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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF INFORMATION

NATIONAL FARM PROGRAM DATA
1932-1940

IDAHO HIGHLIGHTS

The story of agriculture today in Idaho and in the rest of the Nation is the story of an improved agriculture. Here are the highlights of progress under the National Farm Program in Idaho during the 7 years since it was started:

INCOME: Farmers Make More Money--1939 cash income up 93 percent from 1932; buying power 87 percent of 1932; farm real estate values in 1940 up 13 percent from 1933; 166,761 acres of 1940 wheat protected by crop insurance; 5,139,255 bushels of wheat were put in the Ever-Normal Granary under 1939 commodity loans; $83,428,020 loaned by Farm Credit Administration agencies from 1933 to 1939; debts of low income farmers reduced $1,299,229 under Farm Security Administration debt adjustment service; 11,362,000 pounds of surplus foodstuffs distributed to needy in last fiscal year.

CONSERVATION: Farmers Are Conserving Their Soil--30,000 Idaho farmers participated in the 1939 AAA program, representing about 86 percent of the State's cropland; 276,644 acres covered by 5-year agreements with the Soil Conservation Service in 1939; 208,200 trees distributed for planting during 1939.

SECURITY: Farmers Are More Secure In Their Homes--5,416 farm families received rural rehabilitation loans totalling more than $6,011,700 from 1935 to 1940; $424,235 made in grants in the same period; 19 tenant families started toward ownership by loans for farm purchases; 1,658 miles of rural electric lines to serve 5,184 farm families made possible by allotments of Rural Electrification Administration-- 11,293 more farms getting central station electric service in 1939 than in 1935.

DEMOCRACY: Farmers Help Run the Programs-- 43 county AAA offices with 1300 county and community committeemen administer the AAA program locally; 43 county committees and 6 tenant purchase committees working on program of Farm Security Administration; 46 local National Farm Loan associations and 5 production credit associations in operation; 20 county land-use planning committees formed.

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PART ONE: FARM INCOME

Idaho farmers in 1939 had 93 percent more cash income than they did in 1932. Farm cash income in Idaho was $94,515,000 in 1939. Government payments accounted for $8,692,000 of this amount directly. The 1939 cash income was 25 percent less than in 1929, when cash income was $126,000,000. Cash income in 1932 was $49,000,000.

Substantial gains in cash income from 1932 to 1939 by the producers of Idaho's most important farm products are shown in the following table:

TABLE I. Cash Income Received by Idaho Farmers for Principal Commodities Listed, in 1932 and in 1939, With Amount and Percent of Change

Commodity	Cash Income 1/		Amount of Increase, 1939 over 1932	Percent of Increase, 1939 over 1932
	1932	1939 2/		
	(Thousands of dollars)			(Percent)
Milk	7,759	11,636	3,877	50
Wheat	3,998	11,223	7,225	181
Cattle and calves	4,529	9,460	4,931	109
Sheep and lambs	4,751	9,214	4,463	94
Potatoes	4,707	7,843	3,136	67
Hogs	1,979	5,403	3,424	173
Chickens and eggs	2,182	4,009	1,827	84
Wool	1,485	3,653	2,168	146
Beans (dry edible)	1,313	3,094	1,781	136
Truck crops	899	2,262	1,363	152

1/ Because farm income statistics are being revised, all figures in this table are not strictly comparable. For the most part figures are on a calendar year basis, but there are a few commodities which are on a crop year basis for 1932. All income figures in this table exclude Gov't payments.

2/ Preliminary.

For the country as a whole cash farm income in 1939, including Government payments, was 82 percent larger than in 1932. Cash farm income was $4,682,000,000 in 1932 and $8,540,000,000 in 1939, including $807,000,000 in Government payments.

Prices of Farm Commodities

Better prices for Idaho's leading farm commodities have put more cash in the hands of the farmers of the State. The improvement in prices received by Idaho farmers for their principal commodities is shown in the following table:

Table II. Average Prices Received by Idaho Farmers for Commodities Listed, in 1932 and in 1939

Commodity	Unit	1932 (Dollars)	1939 1/ (Dollars)
Milk (wholesale)	cwt.	.95	1.30
Hogs	cwt.	3.45	6.40
Beef cattle	cwt	3.40	6.20
Veal Calves	cwt.	4.55	7.30
Sheep	cwt	2.35	3.85
Lambs	cwt	3.70	7.00
Wheat	bu.	.30	.61
Oats	bu.	.20	.28
Barley	bu.	.24	.37
Potatoes	bu.	.22	.38
Apples	bu.	.46	.60
Peaches	bu.	.45	.85
Pears	bu.	.60	.90
Wool	lb.	.088	.22
Butter	lb.	.21	.28
Chickens	lb.	.09	.123
Eggs	doz.	.128	.179
Beans (dry edible)	cwt.	1.50	2.65

