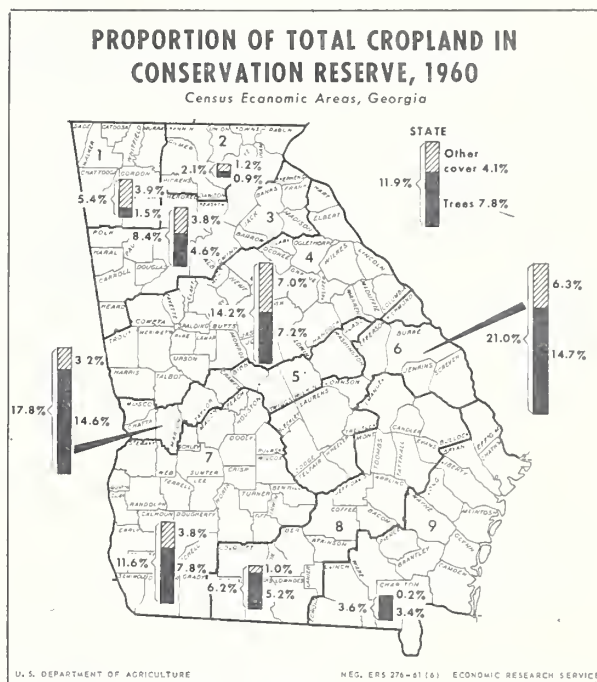


FIGURE 3

CHARACTERISTICS OF PARTICIPANTS AND NONPARTICIPANTS IN CONSERVATION RESERVE COMPARED

Family Characteristics

In the Piedmont sample, more participants than nonparticipants in the conservation reserve were 65 years of age and over and more resided off their farms (table 5). While both participants and nonparticipants averaged 55 years of age, about 32 percent of the participants were 65 and over compared with 28 percent of the nonparticipants. Approximately 32 percent of the farm operators participating in the conservation reserve resided off their farms compared with about 6 percent of the nonparticipants.

In the Coastal Plain, more nonparticipants than participants were 65 years of age and over. The average age of nonparticipants was 55 years compared with 52 years for participants. Also, more par-

ticipants than nonparticipants in the Coastal Plain resided off their farms.

The data in table 5 also indicate differences among participants in the different programs. For example, 36 percent of the participants who placed whole farms in the conservation reserve were 65 years of age and over compared with about 30 percent of the operators who placed part of their farms in the program. Nearly half the participants in both areas who placed all of their eligible land in the program resided off their farms. The proportion was much less for participants with part of their eligible lands in the program.

Employment Characteristics

More participants in both areas were engaged in part-time farm or full-time

TABLE 5.--Distribution by age and residence, participants and nonparticipants in Conservation Reserve Program, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, 1959

| PIEDMONT | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Item | Unit | Participants with - | | | All participants | Nonparticipants | Level of participation | |
| | | 1956-58 contracts ¹ | 1959 modified contracts ² | 1959 new contracts ³ | | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| Farmers interviewed---- | Number | 56 | 51 | 69 | 176 | 65 | 61 | 115 |
| Distribution by age: | | | | | | | | |
| Under 45 years----- | Percent | 28.6 | 17.6 | 23.2 | 23.3 | 16.9 | 19.7 | 25.2 |
| 45 to 64 years----- | do. | 51.8 | 43.2 | 40.6 | 44.9 | 55.3 | 44.3 | 45.2 |
| 65 years and over-- | do. | 19.6 | 39.2 | 36.2 | 31.8 | 27.8 | 36.0 | 29.6 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Average age----- | Year | 52 | 56 | 56 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 55 |
| Percentage of operators living - | | | | | | | | |
| On the farm----- | Percent | 73.2 | 64.7 | 66.7 | 68.2 | 93.8 | 50.8 | 77.4 |
| Off the farm----- | do. | 26.8 | 35.3 | 33.3 | 31.8 | 6.2 | 49.2 | 22.6 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | | |
| Farmers interviewed---- | Number | 48 | 50 | 62 | 160 | 60 | 54 | 106 |
| Distribution by age: | | | | | | | | |
| Under 45 years----- | Percent | 43.8 | 16.0 | 17.7 | 25.0 | 23.3 | 31.5 | 21.7 |
| 45 to 64 years----- | do. | 45.8 | 58.0 | 58.1 | 54.4 | 46.7 | 44.4 | 59.4 |
| 65 years and over-- | do. | 10.4 | 26.0 | 24.2 | 20.6 | 30.0 | 24.1 | 18.9 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Average age----- | Year | 48 | 55 | 54 | 52 | 55 | 51 | 54 |
| Percentage of operators living - | | | | | | | | |
| On the farm----- | Percent | 66.7 | 74.0 | 77.4 | 73.1 | 86.7 | 51.9 | 84.0 |
| Off the farm----- | do. | 33.3 | 26.0 | 22.6 | 26.9 | 13.3 | 48.1 | 16.0 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

¹ Participants who placed land in conservation reserve in 1956, 1957, or 1958, but not in 1959.

² Participants who placed land in conservation reserve in 1956, 1957, or 1958, and in 1959.

³ Participants who placed land in conservation reserve in 1959.

nonfarm work than was true of nonparticipants (table 6). In the Piedmont, a slightly larger proportion of the participants were retired or disabled than nonparticipants. More nonparticipants in the Coastal Plain sample were retired.

On the average, nonparticipants have operated their farms longer than participants (table 6).

Some differences with respect to employment characteristics may be observed among participants in the different programs. For example, almost 50 percent of the whole-farm participants in the Piedmont were engaged in full-time work off the farm compared with about 32 percent of the part-farm participants.

Participants in the program who were

engaged in full-time nonfarm work were younger, had operated their present farms fewer years, and had smaller farms than participants who were farming on a full-time or part-time basis (appendix table 20). Participants who were retired or disabled were older and had smaller farms than the full-time and part-time farm group.

Characteristics of Farms

Farms of participants in the conservation reserve in both the Piedmont and Coastal Plain Areas averaged more total land, more total cropland, and a larger capital investment than farms of nonparticipants (table 7). In the Piedmont, less

TABLE 6.--Distribution by employment characteristics, participants and nonparticipants in Conservation Reserve Program, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, 1959

| PIEDMONT | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Item | Unit | Participants with ¹ - | | | All participants | Nonparticipants | Level of participation | |
| | | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 modified contracts | 1959 new contracts | | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| Farmers interviewed----- | Number | 56 | 51 | 69 | 176 | 65 | 61 | 115 |
| Distribution by- | | | | | | | | |
| Occupational status: | | | | | | | | |
| Full-time farmers---- | Percent | 28.6 | 33.3 | 37.7 | 33.5 | 60.0 | 27.9 | 36.5 |
| Part-time farmers---- | do. | 17.8 | 15.7 | 14.5 | 15.9 | 7.7 | 9.8 | 19.1 |
| Full-time nonfarmers---- | do. | 42.9 | 31.4 | 39.1 | 38.1 | 23.1 | 49.2 | 32.2 |
| Retired----- | do. | 8.9 | 15.7 | 5.8 | 9.7 | 7.7 | 9.8 | 9.6 |
| Disabled----- | do. | 1.8 | 3.9 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 1.5 | 3.3 | 2.6 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Years operating present farm: | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 10 years--- | do. | 32.1 | 22.0 | 27.5 | 27.4 | 26.2 | 35.0 | 26.1 |
| 10 to 19 years----- | do. | 26.8 | 18.0 | 33.3 | 26.8 | 29.2 | 21.7 | 34.8 |
| 20 years and over---- | do. | 41.1 | 60.0 | 39.2 | 45.8 | 44.6 | 43.3 | 39.1 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Average year----- | Year | 18 | 23 | 19 | 20 | 23 | 19 | 20 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | | |
| Farmers interviewed----- | Number | 48 | 50 | 62 | 160 | 60 | 54 | 106 |
| Distribution by- | | | | | | | | |
| Occupational status: | | | | | | | | |
| Full-time farmers---- | Percent | 50.0 | 60.0 | 54.8 | 55.0 | 63.3 | 29.6 | 67.9 |
| Part-time farmers---- | do. | 10.4 | 12.0 | 8.1 | 10.0 | 6.7 | 11.1 | 9.4 |
| Full-time nonfarmers---- | do. | 35.4 | 24.0 | 32.3 | 30.6 | 20.0 | 48.2 | 21.7 |
| Retired----- | do. | 2.1 | 2.0 | 3.2 | 2.5 | 8.3 | 7.4 | --- |
| Disabled----- | do. | 2.1 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 3.7 | 1.0 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Years operating present farm: | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 10 years--- | do. | 20.8 | 18.0 | 24.2 | 21.2 | 23.4 | 35.2 | 8.5 |
| 10 to 19 years----- | do. | 41.7 | 34.0 | 30.6 | 35.0 | 33.3 | 44.4 | 36.8 |
| 20 years and over---- | do. | 37.5 | 48.0 | 45.2 | 43.8 | 43.3 | 20.4 | 54.7 |
| Total----- | do. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Average year----- | Year | 17 | 23 | 20 | 20 | 22 | 16 | 22 |

¹ For explanation of participation in programs see footnotes to table 5.

labor was available on farms of participants than on those of nonparticipants. In the Coastal Plain, however, the opposite was true.

