A GRAPHIC SUMMARY

OF

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS DATA BY COUNTIES ALABAMA - 1945

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION ()
of the
ALABAMA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

M. J. FUNCHESS, Director Auburn, Alabama CONTENTS

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INTRODUCTION

Successful farming was once considered an individual matter. Good management of a farm was sufficient. Success or failure was of the farmer's own making and, accordingly, he took that part of the world which fell outside his individual farm for granted and bent all of his efforts to become an effective farm operator.

That generation of thinking has long since passed. The experiences of the last three decades have convinced farmers and farm leaders that good farming is not sufficient. Economic forces outside of the farm have thwarted and turned to naught the best laid plans of many able, intelligent and efficient farmers. Big crops effectively produced are no longer assurance against farm failure.

The purpose of this report is to make available to farmers, farm leaders, and other students of agricultural affairs, selected economic facts and figures which pertain to the agriculture of Alabama.

The statistics presented herein describe chiefly those economic forces which are outside the province of any individual farm. Most of these data were calculated from basic information given in the Alabama section of the U.S. Census of Agriculture, 1945. 1

The issues which Alabama farmers must face in the immediate future are both complex and difficult of solution. The facts and figures in this report provide some of the handles and levers for taking hold of and for understanding the realities that are involved. Moreover, any progress that is made in developing desirable farm policies and programs must be based on an intelligent analysis and interpretation of pertinent facts. It is in the hope of providing and in constructive thinking and effort devoted to the formulation of more adequate and workable farm policies that this report has been prepared.

United States Census of Agriculture, 1945, Volume I, Part 21, (Alabama) Statistics for Counties, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.