1/ Preliminary

Farm Purchasing Power

Both farm income and prices paid by farmers declined sharply from 1929 to 1932, but farm income declined more. From 1932 to 1939 there was an increase in both farm income and prices paid by farmers, but farm income increased more. Thus farm buying power fell off from 1929 to 1932 and climbed upward from 1932 to 1939.

For the United States as a whole farm buying power in 1939 was 172 percent as much as in 1932 and 99 percent of the 1929 level. In other words, farmers were able to buy about as much in 1939 as in 1929 and 72 percent more than in 1932.

In Idaho farm purchasing power in 1939 was 187 percent as much as in 1932 and 101 percent of the 1929 level. Thus Idaho farmers in 1939 were in a position to buy 87 percent more of the things they needed than in 1932 and 1 percent more than in 1929.

The farmer's buying power can also be shown by the unit exchange value of farm products, namely, the ratio of prices received by farmers to prices paid by farmers for commodities used in living and production. While this measurement is not available on a state basis, Idaho farmers naturally benefited from nationwide improvement in the exchange value of farm products.

For all farm commodities, the unit exchange value was 26 percent higher in 1939 than in 1932. The following table, comparing 1939 and 1932, shows the unit exchange value of all farm products, as well as specified groups of farm commodities that are important in Idaho.

Table III. Unit Exchange Value * of all Farm Products and of Specified Groups of Commodities Important in Idaho.

	Percent of Base Period: 1910-1914		Percent Change
	1932	1939	1939 over 1932
All farm products	61	77	+26
Meat animals	59	91	+54
Grains	41	60	+46
Dairy products	78	86	+10
Chickens and eggs	77	78	+1

* Ratio of prices received to prices paid by farmers for commodities used in living and production, 1910-14 base.

Farm Real Estate Values

Gains in farm income, prices and buying power have been reflected in rising real estate values on Idaho farms. In the year ending March 1933 the value of farm real estate was only 76 percent of the period before the World War. From this low point the estimated value per acre in Idaho rose to 86 percent of pre-war for the year ending March 1940. Thus Idaho farmers found their real estate worth about 13 percent more early in 1940 than in the first part of 1933.

For the United States as a whole, in the year ending March 1940 farm real estate values rose to 85 percent of the level before the World War, compared with only 73 percent of pre-war in the year ending March, 1933. The 16 percent gain from 1933 to 1940 followed more than a decade of unbroken decline in the value of farm real estate.

Farm Foreclosures, Sales and Bankruptcies

Along with a rise in farm real estate values since 1932, there were more voluntary sales of farms in Idaho and fewer forced sales and bankruptcies.

Voluntary sales and trades of Idaho farms were 38.7 per thousand for the year ending March 1939, compared with 17.5 per thousand for the year ending March 1933.

On the other hand, the number of forced farm sales in the state declined from 41.0 for the year ending March 1933 to only 14.1 per thousand for the year ending March 1939.

Farm bankruptcies in Idaho dropped from a total of 34 in the year ending June 30, 1933 to 14 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939.

In the United States as a whole, voluntary sales and trades of farms rose from 16.8 per thousand in the year 1933 to 28.2 per thousand in the year ending March,1939, and forced sale of farms declined from 54.1 per thousand to 16.8 per thousand in the same period; farm bankruptcies in the entire country decreased 76 percent from 1933 to 1939.

All Phases of Farm Program Contribute to Income Improvement

Farmers of Idaho received $1,911,000 in conservation payments under the 1937 program, $2,344,637 under the 1938 program, and an estimated $4,487,935 under the 1939 program, including county association expenses.

In addition, under the Price Adjustment Act of 1938 farmers of the state received an estimated $1,894,004 in parity payments on their 1939 production. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, Idaho sugar producers received $3,723,806 under the Sugar Act of 1937.

For the United States as a whole, payments under the 1939 Conservation program totaled $506,179,999, including county association expenses.