The data in table 7 and appendix table 21 show important differences with respect to farm characteristics among participants in

the different programs. For example, farms of participants who placed whole farm units in the conservation reserve averaged less total land, less family labor available, and smaller capital investments than farms with part of the eligible land in the program. The total cropland of whole-farm partici-

TABLE 7.--Resource characteristics of farms of participants and nonparticipants in Conservation Reserve Program, averages per farm, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, 1959

| PIEDMONT | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Item | Unit | Participants with ¹ - | | | All participants | Nonparticipants | Level of participation | |
| | | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 modified contracts | 1959 new contracts | | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| Farmers interviewed---- | Number | 56 | 51 | 69 | 176 | 65 | 61 | 115 |
| Land in farm----- | Acre | 323 | 278 | 321 | 306 | 186 | 181 | 373 |
| Total cropland----- | do. | 114 | 101 | 116 | 112 | 68 | 58 | 139 |
| Cotton----- | do. | 14 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 0 | 11 |
| Corn----- | do. | 10 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 11 | 0 | 8 |
| Small grain----- | do. | 13 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 10 |
| Other----- | do. | 51 | 20 | 26 | 34 | 31 | 0 | 54 |
| Conservation reserve-- | do. | 26 | 75 | 68 | 57 | 0 | 58 | 56 |
| Labor available ² ----- | Man-years | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| Dairy cows----- | Number | 1 | (³) | 1 | 1 | 2 | (³) | 1 |
| Beef cows----- | do. | 11 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 13 |
| Capital investment: | | | | | | | | |
| Land and buildings ⁴ --- | Dollar | 26,087 | 26,494 | 23,072 | 25,011 | 15,440 | 14,952 | 30,263 |
| Machinery and equipment | do. | 1,803 | 1,355 | 2,101 | 1,793 | 1,624 | 898 | 2,260 |
| Livestock----- | do. | 2,164 | 1,244 | 1,544 | 1,667 | 1,262 | 248 | 2,399 |
| Total----- | do. | 30,054 | 29,093 | 26,771 | 28,471 | 18,326 | 16,098 | 34,922 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | | |
| Farmers interviewed---- | Number | 48 | 50 | 62 | 160 | 60 | 54 | 106 |
| Land in farm----- | Acre | 421 | 464 | 322 | 393 | 277 | 214 | 488 |
| Total cropland----- | do. | 199 | 215 | 139 | 181 | 140 | 88 | 226 |
| Cotton----- | do. | 21 | 22 | 10 | 17 | 16 | 0 | 21 |
| Corn----- | do. | 61 | 32 | 29 | 40 | 79 | 0 | 54 |
| Small grain----- | do. | 17 | 26 | 3 | 15 | 7 | 0 | 20 |
| Peanuts----- | do. | 12 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 10 | 0 | 8 |
| Other----- | do. | 38 | 22 | 15 | 23 | 28 | 0 | 48 |
| Conservation reserve-- | do. | 50 | 109 | 78 | 79 | 0 | 88 | 75 |
| Labor available ² ----- | Man-years | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.8 |
| Dairy cows----- | Number | 1 | (³) | 1 | (³) | 1 | (³) | 1 |
| Beef cows----- | do. | 11 | 13 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 12 |
| Capital investment: | | | | | | | | |
| Land and buildings ⁴ --- | Dollar | 38,016 | 30,789 | 25,817 | 30,976 | 18,636 | 18,374 | 37,460 |
| Machinery and equipment | do. | 5,112 | 2,712 | 1,874 | 3,086 | 3,135 | 803 | 4,270 |
| Livestock----- | do. | 3,451 | 2,417 | 1,536 | 2,377 | 2,028 | 462 | 3,363 |
| Total----- | do. | 46,579 | 35,918 | 29,227 | 36,439 | 23,799 | 19,639 | 45,093 |

¹ For explanation of participation in programs, see footnotes to table 5.

² Operator and family labor.

³ Less than 1 animal per farm.

⁴ Includes value of land and buildings owned and rented from others.

pants amounted to less than half the cropland acreage of part-farm participants (fig. 4).

Income

A large proportion of both participants and nonparticipants in each area received less than \$2,500 from farm sales in 1958 (table 8). However, about 31 percent of the participants interviewed in the Coastal Plain received \$5,000 and more from farm sales in 1958 compared with about 12 percent of the nonparticipants. Approximately 14 percent of the participants interviewed in the Piedmont received \$5,000 and more compared with about 15 percent of the nonparticipants.

More participants than nonparticipants received income from off-farm work in 1958. The participants interviewed in both areas also received more income from off-farm work than nonparticipants. For example, more than 26 percent of the participants in the Piedmont received \$5,000 and more in nonfarm income compared with about 5 percent of the nonparticipants.

The data in table 8 show small differences between the different programs in the distribution of participants by farm income classes.

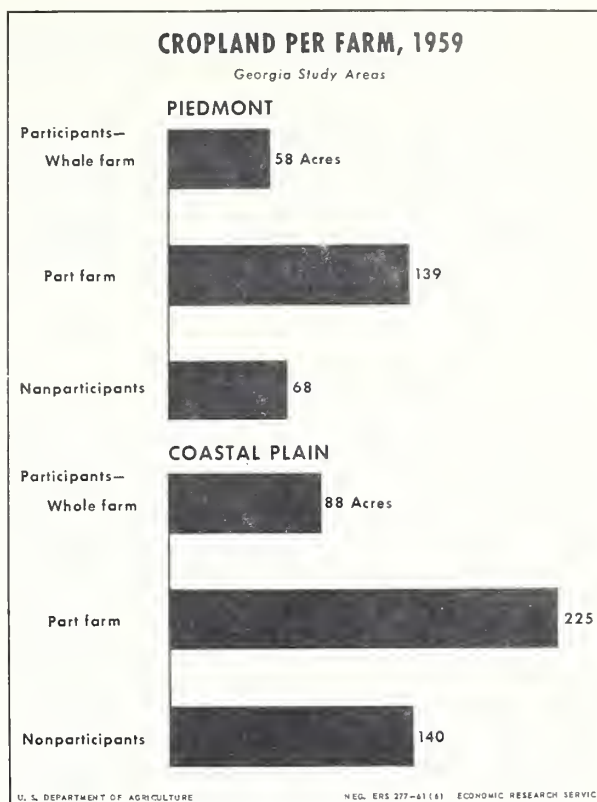


FIGURE 4

TABLE 8.--Distribution by income characteristics, participants and nonparticipants in Conservation Reserve Program, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, 1958

| Item | Participants with ¹ - | | | All participants | Nonparticipants | Level of participation | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 modified contracts | 1959 new contracts | | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Gross farm income: | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$2,500----- | 69.7 | 72.6 | 75.7 | 72.8 | 73.8 | 90.1 | 63.4 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999----- | 10.7 | 19.6 | 9.1 | 12.7 | 10.8 | 3.3 | 17.9 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999----- | 10.7 | 7.8 | 6.1 | 8.1 | 7.7 | 3.3 | 10.7 |
| \$10,000 and over----- | 8.9 | 0 | 9.1 | 6.4 | 7.7 | 3.3 | 8.0 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Income from off-farm work: ² | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$2,500----- | 30.3 | 13.3 | 25.0 | 23.9 | 25.5 | 30.5 | 21.0 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999----- | 20.9 | 26.6 | 29.5 | 25.7 | 23.3 | 27.8 | 24.7 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999----- | 18.6 | 16.7 | 11.4 | 15.4 | 4.6 | 16.7 | 14.8 |
| \$10,000 and over----- | 9.3 | 16.7 | 9.1 | 11.1 | 0 | 8.3 | 12.3 |
| No off-farm income----- | 20.9 | 26.7 | 25.0 | 23.9 | 46.6 | 16.7 | 27.2 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | |
| Gross farm income: | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$2,500----- | 50.0 | 49.0 | 60.0 | 53.5 | 68.9 | 77.3 | 41.4 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999----- | 12.5 | 20.4 | 13.3 | 15.3 | 19.0 | 15.1 | 15.4 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999----- | 8.3 | 14.3 | 20.0 | 14.6 | 0 | 5.7 | 19.2 |
| \$10,000 and over----- | 29.2 | 16.3 | 6.7 | 16.6 | 12.1 | 1.9 | 24.0 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Income from off-farm work: ² | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$2,500----- | 9.1 | 16.2 | 12.8 | 12.5 | 15.6 | 11.6 | 12.9 |
| \$2,500 to \$4,999----- | 9.1 | 16.2 | 23.4 | 16.4 | 17.8 | 30.2 | 9.4 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999----- | 27.3 | 13.5 | 14.9 | 18.8 | 2.2 | 25.6 | 15.3 |
| \$10,000 and over----- | 4.5 | 5.4 | 2.1 | 3.9 | 2.2 | 9.3 | 1.2 |
| No off-farm income----- | 50.0 | 48.7 | 46.8 | 48.4 | 62.2 | 23.3 | 61.2 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

¹ For explanation of participation in programs, see footnotes to table 5.

² Excludes owners receiving retirement income; 30 percent of the participants and 32 percent of nonparticipants in the Piedmont were receiving retirement income in 1958 compared with 19 percent of the participants and 25 percent of the nonparticipants in the Coastal Plain.

EFFECTS OF CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM ON RESOURCE USE, FARM PRODUCTION, AND EMPLOYMENT OF OPERATOR

How has the Conservation Reserve Program affected the use of land and other resources? What changes have occurred in crop and livestock production on farms of participants in the program? What has been the extent of change in employment or place of residence of participants since placing land in the program?

Changes in Land Use

Most participants interviewed reported important reductions in the acreages of their main cash crops following enrollment of land in the conservation reserve. Very little change occurred in the total acreage of land per farm including rented land.