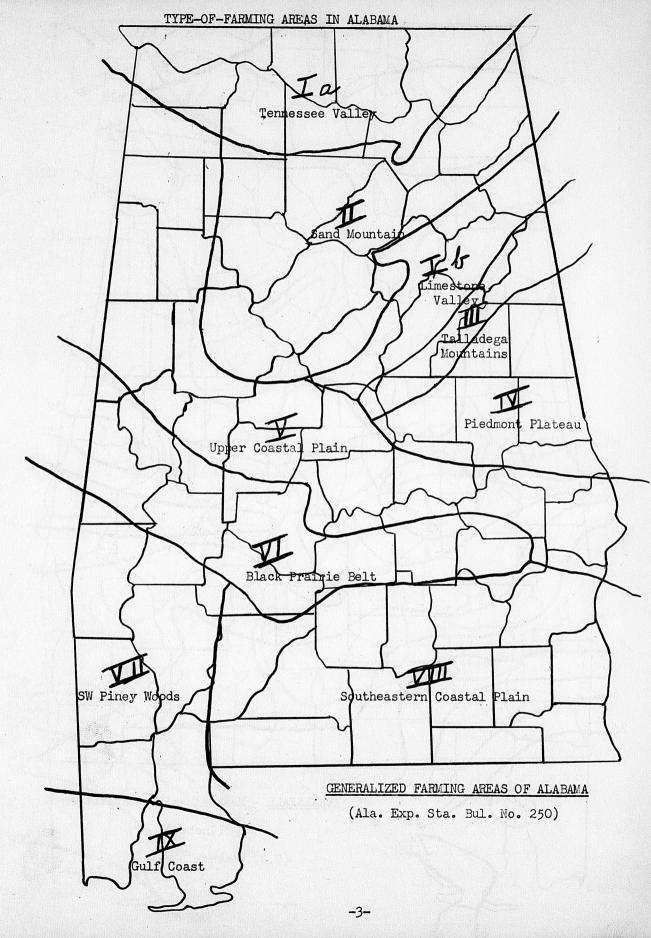
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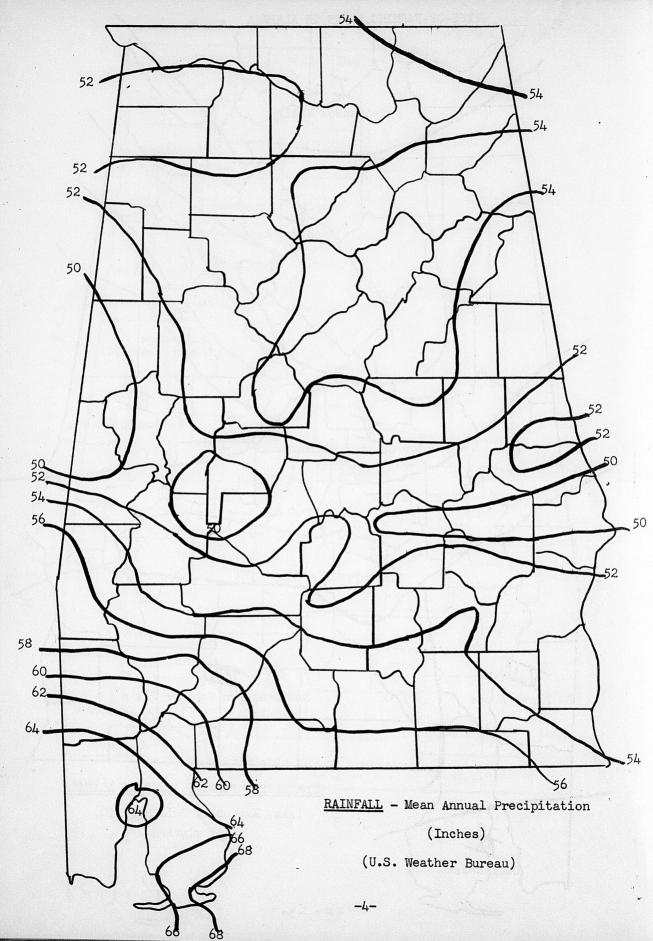
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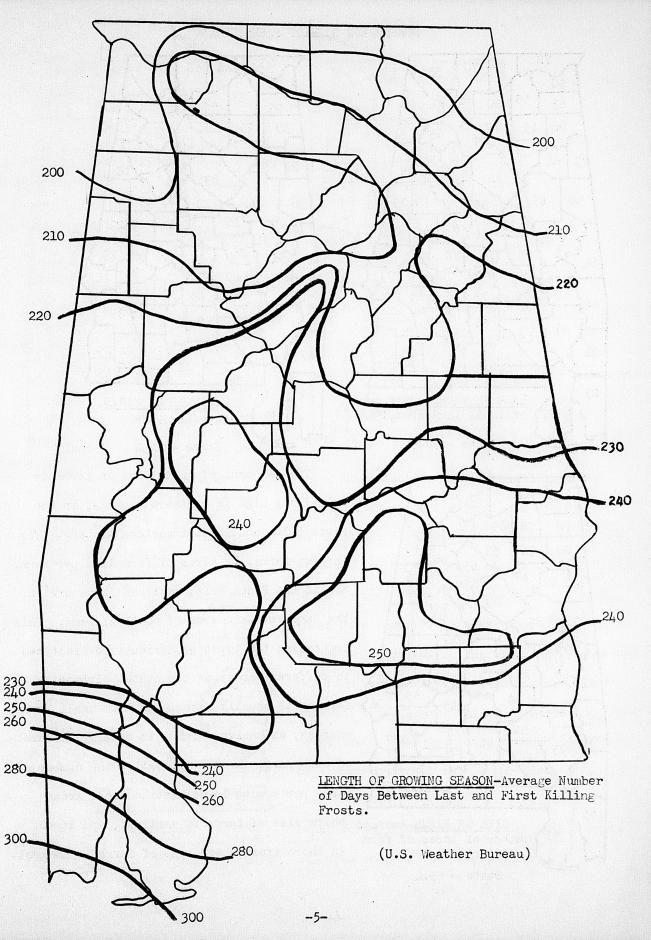
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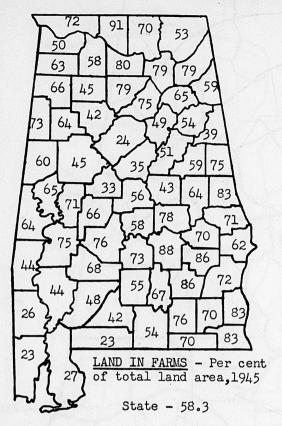
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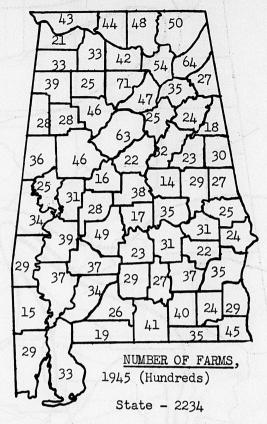
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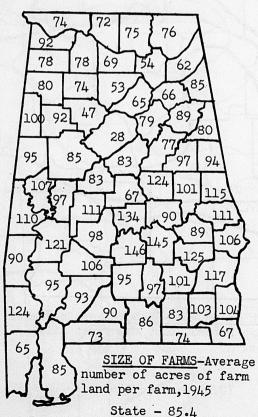