Crop Insurance

Under the 1940 program in Idaho, 6,836 contracts insured an estimated 166,761 acres for a production of 2,904,312 bushels of wheat. Premiums paid in amounted to 143,948 bushels, as of May 31, 1940. Under the 1939 program, 1,708 policies were issued to insure a production of 2,050,539 bushels of wheat on 129,514 acres. A total of 76,975 bushels were paid in as premiums, and 76,628 bushels returned to 235 growers as indemnities, as of March 30, 1940.

Federal Credit Aids Agriculture

Farmers in Idaho obtained $83,428,020 in loans from institutions under the supervision of the Farm Credit Administration from May 1, 1933, through December 31, 1939. In addition, credit was advanced to a considerable number of farmer cooperatives and privately organized agricultural financing institutions.

The Federal Land Bank of Spokane, making long-term first mortgage loans, had $26,654,318 outstanding in Idaho on December 31, 1939, including loans made prior to the organization of the Farm Credit Administration. In addition, $8,802,549 of first and second mortgage Land Bank Commissioner loans were outstanding on that date.

From 1933 to 1935 almost 92 percent of Federal land bank and Commissioner loans made in Idaho were used to pay off old debts. Although the largest percentage of loans continues to be made for refinancing, since October 1, 1935, some 1,178 Idaho farmers and farm tenants have purchased farms, using $3,378,000 credit obtained from the Federal Land Bank of Spokane and the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation, which provides funds for Land Bank Commissioner loans, to finance the purchases. This includes the resale on credit terms of farms which had been acquired by these agencies.

The 5 production credit associations operating in the State have made 14,207 loans aggregating $54,343,771 since their organization in 1933 and 1934. These associations make loans for all types of short-term farm operations. Loans outstanding on December 31, totaled $5,078,824.

The Spokane Bank for Cooperatives makes loans to farmers' marketing, purchasing, and farm business associations. On December 31, 1939, the Spokane Bank had loans outstanding to 20 Idaho cooperatives aggregating $631,561. (Includes 2 loans for 4,104, from Omaha district.)

In the United States as a whole, during the same period, individual farmers and their cooperative organizations obtained $5,951,000,000 in loans and discounts from institutions under supervision of the Farm Credit Administration. Land bank loans outstanding on December 31, 1939, totaled $1,905,000,000; Land Bank Commissioner loans, $691,000,000; production credit associations numbering 528, in six years made 1,312,000 loans aggregating $1,442,000,000; in the same period the 12 district banks for cooperatives and the Central Bank made 6,868 loans aggregating $491,047,000.

Debt Adjustment

In Idaho, 1,355 farmers, through the Farm Debt Adjustment Service of the Farm Security Administration, reduced their debts through agreement with their creditors by $1,299,229 in the period September 1, 1935 to December 31, 1939, a debt reduction of 21.4 percent. As a result Idaho farmers have been able to pay $88,070 in back taxes.

In the United States as a whole, 111,131 farmers reduced their debts by adjustments totaling $84,942,798 or 23.7 percent, and as a result have been able to pay more than $4,860,000 in back taxes.

Commodity Loans Protect Income

Corn and wheat loans serve to protect and stabilize farm income, help to stabilize market supplies and prices, and protect both consumers and producers against the calamity of crop failure. Under the 1939 program in Idaho 2,870 wheat loans were made totaling $2,677,259.88 on 5,139,255 bushels of wheat.

In the United States as a whole, 70,000 wheat producers obtained loans on their 1938 crop, totaling about $45,000,000 on 85,700,000 bushels of wheat, and about 235,000 producers stored 167,000,000 bushels of their 1939 crop under loans totaling about $115,000,000.

Exports Aided

Two major export programs for wheat and cotton have assisted United States producers to retain their fair share of the world market. In the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1939 the first year of the wheat export program, 118 million bushels of wheat were sold for export. Of this amount, export of 94 million bushels was assisted directly by the export program. From July 1 through December 31, 1939 sales for export of approximately 24½ million bushels of wheat and wheat in the form of flour were assisted by the continuing export programs.

How the wheat program has operated to improve the domestic wheat prices in the last year and a half is shown in the following: In August 1938 the average U. S. farm price was 34 cents under the Liverpool price. In August 1939, the U.S. price was about 3 cents above Liverpool. Since Liverpool is normally about 30 cents over domestic farm price, this meant the U. S. farmer was receiving about 33 cents a bushel more for his wheat than if his price had been based on the world price.