Farmers interviewed in the Piedmont who participated only in the 1956-58 program reported 18 acres of cotton per farm on the average in 1957, the year preceding participation, compared with 7 acres in 1958 and 13 acres in 1959 (table 9). Similar changes occurred on the farms of participants in the 1959 program and on the farms of both groups of participants in the Coastal Plain. In some instances, the acreage of cotton harvested per farm was larger in 1959 than in 1958. This increase occurred because part of the cotton land placed in the acreage reserve in 1958 was planted again to cotton in 1959.

Crop yields varied considerably from year to year, by type of program and by area. These data show slightly higher crop yields per acre during years of participation compared with the year preceding participation. Although part of the year-to-year variation in crop yields may be attributed to weather, this relationship suggests some selectivity with respect to land kept in production.³

The average crop yields per acre on the sample farms were above the average of yields on all farms in the sample counties.

Reduction in Farm Production

A total of 35,586 acres, or 17 percent of the cropland in the sample counties in the Piedmont, and 107,890 acres, or 24 percent, in the Coastal Plain was in the

conservation reserve in 1960. (See table 4.) More than half the land placed in the program by owners interviewed in the Piedmont was planted to cotton, corn, wheat, and oats the year before participation (table 10). In the Coastal Plain, 62 percent of the conservation reserve land on sample farms was planted to cotton, corn, wheat, oats, and peanuts in the year preceding enrollment in the program. Crops other than the main cash crops contributing land to the conservation reserve were chiefly lespedeza, cowpeas, millet, and rye. Part of the acreage came from idle cropland.

The proportion of conservation reserve land coming from land previously planted to cotton was larger in the Piedmont than in the Coastal Plain (fig. 5). Significantly, only a small proportion of the land placed in the program by owners interviewed in the Coastal Plain had been previously planted in cotton or peanuts. Consequently, the reduction in production of cotton through retirement of land from production has been more substantial in the Piedmont than in the Coastal Plain. According to the Georgia Crop Reporting Service, the acreage of cotton harvested on all farms in the sample counties decreased about 33 percent in the Piedmont and 22 percent in the Coastal Plain from 1956 through 1959. (See table 3.)

The data in table 11 indicate that fairly substantial reductions occurred in production of cotton, corn, and oats as a result of the conservation reserve. The net effect of this change is offset to some extent by the higher per acre yields of crops on acreages remaining in production. (See appendix table 25.) Little change occurred in livestock production on farms in both areas as livestock production was relatively unimportant on most farms in the sample.

The rental payments for conservation reserve land averaged \$12.07 per acre on farms in the Piedmont sample and \$11.43 per acre on farms in the Coastal Plain sample. The total rental payments to all farms in the sample amounted to 32 percent of the total gross value of the estimated reduction in production of cotton, corn, oats, and wheat in the Piedmont and 30 percent in the Coastal Plain. These percentages, however, place the entire rental burden on these 5 crops. The rental

³See appendix table 25 for crop yields on farms in sample with contracts beginning in 1956, 1957, 1958, and 1959.

TABLE 9.--Land use and crop acreages, year preceding and years of participation in Conservation Reserve Program, averages for farms with contracts beginning in 1958, Piedmont and Coastal Plain¹

PIEDMONT

| Item | 1958 contracts | | | 1959 modified contracts | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 1957 (before program) | Program year | | 1957 (before program) | Program year | |
| | | 1958 | 1959 | | 1958 | 1959 |
| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> |
| Farmers interviewed----- | 22 | 22 | 22 | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
| Land operated: | | | | | | |
| Owned----- | 348 | 348 | 348 | 214 | 214 | 214 |
| Rented from others----- | 7 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Rented to others----- | -7 | -3 | -4 | -21 | -5 | -5 |
| Total----- | 348 | 352 | 347 | 196 | 209 | 213 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 17 | 17 | 0 | 13 | 22 |
| Other----- | 0 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 26 | 47 |
| Total----- | 0 | 24 | 24 | 0 | 39 | 69 |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 4 | 13 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| Wheat----- | 4 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Total----- | 8 | 17 | 0 | 9 | 10 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | 8 | 41 | 24 | 9 | 49 | 69 |
| Other----- | 142 | 117 | 130 | 72 | 46 | 31 |
| Total ² ----- | 150 | 158 | 154 | 81 | 95 | 100 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 18 | 7 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| Corn----- | 15 | 15 | 14 | 18 | 8 | 2 |
| Small grain----- | 24 | 18 | 20 | 13 | 3 | 1 |

COASTAL PLAIN

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> |
| Farmers interviewed----- | 15 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 11 | 11 |
| | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
| Land operated: | | | | | | |
| Owned----- | 383 | 408 | 412 | 196 | 183 | 183 |
| Rented from others----- | 8 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rented to others----- | -2 | 0 | -18 | -10 | -7 | -1 |
| Total----- | 389 | 416 | 402 | 186 | 176 | 182 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 30 | 30 | 0 | 18 | 30 |
| Other----- | 0 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 22 |
| Total----- | 0 | 34 | 34 | 0 | 22 | 52 ² |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 6 | 10 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 0 |
| Other ³ ----- | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Total----- | 7 | 12 | 0 | 9 | 12 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | 7 | 46 | 34 | 9 | 34 | 52 |
| Other----- | 204 | 181 | 175 | 75 | 46 | 36 |
| Total ² ----- | 211 | 227 | 209 | 84 | 80 | 88 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 18 | 14 | 22 | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| Corn----- | 52 | 39 | 36 | 36 | 27 | 16 |
| Small grain----- | 44 | 46 | 34 | 10 | 6 | 2 |
| Peanuts----- | 14 | 15 | 15 | 5 | 4 | 4 |

¹ See appendix tables 22, 23, and 24 for summary of land use on farms of sample participants enrolled in programs in 1956, 1957, and 1959.

² Excludes acreage in open permanent pasture. The year-to-year variations in total cropland resulted from some cropland being planted to or taken out of open permanent pasture, the purchase or renting of additional land, or some combination of these changes.

³ Includes peanuts, wheat, and tobacco.

TABLE 10.--Percentage distribution of land in Conservation Reserve Program in 1959, by uses before program participation, sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Unit | Piedmont farms with- | | | Coastal Plain farms with- | | |
|---|---------|----------------------|----------------|-------|---------------------------|----------------|--------|
| | | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 contracts | Total | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 contracts | Total |
| Land in conservation reserve, 1959, sample farms----- | Acre | 3,652 | 6,261 | 9,913 | 5,081 | 7,678 | 12,759 |
| Distribution by use in year preceding participation: | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | Percent | 8 | 18 | 15 | 3 | 12 | 8 |
| Corn----- | do. | 25 | 16 | 19 | 49 | 31 | 38 |
| Small grain----- | do. | 24 | 16 | 19 | 11 | 16 | 14 |
| Peanuts----- | do. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Other----- | do. | 43 | 50 | 47 | 36 | 39 | 38 |
| Total----- | do. | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

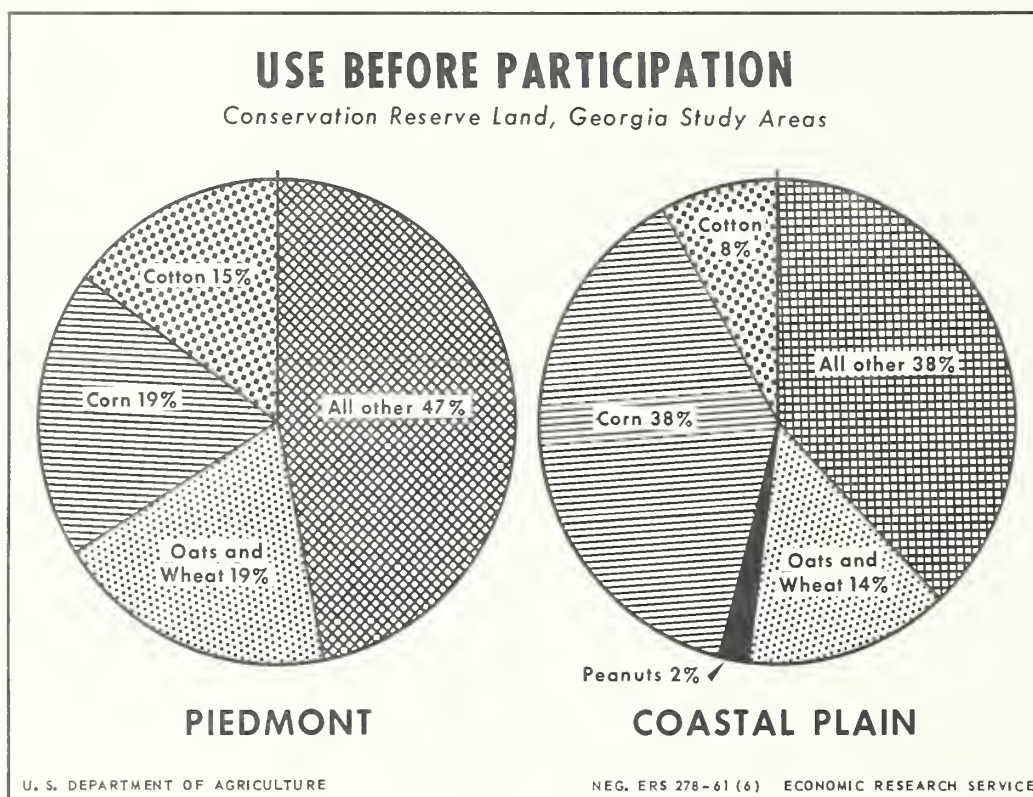


FIGURE 5

for only that acreage actually devoted to these 5 crops amounted to 17 percent of the total gross value of the estimated reduced production for these crops in the Piedmont and 18 percent in the Coastal Plain.