Domestic Consumption Increased

Expanded domestic distribution and consumption of surplus farm products was brought about through two types of programs; direct purchase of commodities for distribution to needy families through state welfare agencies, and the Food Order Stamp Plan which puts increased food buying power directly into the hands of low-income families.

In Idaho in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, 11,362,000 pounds of surplus foodstuffs were distributed by the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, compared with a total of 1,970,079,155 pounds distributed throughout the United States in the same period.

Commodities purchased in Idaho included 12,660,000 lbs of dry beans, 11,300 barrels of wheat cereal, 20,500 barrels of white and graham flour and 126,600 bushels of potatoes.

Up to July 1, 1940, the Food Order Stamp Plan was in operation in Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, Latah, Shoshone and Benewah Counties, while otheres are to be added to the list.

PART TWO: CONSERVATION AND WISE USE OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Income improvement and conservation of natural resources have gone hand in hand in Idaho since 1933.

Under the first agricultural conservation program in 1936 about 19,500 Idaho farmers participated. Of the total cropland, about 53 percent, or 2,051,229 acres, was covered by applications for payments. A total of 169,644 acres was diverted from soil-depleting crops. Soil-building practices were put into effect on about 379,300 acres as follows: New seedings of legumes and legume mixtures, perennial grasses for pasture, and green manure crops -- 311,417 acres; forest tree plantings -- 7 acres; controlled summer fallowing -- 62,114 acres; and weed control -- 5,802 acres.

Idaho farmers have continued to participate actively in the A.A.A. programs. There were 19,357 payees in the 1937 program and 19,768 in the 1938 program. Applications for payments covered 1,944,331 acres, or 57 percent of the cropland in the State, under the 1937 program and 2,677,678 acres, or 69 percent of the cropland, under the 1938 program.

Soil-building practices were put into effect in the State as follows under the A.A.A. programs for 1937 and 1938:

	Unit	1937	1938
New seedings	acres	176,313	263,405
Green-manure and cover crops	acres	12,599	30,682
Renovation of grasses and legumes	acres	--	148,956
Mulching	tons	--	300
Forest tree practices	acres	13	74
Fertilizer and lime applications	acres	775	4,202
Natural reseeding of pastures	acres	--	410
Artificial reseeding of pastures	lbs. of seed	--	55,490
Construction of dams and reservoirs	cu. yd.	--	2,415
Summer fallow	acres	98,886	180,980
Weed control	acres	3,149	3,351
Other erosion control practices	acres	5,709	3,320

In the United States as a whole, under the 1938 Agricultural Conservation Program, new seedings covered 30,075,000 acres and green-manure and cover crops 25,244,000 acres. Fertilizer and lime applications totaled 5,547,000 tons. Forest tree practices covered 197,000 acres and pasture practices about 2,205,000 acres. Protected summer fallow, strip cropping, contour farming, and listing were carried out on 15,990,000 acres. Terracing was carried out to the extent of 392,036,000 linear feet.

Soil Conservation Service Activities

In addition to the Agricultural Conservation Program, many Idaho farmers have signed five-year agreements with the Soil Conservation Service for complete programs of erosion control and good land management. As of December 31, 1939, 808 farms including 276,644 acres were operating under such agreements. This figure includes land in Soil Conservation projects, CCC camp soil conservation work areas, and farms planned cooperatively by the Soil Conservation Service and State Extension Service.

Approximately 130,812 acres unsuited to continued cropping have been purchased and developed for uses for which this land is better suited, principally forestry and grazing under the Land Utilization Program.

In the United States as a whole, a total of 48,267,000 acres of farm land in 82,000 farms were covered by 5-year contracts with the Soil Conservation Service up to June 30, 1939. Soil Conservation Service demonstration areas now include 68,847,000 acres. Soil Conservation Districts, numbering 217, covered a combined area of 120,000,000 acres of the Nation's 1,900,000,000 acres of land by January 1, 1940, with another 100 districts in process of organization. Within the 217 organized districts were 1,000,000 farms.

Approximately 8,600,000 acres of land unsuited to continued cropping have been purchased and developed for uses for which this land is better suited, principally forestry and grazing.

Forest Conservation and Reforestation

Approximately 7,800 of the 45,100 farms in Idaho contain woodland, and farm woodlands in the aggregate amount to 951,000 acres, or about 10 percent of the State's farm area.

Forest conservation and reforestation on both public and private lands in Idaho have been advancing rapidly from 1932 to 1940. Under the Clarke-McNary law, which provides for Federal-State cooperation in the production and distribution of trees, 208,200 trees were distributed for planting on farm lands during 1939. Extensive plantings of forest trees also are made on farm lands under agreement with the Soil Conservation Service.