Changes in Use of Fertilizer

The quantity of fertilizer used on the farms of most participants in the conser-

vation reserve was substantially reduced (table 12). The extent of reduction in fertilizer use per farm varied by area and by type of program. The largest reduction occurred on the farms of participants in the 1959 program, as more of the owners in this group placed all of their eligible land in the program.

Most participants reported little change in amount of fertilizer used per acre of cropland harvested (table 12). Similarly,

TABLE 11.--Reduction in acreage and production of crops, rental payments for Conservation Reserve land, and estimated gross value of crop reduction, all participants, sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Unit | Piedmont farms with- | | | Coastal Plain farms with- | | |
|---|---------|----------------------|----------------|---------|---------------------------|----------------|---------|
| | | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 contracts | Total | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 contracts | Total |
| Estimated total reduction resulting from program: ¹ | | | | | | | |
| Cotton ² ----- | Bale | 291 | 1,129 | 1,420 | 128 | 828 | 956 |
| Corn----- | Bushel | 28,928 | 31,904 | 60,832 | 93,670 | 90,250 | 183,920 |
| Oats----- | do. | 26,424 | 31,536 | 57,960 | 19,950 | 38,304 | 58,254 |
| Wheat----- | do. | 3,565 | 2,553 | 6,118 | 1,025 | 4,500 | 5,525 |
| Peanuts----- | Ton | --- | --- | --- | 37 | 99 | 136 |
| Total rental payments for conservation reserve land, 1959----- | Dollar | 29,216 | 90,387 | 119,603 | 40,648 | 105,247 | 145,895 |
| Average payment per acre----- | do. | 8.00 | 14.44 | 12.07 | 8.00 | 13.71 | 11.43 |
| Estimated gross value of crop reduction ³ ----- | do. | 115,624 | 257,977 | 373,601 | 172,320 | 317,185 | 489,505 |
| Total rental payments as a percentage of gross value of reduction of specified crops----- | Percent | 25 | 35 | 32 | 24 | 33 | 30 |
| Rental payments for land previously planted to cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and peanuts---- | Dollar | 16,653 | 45,194 | 63,390 | 26,015 | 64,201 | 90,455 |
| Rental payments for land from specified crops as a percentage of gross value of reduction of these crops----- | Percent | 14 | 18 | 17 | 15 | 20 | 18 |

¹ These estimates are based on 1957-58 average crop yields.

² 500-pound bales.

³ These estimates include the gross value of estimated reduction in cotton, corn, oats, wheat, and peanuts; based on 1957-58 average prices received.

TABLE 12.--Quantity of fertilizer used, year preceding and years of participation in Conservation Reserve Program, averages for farms with contracts beginning in 1958, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Unit | 1958 contracts | | | 1959 modified contracts | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|--------------|--------|-------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | 1957 (before program) | Program year | | 1957 (before program) | Program year | |
| | | | 1958 | 1959 | | 1958 | 1959 |
| PIEDMONT | | | | | | | |
| Nutrients used: | | | | | | | |
| Total----- | Pound | 9,209 | 6,726 | 7,765 | 6,108 | 3,109 | 1,532 |
| Per acre----- | do. | 66 | 57 | 61 | 113 | 104 | 96 |
| Cropland harvested ¹ ----- | Acre | 139 | 117 | 127 | 54 | 30 | 16 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | |
| Nutrients used: | | | | | | | |
| Total----- | Pound | 18,772 | 17,151 | 18,879 | 6,866 | 4,978 | 3,909 |
| Per acre----- | do. | 105 | 108 | 125 | 120 | 116 | 115 |
| Cropland harvested ¹ ----- | Acre | 179 | 159 | 151 | 57 | 43 | 34 |

¹ Includes fruit and truck crops.

the amount of fertilizer used per acre on the main cash crops in each area generally changed only slightly on the average after land was placed in the conservation reserve (appendix table 26). There was a definite upward trend for fertilizer rates in the Coastal Plain. There was some evidence that owners who continued to produce cotton or other cash crops after placing part of their land in the program used more fertilizer per acre previously than did owners who participated on a whole-farm basis. Thus, these data indicate little

if any increase in the rate of fertilizer use on crops as a result of participation in the conservation reserve. However, most respondents reported substantial decreases in the total amount of fertilizer used per farm as a result of removal from production of land placed in the program.

Changes in Labor Inputs

Only slight reductions occurred in the amount of labor available on the farms of

owners interviewed who placed land in the conservation reserve (table 13). The reduction was chiefly in hired labor including sharecroppers. Little change occurred in amount of operator and family labor available.

Substantial reductions occurred in amount of labor required for crop and livestock production on farms placed in the conservation reserve (table 13). The decrease in the amount of labor required per farm varied considerably among farms, depending upon the acreage of land placed in the program. The wide difference between the amount of labor available in relation to the amount used after enrolling land in the program suggests that a substantial part of the labor force on participating farms was underemployed. More adjustment would be expected to take place in the use of labor and other resources with additional time, particularly on farms with contracts beginning in 1959.

Changes in Use of Farm Machinery and Buildings

Only a relatively small percentage of the respondents reported changes in use of farm machines and buildings as a result of participation in the conservation reserve (table 14). More participants with whole-farm than part-farm units reported changes of this kind.

Some of the owners reporting a change disposed of part or all of their machinery after placing land in the program. Others had machinery that could not be disposed of because of obsolescence or poor condition.

There was evidence that on many farms less use has been made of machinery since land was placed in the conservation reserve.

Changes in Employment and Residence of Operator

Of the farm operators interviewed, only a relatively small proportion indicated a

TABLE 13.--Labor force and labor requirements, year preceding and years of participation in Conservation Reserve Program, averages for farms with contracts beginning in 1958, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | 1958 contracts | | | 1959 modified contracts | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 1957 (before program) | Program year | | 1957 (before program) | Program year | |
| | | 1958 | 1959 | | 1958 | 1959 |
| Labor available: ¹ | <u>Man-hours</u> | <u>Man-hours</u> | <u>Man-hours</u> | <u>Man-hours</u> | <u>Man-hours</u> | <u>Man-hours</u> |
| Operator and family----- | 2,975 | 3,050 | 3,075 | 3,550 | 3,550 | 3,375 |
| Farm wage worker----- | 1,075 | 975 | 950 | 700 | 700 | 375 |
| Sharecropper----- | 1,175 | 750 | 925 | 625 | 625 | 725 |
| Seasonal labor----- | 125 | 375 | 425 | 475 | 275 | 250 |
| Total----- | 5,350 | 5,150 | 5,375 | 5,350 | 5,150 | 4,725 |
| Labor required per farm: | | | | | | |
| Crops----- | 2,375 | 1,250 | 1,650 | 1,250 | 550 | 425 |
| Livestock----- | 1,125 | 875 | 1,025 | 300 | 350 | 200 |
| Overhead----- | 375 | 250 | 300 | 175 | 50 | 50 |
| Total----- | 3,875 | 2,375 | 2,975 | 1,725 | 950 | 675 |

| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Labor available: ¹ | | | | | | |
| Operator and family----- | 4,350 | 4,425 | 4,400 | 4,125 | 4,125 | 4,125 |
| Farm wage worker----- | 1,825 | 1,550 | 1,675 | 1,125 | 825 | 875 |
| Sharecropper----- | 950 | 925 | 925 | 775 | 0 | 0 |
| Seasonal labor----- | 425 | 250 | 425 | 50 | 25 | 75 |
| Total----- | 7,550 | 7,150 | 7,425 | 6,075 | 4,975 | 5,075 |
| Labor required per farm: | | | | | | |
| Crops----- | 3,100 | 2,600 | 3,175 | 1,150 | 625 | 825 |
| Livestock----- | 1,075 | 825 | 725 | 700 | 725 | 725 |
| Overhead----- | 475 | 400 | 475 | 200 | 175 | 175 |
| Total----- | 4,650 | 3,825 | 4,375 | 2,050 | 1,525 | 1,725 |

¹ Labor available includes the total man-hours of labor available on farms for farm and off-farm work. Seasonal labor includes the average amount hired each year.

TABLE 14.--Respondents reporting changes in use of farm buildings and farm machines because of participation in Conservation Reserve Program, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

PIEDMONT

| Item | Farmers interviewed | Percentage reporting changes in- | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Use or repair of farm buildings | Use or number of farm machines |
| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
| Participants with: ¹ | | | |
| 1956-58 contracts----- | 56 | 7 | 2 |
| 1959 modified contracts----- | 51 | 12 | 14 |
| 1959 new contracts----- | 69 | 13 | 10 |
| All participants----- | 176 | 11 | 9 |
| Extent of participation: | | | |
| Whole farm----- | 61 | 15 | 7 |
| Part of farm----- | 115 | 9 | 10 |

COASTAL PLAIN

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| | | | |
| Participants with: ¹ | | | |
| 1956-58 contracts----- | 48 | 4 | 8 |
| 1959 modified contracts----- | 50 | 14 | 16 |
| 1959 new contracts----- | 62 | 11 | 13 |
| All participants----- | 160 | 10 | 12 |
| Extent of participation: | | | |
| Whole farm----- | 54 | 11 | 24 |
| Part of farm----- | 106 | 9 | 7 |

¹ For explanation of participants in programs, see footnotes to table 5.

change in residence or in employment since 1957 (table 15). The proportion of nonparticipants who had changed residence or employment since 1957 was about the same as the proportion of participants. Similarly, the proportion of farm operators with land in the conservation reserve who had changed residence or employment varied only slightly among participants in the different programs or by level of participation.