The U. S. Forest Service administers 19,928,299 acres in the 15* National Forests in Idaho. Under the provisions of the Weeks Law more than 300,000 low-producing acres have been purchased or approved for purchase by the National Forest Reservation Commission in 6 years. Through protection and careful management they are rapidly being restored to productivity.

During the fiscal year 1939 more than 820,000 people visited the 15* National Forests for recreation purposes, many of them using the 318 developed campgrounds. 74,713,000 board feet of timber valued at $206.945, were cut on these National Forests in the past fiscal year.

During 1939, 4,193 acres were reforested by planting, bringing the total National Forest land successfully planted in Idaho to 46,786 acres.

*Boise	Coeur d'Alene	Nezperee	Sawtooth
Caribou	Idaho	Payette	Targhee
Challis	Kaniksu	Saint Joe	Weiser
Clearwater	Minidoka	Salmon	

In the United States as a whole, the national forest system now includes about 175 million acres in 40 States. More than 12 million acres have been purchased or approved for purchase for national forests since March 1933, about 2½ times as much land as was purchased for national forests in the preceding 22 years. Approximately 125 million trees produced largely in Forest Service nurseries were planted during 1939 on 131,000 acres of national forest land.

In the Prairie States Forestry Shelterbelt Project of the Forest Service 125 million trees have been used in 11,000 miles of plantings and provide protection for about 3 million acres of land, in the Great Plains, where protection is especially needed.

About 314,000 trees were planted on farm lands in 1938 in the farm forestry program of the Soil Conservation Service, and 55 million trees were distributed for farm planting under Forest Service-State cooperation through the Clarke-McNary law.

Under the A.A.A. program in 1938 about 55,445 acres of farm land were planted to forest trees.

PART THREE: GREATER SECURITY AND BETTER LIVING ON THE LAND

Aside from the program designed to provide greater equality of income for agriculture as a whole, and nation-wide conservation practices, special attention has been given to more needy farm families requiring additional aid to become self-supporting. Special programs have been directed to low-income farmers suffering from such additional handicaps as drought, poor farming practices, worn-out or inadequate land, unsound tenure conditions, or overwhelming debt.

From 1935 to 1940 in Idaho, the Farm Security Administration aided 5,416 farm families with rural rehabilitation loans aggregating $6,011,700 to enable them to get a new start and again become self-supporting.

By following complete farm and home management plans in 1939, 4,440 rehabilitation borrowers in Idaho had an average net income of $1,003.92 per family as compared with $776.62 in the year before they came to F. S. A. for help, an increase of 29 percent, and increased their average net worth over and above all debts by 28 percent in the same period. Thus these families had added $2,928,180 to the wealth of their communities and increased their own annual incomes by a total of $1,009,173. The typical rehabilitation family in Idaho has borrowed $4,338.53 and already has repaid $404.63. (The average loans in Idaho run much higher than in most sections of the country because they are made in fruit, cattle, and irrigated farming areas, where the investment is unusually large.) Idaho rehabilitation borrowers in 1939 produced $1,245,065 worth of goods for home consumption, compared with $752,136 worth before entering the Farm Security Administration program. In 1939 these families canned an average of 326 quarts of fruits and vegetables per family, for home consumption; produced an average of 471 gallons of milk per family; and an average of 36¾ tons of forage per family. Rehabilitation borrowers in Idaho are now operating an average of 161 acres, an increase of 40 acres since they came to the program. This increased acreage has maintained a better diet for these families.

At the close of 1939, 3,569 Idaho families had received grants for emergency relief aggregating $424,235.

Under the Bankhead-Jones Act loans for farm purchases were made to 19 tenant families in Idaho as of December 31, 1939, aggregating $187,040.

In the United States as a whole, from 1935 to 1940, the Farm Security Administration aided approximately 800,000 farm families with rehabilitation loans. By following complete farm and home management plans, 360,000 of these borrowers covered by a survey in 1939 had increased their net worth over and above all debts by 26 percent, and their production of food for home consumption by 64%. The average borrower reported increasing his net worth by more than $230.42 since coming into the program.

The Farm Security Administration has made rehabilitation loans totalling more than $370,000,000 since 1935. Although these loans are usually made for a period of five years, and much of the money is not yet due, these farmers who could not get adequate credit from any other source already have repaid more than $130,000,000 into the U. S. Treasury. Ultimately it is expected that at least 80 percent of these loans will be collected.