As pointed out earlier, 71 percent of the participants in the sample lived on their farms and 29 percent lived in towns or on other farms. Thus, the survey indicated no substantial change in residence or employment of participants or any plans by farm owners to make such changes to any great extent because of participation in the conservation reserve. Most farmers who are participating in the program because of age, off-farm work, or other reasons plan to continue living on their farms.

How Land Would Have Been Used If It Had Not Been Placed in Conservation Reserve

Nineteen percent of the respondents in the Piedmont and 17 percent in the Coastal Plain indicated that they would not have farmed their land personally if it had not been placed in the conservation reserve (table 16). This percentage was much larger among participants with whole farms than among owners participating on a part-farm basis. Most farmers in this group indicated that they would have rented the land to neighbors; a few would have left it idle.

On farms of respondents in the Piedmont who indicated a specific use, 37 percent of the acreage would have been planted to corn and 24 percent to oats. A relatively small proportion of the acreage on these farms would have been planted to cotton.

TABLE 15.--Changes in employment and residence between Jan. 1, 1957, and date of interview, participants and nonparticipants in Conservation Reserve Program, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Percentage of farmers reporting change | | | |
|------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Piedmont | | Coastal Plain | |
| | In residence | In employment | In residence | In employment |
| | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
| Participants with: | | | | |
| 1956-58 contracts----- | 2 | 7 | 6 | 6 |
| 1959 modified contracts----- | 2 | 4 | 8 | 6 |
| 1959 new contracts----- | 4 | 4 | 2 | 8 |
| All participants----- | 3 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| Level of participation: | | | | |
| Whole farm----- | 2 | 7 | 6 | 11 |
| Part farm----- | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| Nonparticipants----- | 2 | 3 | 2 | 7 |

QUALITY OF LAND PLACED IN CONSERVATION RESERVE

The average market value of land in farms of participants interviewed in the Piedmont was slightly lower than the value of land in the farms of nonparticipants; in the Coastal Plain, the average value of land was about the same for both participants and nonparticipants (table 17). Crop yields per acre however, were generally higher on farms of participants than on farms of nonparticipants. These data indicate that, on the average, farms of participants may be

as productive as farms of nonparticipants.

About 72 percent of the respondents in each area who participated with part-farm units indicated that land placed in the conservation reserve on their farms was about as productive as land kept in production. However, a comparison of crop yields the year before participation with yields in the years during participation indicates that, in general, participants kept the most productive land in production. (See appendix table 25.)

REASONS FOR PARTICIPATING OR NOT PARTICIPATING IN CONSERVATION RESERVE

The main reasons given by respondents for placing land in the conservation reserve include the need to increase farm income, a desire to establish soil-conserving crops including trees, and the difficulties of hiring and maintaining an efficient farm labor force (table 18). Poor health and advanced age of operator were given as reasons for participating in the program by about 20 percent of the respondents in each area.

The main reason given by nonparticipants for declining to participate in the program was the belief that the conservation reserve would be a less profitable alternative than other uses of their land (table 19). Other important reasons for nonparticipation in-

cluded conflict of personal interest with program restrictions, the desire of owners to continue farming their land, and lack of understanding of the program.

Expected Uses of Conservation Reserve Land After Expiration of Contract

Thirty-eight percent of the participants in the Piedmont sample and 44 percent in the Coastal Plain sample indicated that they planned to leave the conservation reserve land on their farms in trees after their contracts expired (fig. 6). A relatively large proportion of the participants in both areas plan to return their land to farm

TABLE 16.--How participants in Conservation Reserve Program would have used land if it had not been placed in program, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Participants with ¹ - | | | All participants | Level of participation | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 modified contracts | 1959 new contracts | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| PIEDMONT | | | | | | |
| Percentage of participants who would not have farmed land placed in program----- | <u>Percent</u> 16 | <u>Percent</u> 18 | <u>Percent</u> 23 | <u>Percent</u> 19 | <u>Percent</u> 31 | <u>Percent</u> 14 |
| Percentage of land of other participants that would have been planted in- | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 7 | 11 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 8 |
| Corn----- | 33 | 38 | 30 | 37 | 31 | 40 |
| Oats----- | 24 | 28 | 25 | 24 | 26 | 24 |
| Pasture----- | 9 | 13 | 24 | 15 | 23 | 12 |
| Other----- | 27 | 10 | 12 | 15 | 9 | 16 |
| Total----- | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | |
| Percentage of participants who would not have farmed land placed in program----- | 21 | 14 | 16 | 17 | 35 | 7 |
| Percentage of land of other participants that would have been planted in- | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 2 | 6 | 10 | 6 | 11 | 3 |
| Corn----- | 63 | 56 | 51 | 57 | 58 | 57 |
| Peanuts----- | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| Oats----- | 16 | 22 | 14 | 19 | 14 | 21 |
| Pasture----- | 7 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 11 | 10 |
| Other----- | 11 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 8 |
| Total----- | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

¹ For explanation of participation in programs, see footnotes to table 5.

TABLE 17.--Quality of land placed in Conservation Reserve Program as measured by specified factors, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Unit | Participants with- | | | All participants | Nonparticipants | Level of participation | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 modified contracts | 1959 new contracts | | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| PIEDMONT | | | | | | | | |
| Market value of land per acre----- | Dollar | 119 | 96 | 86 | 99 | 104 | 90 | 104 |
| Crop yields per acre: ¹ | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | Pound | 525 | 457 | 418 | 472 | 433 | --- | --- |
| Corn----- | Bushel | 35 | 35 | 32 | 34 | 31 | --- | --- |
| Wheat----- | do. | 23 | 20 | 18 | 22 | 26 | --- | --- |
| Oats----- | do. | 39 | 33 | 31 | 35 | 40 | --- | --- |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | | |
| Market value of land per acre----- | Dollar | 121 | 94 | 82 | 97 | 97 | 112 | 89 |
| Crop yields per acre: ¹ | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | Pound | 457 | 458 | 401 | 440 | 373 | --- | --- |
| Corn----- | Bushel | 39 | 40 | 36 | 38 | 29 | --- | --- |
| Wheat----- | do. | 20 | 30 | 22 | 25 | 22 | --- | --- |
| Oats----- | do. | 37 | 41 | 34 | 38 | 32 | --- | --- |
| Peanuts----- | Pound | 1,166 | 1,105 | 1,060 | 1,093 | 1,017 | --- | --- |

¹ 1958-59 average yields.

TABLE 18.--Reasons for placing land in Conservation Reserve Program, operators of sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Reason | Level of participation | | All participants |
|---|------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Whole farm | Part farm | |
| PIEDMONT | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
| Increase farm income----- | 38 | 31 | 34 |
| Land unprofitable to farm--- | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Age of operator----- | 10 | 9 | 9 |
| Wished to establish conser- vation practice----- | 18 | 16 | 17 |
| Could not hire farm labor--- | 15 | 29 | 24 |
| Crop allotments too small--- | 5 | 7 | 6 |
| Health or other----- | 12 | 7 | 9 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | |
| Increase farm income----- | 39 | 31 | 34 |
| Land unprofitable to farm--- | 2 | 9 | 6 |
| Age of operator----- | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| Wished to establish conser- vation practice----- | 11 | 9 | 9 |
| Could not hire farm labor--- | 24 | 32 | 30 |
| Crop allotments too small--- | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Health or other----- | 11 | 10 | 11 |

TABLE 19.--Reasons for nonparticipation in the Conservation Reserve Program, operators of sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Reason | All nonparticipants interviewed | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|
| | Piedmont | Coastal Plain |
| | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
| Lack of understanding of program--- | 9 | 7 |
| Owner considered participation as unprofitable use of land----- | 25 | 25 |
| Owner wanted to keep farming the land----- | 18 | 18 |
| Personal interest conflicted with program restrictions----- | 11 | 8 |
| Land not eligible----- | 5 | 7 |
| Disinterested in government programs----- | 5 | 8 |
| Other----- | 26 | 25 |
| Not reported----- | 1 | 2 |
| Total----- | 100 | 100 |

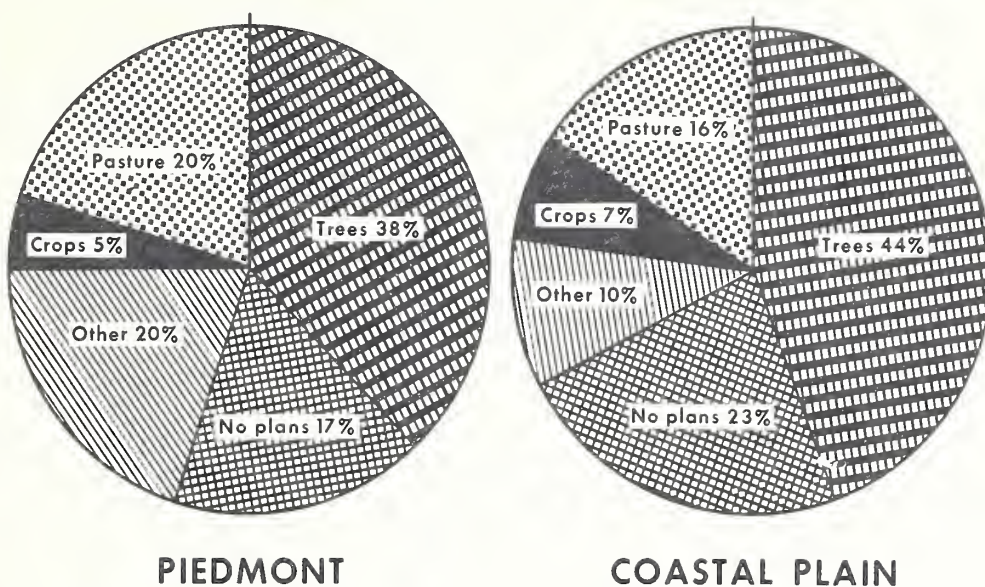
production - mainly livestock production - at the end of the contract period.

About 15 percent of the participants interviewed in the Piedmont and 5 percent in the Coastal Plain indicated that they

would like to obtain a new contract after expiration of the present contract. An even larger number reported that they had no specific plans for using their conservation reserve land after their contract expires.

EXPECTED USE WHEN CONTRACTS END

Conservation Reserve Land, Georgia Study Areas



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. ERS 279-61 (6) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

FIGURE 6

APPENDIX

TABLE 20.--Characteristics of farm owner participants and nonparticipants in the Conservation Reserve Program, classified by occupation, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

PIEDMONT.

| Item | Unit | Occupation of participants | | | | All par- ticipants | Nonpar- ticipants |
|--------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | | Full-time farmer | Part-time farmer | Nonfarmer | Retired | Disabled | |
| Farmers interviewed----- | Number | 53 | 25 | 66 | 23 | 9 | 65 |
| Live on farm----- | Percent | 75 | 72 | 58 | 96 | 11 | 94 |
| Age----- | Year | 60 | 51 | 48 | 70 | 67 | 55 |
| Averages: | | | | | | | |
| Operated present farm--- | Year | 28 | 18 | 12 | 31 | 16 | 23 |
| Land in farm----- | Acre | 345 | 528 | 177 | 342 | 166 | 186 |
| Cropland----- | do. | 147 | 146 | 72 | 128 | 58 | 68 |
| Market value per acre--- | Dollar | 91 | 95 | 115 | 88 | 77 | 105 |

COASTAL PLAIN

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Farmers interviewed----- | Number | 74 | 19 | 50 | 12 | 5 | 60 |
| Live on farm----- | Percent | 91 | 57 | 42 | 92 | 60 | 87 |
| Age----- | Year | 55 | 56 | 45 | 68 | 67 | 55 |
| Averages: | | | | | | | |
| Operated present farm--- | Year | 24 | 20 | 14 | 25 | 25 | 22 |
| Land in farm----- | Acre | 421 | 401 | 249 | 226 | 191 | 277 |
| Cropland----- | do. | 241 | 175 | 118 | 121 | 106 | 140 |
| Market value per acre--- | Dollar | 93 | 89 | 97 | 78 | 71 | 97 |

TABLE 21.--Distribution of participants and nonparticipants in the Conservation Reserve Program, by specified farm characteristics, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, 1959

PIEDMONT

| Item | Participants with ¹ - | | | All participants | Nonparticipants | Extent of participation | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | 1956-58 contracts | 1959 modified contracts | 1959 new contracts | | | Whole farm | Part of farm |
| | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| Total land: | | | | | | | |
| Less than 100 acres----- | 37.5 | 32.0 | 29.0 | 32.6 | 50.8 | 44.3 | 26.3 |
| 100 to 299 acres----- | 33.9 | 42.0 | 37.7 | 37.7 | 30.8 | 44.3 | 34.2 |
| 300 acres and over----- | 28.6 | 26.0 | 33.3 | 29.7 | 18.4 | 11.4 | 39.5 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Operator and family labor available: | | | | | | | |
| Less than 1.0 man-years----- | 25.0 | 37.3 | 27.5 | 29.5 | 28.6 | 32.8 | 27.8 |
| 1.0 to 1.9 man-years----- | 60.7 | 49.0 | 58.0 | 56.3 | 50.8 | 59.0 | 54.8 |
| 2.0 man-years and over----- | 14.3 | 13.7 | 14.5 | 14.2 | 20.6 | 8.2 | 17.4 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Value of farm assets: | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$5,000----- | 14.5 | 8.2 | 11.8 | 11.6 | 22.2 | 23.7 | 5.3 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999----- | 21.9 | 22.4 | 17.6 | 20.3 | 27.1 | 25.4 | 17.7 |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999----- | 14.5 | 14.3 | 17.6 | 15.7 | 19.0 | 15.3 | 15.9 |
| \$15,000 to \$24,999----- | 20.0 | 16.3 | 19.1 | 18.6 | 11.1 | 23.7 | 15.9 |
| \$25,000 and over----- | 29.1 | 38.8 | 33.9 | 33.8 | 20.6 | 11.9 | 45.2 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

COASTAL PLAIN

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total land: | | | | | | | |
| Less than 100 acres----- | 18.7 | 16.0 | 12.9 | 15.6 | 40.0 | 34.0 | 8.5 |
| 100 to 299 acres----- | 31.3 | 32.0 | 61.3 | 43.1 | 41.7 | 45.3 | 37.7 |
| 300 acres and over----- | 50.0 | 52.0 | 25.8 | 41.3 | 18.3 | 20.7 | 53.8 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Operator and family labor available: | | | | | | | |
| Less than 1.0 man-years----- | 8.3 | 20.0 | 22.6 | 17.5 | 16.7 | 20.4 | 16.0 |
| 1.0 to 1.9 man-years----- | 58.4 | 56.0 | 53.2 | 55.6 | 58.3 | 64.8 | 51.0 |
| 2.0 man-years and over----- | 33.3 | 24.0 | 24.2 | 26.9 | 25.0 | 14.8 | 33.0 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Value of farm assets: | | | | | | | |
| Less than \$5,000----- | 6.5 | 6.1 | 9.8 | 7.7 | 24.6 | 17.0 | 2.9 |
| \$5,000 to \$9,999----- | 13.1 | 14.3 | 11.5 | 12.8 | 15.8 | 18.9 | 9.7 |
| \$10,000 to \$14,999----- | 15.2 | 10.2 | 21.3 | 16.0 | 19.3 | 22.7 | 12.6 |
| \$15,000 to \$24,999----- | 15.2 | 18.4 | 18.0 | 17.3 | 14.0 | 20.7 | 15.5 |
| \$25,000 and over----- | 50.0 | 51.0 | 39.4 | 46.2 | 26.3 | 20.7 | 59.3 |
| Total----- | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

¹ For explanation of participation in programs, see footnotes to table 5.

TABLE 22.--Land use and crop acreages per farm, year preceding and years of participation in Conservation Reserve Program, sample farms, with contracts beginning in 1956, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

PIEDMONT

| Item | 1956 contracts | | | | | 1959 modified contracts | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 1955 (before program) | Program year | | | | 1955 (before program) | Program year | | | |
| | | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 |
| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> |
| Farmers interviewed----- | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Land operated: | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
| Owned----- | 223 | 223 | 223 | 223 | 223 | 314 | 283 | 283 | 338 | 338 |
| Rented from others----- | 43 | 43 | 43 | 43 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rented to others----- | -5 | -5 | -5 | -5 | -6 | 0 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total----- | 261 | 261 | 261 | 261 | 260 | 314 | 282 | 283 | 338 | 338 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 8 | 9 | 15 | 15 | 0 | 11 | 11 | 25 | 39 |
| Other----- | 0 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 0 | 22 | 22 | 29 | 47 |
| Total----- | 0 | 20 | 20 | 26 | 26 | 0 | 33 | 33 | 54 | 86 |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 0 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 13 | 18 | 0 |
| Wheat----- | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| Total----- | 0 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 17 | 22 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | 0 | 26 | 28 | 35 | 26 | 0 | 42 | 50 | 76 | 86 |
| Other----- | 85 | 59 | 57 | 50 | 59 | 119 | 77 | 69 | 50 | 45 |
| Total ² ----- | 85 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 119 | 119 | 119 | 126 | 131 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 11 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 16 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| Corn----- | 10 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 13 | 7 | 11 | 6 | 2 |
| Small grain----- | 16 | 13 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 45 | 10 | 8 | 13 | 7 |

COASTAL PLAIN

| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Farmers interviewed----- | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Land operated: | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
| Owned----- | 407 | 430 | 430 | 430 | 430 | 454 | 482 | 482 | 482 | 482 |
| Rented from others----- | 16 | 25 | 33 | 34 | 34 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Rented to others----- | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total----- | 423 | 455 | 463 | 464 | 463 | 472 | 498 | 498 | 498 | 498 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 55 | 70 | 75 | 75 | 0 | 42 | 55 | 61 | 81 |
| Other----- | 0 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 25 |
| Total----- | 0 | 59 | 75 | 80 | 80 | 0 | 47 | 62 | 68 | 106 |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 0 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 13 | 17 | 0 |
| Other ¹ ----- | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 | 10 | 0 |
| Total----- | 0 | 2 | 11 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 19 | 27 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | 0 | 61 | 86 | 92 | 80 | 0 | 56 | 81 | 95 | 106 |
| Other----- | 179 | 135 | 124 | 118 | 130 | 240 | 184 | 159 | 143 | 121 |
| Total ² ----- | 179 | 196 | 210 | 210 | 210 | 240 | 240 | 240 | 238 | 227 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 28 | 25 | 19 | 17 | 22 | 32 | 22 | 12 | 11 | 16 |
| Corn----- | 73 | 50 | 51 | 55 | 60 | 90 | 49 | 43 | 37 | 26 |
| Small grain----- | 33 | 24 | 21 | 14 | 4 | 41 | 32 | 25 | 17 | 22 |
| Peanuts----- | 15 | 12 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 13 | 5 |

¹ Includes peanuts, wheat, and tobacco.