Under the Bankhead-Jones Act, loans for farm purchases were made to 6,678 tenant families by December 31, 1939.

Rural Electrification

By June 30, 1939, the Rural Electrification Administration had made allotments in Idaho aggregating $1,884,750 for the construction of 1,658 miles of line to serve 5,184 farm families.

By June 30, 1939, 24,726, or 53.7 percent of the farms in the State, had central station service, compared with 13,433, or 29.8 percent having central station service before the R.E.A. began operations in 1935. This is a net

increase of 11,293 farms. Surveys showed that 75% of Idaho farms served by R.E.A. lines have washing machines; 88 percent have electric irons; 11% have electric vacuum cleaners; general utility electric motors, electric chick brooders and poultry lighting have gained favor since the beginning of the program.

There were 5 REA-financed rural electric systems in the State by September 1, 1939. As of June 30, 1940, $75,000 of the total allotments made to the cooperatives was set aside for the construction of one generating plant.

In the United States as a whole, to the close of 1939, the Rural Electrification Administration of the Department of Agriculture has made total allotments of $273,000,000 for the construction of 260,000 miles of line to serve 600,000 farm families. Already 400,000 farms have been connected to REA-sponsored lines, the greater majority of which are cooperatively managed. The number of electrified farms in the United States has more than doubled from 1935 to the present time. Approximately 25 percent of American farms were electrified by January 1, 1940, compared with 10.9 percent on January 1, 1935.

PART FOUR: STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY THROUGH THE FARM PROGRAMS

Democracy has been both the end and the means of National Farm Programs from 1933 to the present. Through local committees, farmers have the responsibility for local administration.

Nearly 6 million of the Nation's 6,800,000 farmers are participating in the Agricultural Conservation Program today. Participation in Idaho and in the United States since the AAA began in 1933 was as follows:

Idaho		United States	
	Number of contracts accepted by AAA		
1933	14,785	1933	1,625,912
1934	31,059	1934	3,105,110
1935	28,134	1935	3,399,779
1936 1/	5,746	1936 1/	291,652

1/ Winter wheat and rye contracts made before January 6, 1936.

Idaho		United States	
	Number of payees under the Agricultural Conservation Program		
1936	19,514	1936	3,880,447
1937	19,357	1937	3,743,904
1938	19,768	1938	5,248,796
1939	30,000	1939	5,764,200

The results of referendum votes among Idaho farmers show the demand for full application of the A.A.A. programs. Important referenda in which Idaho farmers participated were as follows:

Nature of Referendum	Date	Votes of Participating Farmers		Percent For
		For	Against	
Corn-hog	Oct. 1934	2,554	1,210	68
Wheat	May 1935	8,848	1,194	88
Corn-hog	Oct. 1935	3,319	425	89

In Idaho in 1940, there were 215 members and alternates of county A.A.A. committees and 1,085 members and alternates of community A.A.A. committees which administer the Agricultural Conservation Program locally. There were also 43 county committees of the Farm Security Administration in the State and 6 county tenant purchase committees. Cooperating with the Farm Credit Administration were 46 local National Farm Loan Associations and 5 Production Credit Associations.

Soil Conservation Districts are organized and developed under State laws by farmers, who have an opportunity to express their preferences both as to planning and operations within the District. By means of these Districts farmers can coordinate their efforts to control erosion thoroughly along watershed lines with technical assistance often being furnished by local, State and Federal agencies.

Land Use Planning by Farmers

Land Use Planning Committees study all agricultural problems, and how Federal, State, and local agricultural services can best be applied. Representative farm people and agricultural officials are members of both county and community planning committees. In this way farmers have a voice in planning what all public agricultural agencies will do in their communities.

In Idaho, 20 county Land Use Planning Committees, with 246 farmer members, have been formed and others were expected to be organized in 1940.

In the United States as a whole, approximately 135,000 farmers served on A.A.A. committees; there were 2,907 Debt Adjustment Committees; 1,289 Tenant Purchase Committees; and approximately 1,500 committees for rehabilitation loans; about 3,700 active National Farm Loan Associations, and 528 Production Credit Associations; approximately 370 Soil Conservation Districts were either organized or in the process of organization.

There were approximately 19,000 farmers by the end of 1939 participating as members of county Land Use Planning Committees, and 65,000 as members of community Land Use Planning Committees.

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