² Excludes acreage in open permanent pasture. The year-to-year variations in total cropland resulted from either some cropland being planted to or taken out of open permanent pasture, the purchase or renting of additional land, or some combination of these changes.

TABLE 23.--Land use and crop acreages, year preceding and years of participation in Conservation Reserve Program, sample farms, with contracts beginning in 1957, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

PIEDMONT

| Item | 1957 contracts | | | | 1959 modified contracts | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | 1956 (before program) | Program year | | | 1956 (before program) | Program year | | |
| | | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 |
| Farmers interviewed----- | <u>Number</u> 21 | <u>Number</u> 21 | <u>Number</u> 21 | <u>Number</u> 21 | <u>Number</u> 23 | <u>Number</u> 23 | <u>Number</u> 23 | <u>Number</u> 23 |
| Land operated: | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
| Owned----- | 307 | 307 | 307 | 304 | 290 | 299 | 299 | 310 |
| Rented from others----- | 33 | 33 | 33 | 33 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Rented to others----- | -1 | 0 | 0 | -1 | -2 | -9 | -8 | -8 |
| Total----- | 339 | 340 | 340 | 336 | 304 | 306 | 306 | 317 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 0 | 18 | 25 | 36 |
| Other----- | 0 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 13 | 19 | 41 |
| Total----- | 0 | 28 | 29 | 29 | 0 | 31 | 44 | 77 |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | (¹) | 4 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 13 | 0 |
| Wheat----- | (¹) | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total----- | (¹) | 6 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 13 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | (¹) | 34 | 35 | 29 | 2 | 41 | 57 | 77 |
| Other----- | 96 | 62 | 60 | 64 | 98 | 50 | 38 | 20 |
| Total ² ----- | 96 | 96 | 95 | 93 | 100 | 91 | 95 | 97 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 20 | 14 | 12 | 17 | 15 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Corn----- | 14 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 31 | 11 | 6 | 1 |
| Small grain----- | 16 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 11 | 6 | 2 | (¹) |

COASTAL PLAIN

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> | <u>Number</u> |
| Farmers interviewed----- | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 |
| Land operated: | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> | <u>Acres</u> |
| Owned----- | 397 | 398 | 409 | 409 | 567 | 567 | 567 | 567 |
| Rented from others----- | 21 | 8 | 24 | 26 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 9 |
| Rented to others----- | -2 | -1 | -1 | -7 | -6 | -4 | -3 | -1 |
| Total----- | 416 | 405 | 432 | 428 | 570 | 572 | 572 | 575 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 29 | 34 | 34 | 0 | 29 | 43 | 89 |
| Other----- | 0 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 0 | 13 | 19 | 40 |
| Total----- | 0 | 37 | 46 | 46 | 0 | 42 | 62 | 129 |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 2 | 11 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 16 | 0 |
| Other ³ ----- | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Total----- | 2 | 12 | 14 | 0 | 5 | 13 | 19 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | 2 | 49 | 60 | 46 | 5 | 55 | 81 | 129 |
| Other----- | 193 | 129 | 140 | 150 | 271 | 211 | 186 | 141 |
| Total ² ----- | 195 | 178 | 200 | 196 | 276 | 266 | 267 | 270 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 23 | 10 | 8 | 22 | 45 | 26 | 18 | 34 |
| Corn----- | 102 | 81 | 75 | 86 | 107 | 82 | 67 | 43 |
| Small grain----- | 26 | 19 | 16 | 13 | 72 | 64 | 52 | 41 |
| Peanuts----- | 9 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 4 |

¹ Less than 1 acre per farm.

² Excludes acreage in open permanent pasture. The year-to-year variations in total cropland resulted from some cropland being planted to or taken out of open permanent pasture, the purchase or renting of additional land, or some combination of these changes.

³ Includes wheat, tobacco, and peanuts.

TABLE 24.--Land use and crop acreages per farm, farms enrolled in Conservation Reserve Program in 1959, and farms of nonparticipants, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Piedmont | | | | Coastal Plain | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| | Participants | | Nonparticipants | | Participants | | Nonparticipants | |
| | 1959 new contracts | | 1959 | | 1958 (before program) | | 1959 | |
| | 1958 (before program) | 1959 | 1958 | 1959 | 1958 (before program) | 1959 | 1958 | 1959 |
| Farmers interviewed----- | | | | | | | | |
| Land operated: | | | | | | | | |
| Owned----- | Number 69 | Number 69 | Number 65 | Number 65 | Number 62 | Number 62 | Number 60 | Number 60 |
| Rented from others----- | Acres 313 | Acres 313 | Acres 172 | Acres 172 | Acres 311 | Acres 311 | Acres 249 | Acres 245 |
| Rented to others----- | 8 | 13 | 17 | 19 | 11 | 13 | 30 | 40 |
| Total----- | -7 | -5 | -3 | -4 | -7 | -2 | -8 | -8 |
| Cropland: | | | | | | | | |
| Conservation reserve: | | | | | | | | |
| Trees----- | 0 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 0 | 0 |
| Other----- | 0 | 39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 | 0 | 0 |
| Total----- | 0 | 68 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 78 | 0 | 0 |
| Acreage reserve: | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 11 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Other ² ----- | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total ² ----- | 12 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| All Soil Bank----- | | | | | | | | |
| Other----- | 12 | 68 | 7 | 0 | 18 | 78 | 6 | 0 |
| Total ¹ ----- | 90 | 48 | 61 | 68 | 121 | 61 | 126 | 140 |
| Selected harvested crops: | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton----- | 102 | 116 | 68 | 68 | 139 | 139 | 132 | 140 |
| Corn----- | 6 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 16 |
| Small grain----- | 16 | 5 | 14 | 11 | 52 | 29 | 72 | 79 |
| Peanuts----- | 14 | 8 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 3 | 8 | 7 |
| Total----- | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 10 |

¹ Excludes acreage in open permanent pasture. The year-to-year variations in total cropland resulted from some cropland being planted to or taken out of open permanent pasture, the purchase or renting of additional land, or some combination of these changes.

² Includes wheat in Piedmont and wheat, tobacco, and peanuts in Coastal Plain.

TABLE 25.--Average crop yields per acre, by year of enrollment in Conservation Reserve Program and type of contract, sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | Piedmont | | | | Coastal Plain | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Cotton | Corn | Oats | Wheat | Cotton | Corn | Oats | Wheat | Peanuts |
| Farms enrolled in 1956: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | <u>Pounds</u> | <u>Bushels</u> | <u>Bushels</u> | <u>Bushels</u> | <u>Pounds</u> | <u>Bushels</u> | <u>Bushels</u> | <u>Bushels</u> | <u>Pounds</u> |
| 1955 (year preceding program)--- | 444 | 28 | 32 | 24 | 450 | 33 | 27 | 25 | 970 |
| 1956----- | 500 | 28 | 36 | 28 | 450 | 33 | 30 | 25 | 2,300 |
| 1957----- | 500 | 30 | 34 | 28 | 433 | 38 | 25 | 15 | 1,000 |
| 1958----- | 594 | 26 | 33 | 28 | 459 | 39 | 30 | 15 | 888 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 500 | 31 | 44 | 19 | 445 | 41 | --- | 15 | 1,162 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)--- | 520 | 35 | 34 | 23 | 462 | 32 | 34 | 33 | 1,171 |
| 1956----- | 400 | 27 | 30 | 20 | 440 | 34 | 33 | 19 | 1,140 |
| 1957----- | 338 | 29 | 35 | 26 | 509 | 38 | 44 | 35 | 1,280 |
| 1958----- | 400 | 25 | 33 | 12 | 495 | 44 | 47 | 45 | 1,280 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 450 | 50 | 32 | 20 | 475 | 40 | 39 | 25 | 1,133 |
| Farms enrolled in 1957: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)--- | 532 | 32 | 41 | 30 | 459 | 37 | 33 | 16 | 1,075 |
| 1957----- | 496 | 39 | 36 | 30 | 488 | 36 | 39 | 11 | 975 |
| 1958----- | 525 | 40 | 41 | 0 | 499 | 42 | 43 | 35 | 1,245 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 525 | 37 | 37 | 27 | 499 | 42 | 33 | 20 | 1,391 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)--- | 400 | 30 | 34 | 20 | 435 | 34 | 37 | 24 | 1,067 |
| 1957----- | 376 | 27 | 31 | 23 | 452 | 38 | 38 | 29 | 1,100 |
| 1958----- | 425 | 34 | 30 | --- | 491 | 44 | 38 | 40 | 1,000 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 438 | 38 | 50 | --- | 464 | 39 | 34 | 30 | 1,110 |
| Farms enrolled in 1958: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1957 (year preceding program)--- | 440 | 28 | 37 | 27 | 375 | 33 | 36 | 21 | 890 |
| 1958----- | 425 | 31 | 35 | 26 | 438 | 42 | 38 | 23 | 970 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 460 | 37 | 45 | 23 | 375 | 31 | 36 | 18 | 863 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1957 (year preceding program)--- | 375 | 32 | 33 | 20 | 344 | 31 | 48 | 10 | 1,050 |
| 1958----- | 500 | 38 | 30 | 25 | 520 | 32 | 58 | --- | 1,000 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 500 | 38 | 40 | 25 | 406 | 34 | 65 | 15 | 1,165 |
| Farms enrolled in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1958 (year preceding program)---- | 416 | 32 | 31 | 17 | 379 | 36 | 34 | 26 | 997 |
| 1959 ¹ ----- | 419 | 32 | 39 | 20 | 409 | 38 | 35 | 20 | 1,144 |

¹ The yields of cotton, corn, and peanuts in 1959 are estimates of the yields expected in that year.

TABLE 26.--Fertilizer use on selected crops, by year of enrollment in Conservation Reserve Program and type of contract, sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| | Pounds of nutrients per acre | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------|------|-------|--------|---------------|------|-------|---------|--|
| | Piedmont | | | | | Coastal Plain | | | | |
| | Cotton | Corn | Oats | Wheat | Cotton | Corn | Oats | Wheat | Peanuts | |
| Farms enrolled in 1956: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)----- | 170 | 87 | 60 | 47 | 159 | 115 | 161 | 114 | 64 | |
| 1956----- | 198 | 94 | 64 | 52 | 172 | 124 | 158 | 114 | 65 | |
| 1957----- | 215 | 94 | 61 | 44 | 178 | 124 | 121 | 86 | 65 | |
| 1958----- | 210 | 84 | 61 | 44 | 194 | 121 | 144 | 86 | 75 | |
| 1959----- | 212 | 103 | 68 | 59 | 200 | 127 | 132 | 122 | 61 | |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)----- | 169 | 76 | 73 | 88 | 156 | 114 | 118 | 112 | 78 | |
| 1956----- | 153 | 78 | 77 | 85 | 142 | 115 | 105 | 140 | 92 | |
| 1957----- | 182 | 82 | 60 | 43 | 160 | 115 | 101 | 140 | 84 | |
| 1958----- | 123 | 74 | 75 | 43 | 178 | 132 | 118 | 140 | 99 | |
| 1959----- | 201 | 78 | 86 | 64 | 190 | 129 | 130 | 154 | 103 | |
| Farms enrolled in 1957: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)----- | 197 | 127 | 98 | 116 | 166 | 117 | 124 | 99 | 77 | |
| 1957----- | 174 | 133 | 94 | 84 | 180 | 125 | 152 | 189 | 87 | |
| 1958----- | 153 | 122 | 110 | --- | 189 | 138 | 152 | 189 | 88 | |
| 1959----- | 229 | 130 | 113 | 114 | 211 | 152 | 141 | 189 | 92 | |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)----- | 170 | 115 | 101 | 118 | 148 | 119 | 103 | 108 | 74 | |
| 1957----- | 188 | 100 | 126 | 150 | 154 | 128 | 130 | 115 | 65 | |
| 1958----- | 234 | 87 | 110 | --- | 181 | 136 | 119 | 110 | 72 | |
| 1959----- | 201 | 80 | 172 | --- | 202 | 131 | 116 | 159 | 58 | |
| Farms enrolled in 1958: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1957 (year preceding program)----- | 171 | 105 | 76 | 95 | 160 | 116 | 83 | 102 | --- | |
| 1958----- | 195 | 108 | 86 | 173 | 211 | 131 | 86 | 117 | --- | |
| 1959----- | 171 | 106 | 98 | 98 | 195 | 120 | 99 | 120 | --- | |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1957 (year preceding program)----- | 171 | 141 | 116 | 89 | 145 | 99 | 73 | 108 | --- | |
| 1958----- | 172 | 134 | 151 | 100 | 216 | 121 | 87 | --- | --- | |
| 1959----- | 178 | 176 | 136 | 136 | 189 | 133 | 91 | --- | --- | |
| Farms enrolled in 1959: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1958 (year preceding program)----- | 145 | 127 | 111 | 84 | 163 | 128 | 111 | 112 | 77 | |
| 1959----- | 158 | 119 | 109 | 84 | 178 | 137 | 101 | 96 | 72 | |

TABLE 27.--Changes in labor force and average labor requirements, by year of enrollment in Conservation Reserve Program and type of contract, sample farms, Piedmont and Coastal Plain

| Item | PIEDMONT | | | | | Labor required per farm | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Labor available | | | | | | | | |
| | Operator and family | Farm wage worker | Share-cropper | Seasonal labor | Total | Crops | Livestock | Overhead | Total |
| | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours | Man-hours |
| Farms enrolled in 1956: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)---- | 4,075 | 375 | 300 | 375 | 5,125 | 1,300 | 925 | 225 | 2,450 |
| 1956----- | 4,075 | 375 | 300 | 375 | 5,125 | 1,000 | 925 | 200 | 2,125 |
| 1957----- | 4,075 | 375 | 150 | 300 | 4,900 | 875 | 950 | 200 | 2,025 |
| 1958----- | 4,075 | 375 | 150 | 300 | 4,900 | 800 | 1,100 | 225 | 2,125 |
| 1959----- | 4,075 | 375 | 450 | 375 | 5,275 | 1,125 | 1,050 | 225 | 2,400 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)---- | 3,600 | 900 | --- | 275 | 4,775 | 1,500 | 500 | 200 | 2,200 |
| 1956----- | 3,600 | 900 | --- | 25 | 4,525 | 575 | 525 | 100 | 1,200 |
| 1957----- | 3,600 | 900 | --- | 75 | 4,575 | 650 | 575 | 150 | 1,375 |
| 1958----- | 3,525 | 175 | --- | 75 | 3,775 | 325 | 400 | 75 | 800 |
| 1959----- | 3,525 | 175 | --- | 75 | 3,775 | 400 | 175 | 75 | 650 |
| Farms enrolled in 1957: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)---- | 4,000 | 1,000 | 750 | 575 | 6,325 | 3,550 | 625 | 475 | 4,650 |
| 1957----- | 3,975 | 950 | 750 | 475 | 6,150 | 2,625 | 550 | 350 | 3,525 |
| 1958----- | 3,975 | 950 | 650 | 450 | 6,025 | 2,450 | 625 | 350 | 3,425 |
| 1959----- | 3,975 | 950 | 825 | 450 | 6,200 | 2,800 | 400 | 375 | 3,575 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)---- | 2,950 | 1,050 | 1,750 | 350 | 6,100 | 1,800 | 650 | 275 | 2,725 |
| 1957----- | 2,925 | 1,125 | 700 | 225 | 4,975 | 950 | 400 | 125 | 1,475 |
| 1958----- | 2,925 | 1,025 | 250 | 225 | 4,425 | 475 | 525 | 100 | 1,100 |
| 1959----- | 2,900 | 725 | 100 | 225 | 3,950 | 575 | 475 | 100 | 1,150 |
| Farms enrolled in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1958 (year preceding program)---- | 3,350 | 975 | 535 | 178 | 5,038 | 1,400 | 725 | 225 | 2,350 |
| 1959----- | 3,350 | 825 | 650 | 250 | 5,075 | 1,075 | 550 | 175 | 1,800 |
| COASTAL PLAIN | | | | | | | | | |
| Farms enrolled in 1956: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)---- | 4,650 | 2,900 | 775 | 550 | 8,875 | 3,975 | 2,375 | 750 | 7,100 |
| 1956----- | 4,625 | 3,300 | 775 | 850 | 9,550 | 3,375 | 2,350 | 650 | 6,375 |
| 1957----- | 4,725 | 3,250 | 675 | 675 | 9,325 | 2,750 | 2,100 | 550 | 5,400 |
| 1958----- | 4,725 | 3,225 | 725 | 1,775 | 10,450 | 2,600 | 2,050 | 550 | 5,200 |
| 1959----- | 4,725 | 3,050 | 775 | 1,350 | 9,900 | 3,050 | 1,575 | 500 | 5,125 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1955 (year preceding program)---- | 3,225 | 1,600 | 2,000 | 425 | 7,250 | 3,900 | 1,700 | 650 | 6,250 |
| 1956----- | 3,675 | 1,275 | 2,500 | 425 | 7,875 | 3,075 | 1,700 | 550 | 5,325 |
| 1957----- | 3,750 | 1,325 | 2,375 | 175 | 7,625 | 2,125 | 1,700 | 450 | 4,275 |
| 1958----- | 3,825 | 1,300 | 2,375 | 175 | 7,675 | 2,000 | 1,800 | 450 | 4,250 |
| 1959----- | 3,775 | 1,325 | 2,375 | 525 | 8,000 | 2,275 | 1,950 | 475 | 4,700 |
| Farms enrolled in 1957: | | | | | | | | | |
| Contracts not modified: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)---- | 4,650 | 950 | 1,675 | 1,675 | 8,950 | 3,450 | 3,000 | 775 | 7,225 |
| 1957----- | 4,650 | 775 | 625 | 1,400 | 7,450 | 2,275 | 2,950 | 625 | 5,850 |
| 1958----- | 4,700 | 700 | 625 | 1,200 | 7,225 | 2,025 | 3,075 | 625 | 5,725 |
| 1959----- | 4,700 | 900 | 1,300 | 1,625 | 8,525 | 3,125 | 3,150 | 750 | 7,025 |
| Contracts modified in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1956 (year preceding program)---- | 4,075 | 3,900 | 1,250 | 2,000 | 11,225 | 5,775 | 1,625 | 900 | 8,300 |
| 1957----- | 4,075 | 3,875 | 950 | 950 | 9,850 | 3,900 | 1,425 | 625 | 5,950 |
| 1958----- | 4,025 | 3,075 | 700 | 725 | 8,525 | 3,025 | 1,250 | 500 | 4,775 |
| 1959----- | 4,000 | 2,650 | 775 | 1,975 | 9,400 | 3,750 | 1,000 | 525 | 5,275 |
| Farms enrolled in 1959: | | | | | | | | | |
| 1958 (year preceding program)---- | 3,760 | 975 | 375 | 125 | 5,235 | 1,150 | 1,375 | 300 | 2,825 |
| 1959----- | 3,800 | 675 | 200 | 675 | 5,350 | 1,325 | 1,200 | 300 | 2,825 |



Growth Through Agricultural Progress