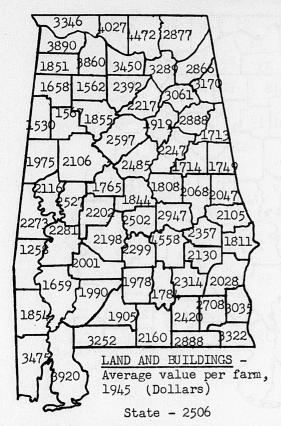


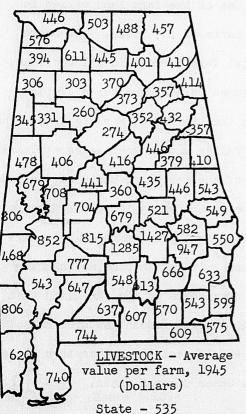


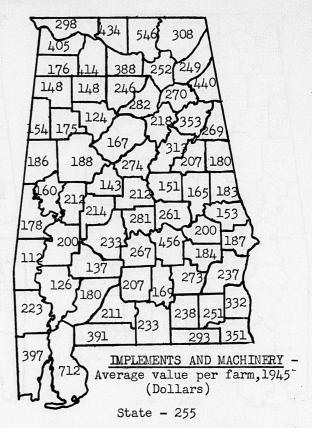




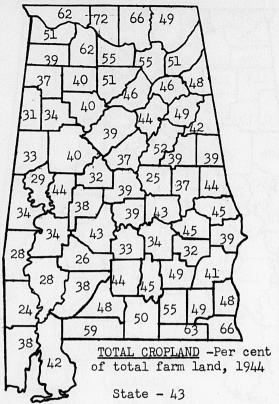
The per cent of total land in farms is relatively high in northern Alabama, in the Black Belt, and in Southeastern Alabama. largest farms, in acres of farm land per farm, are in the Black Belt; smallest farms are in the Sand Mountain area of north Alabama. emphasizes the types of agriculture practiced in different areas of the state. Intensive farming is usually associated with small farms, whereas, extensive farming is usually associated with large farms. Generally, the number of farms per county is highest in those areas SIZE OF FARMS-Average where size of farms is smallest, and lowest in those areas where size of farms is largest.

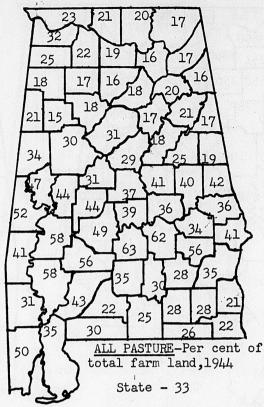


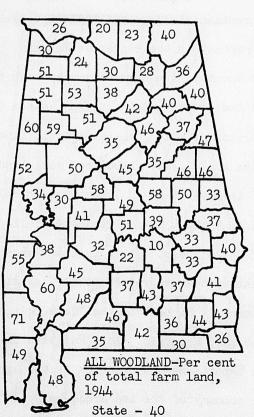




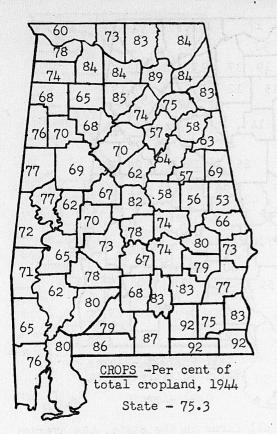
Investment in land and buildings per farm is highest in the Tennessee Valley and Sand Mountain Areas. It is lowest in the Piedmont and in southwest Alabama. Since the major portion of this investment is in land, these data are closely associated with land values. Investment in implements and machinery per farm is highest in the Tennessee Valley and Gulf Coast Areas. It is in these areas that mechanization has progressed most. Investment in livestock is highest in the Black Belt, and lowest on Sand Mountain. This reflects the relative importance of livestock in the agricultural economy of the two areas.

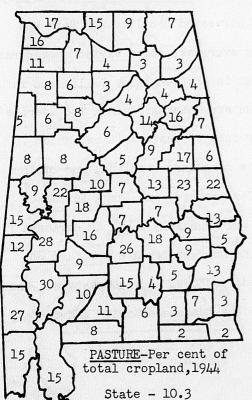


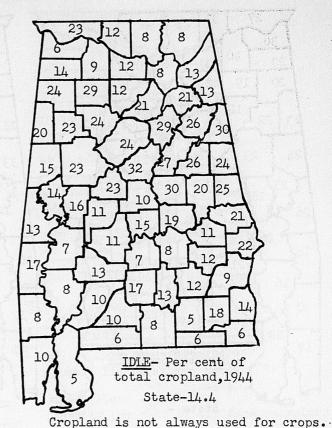




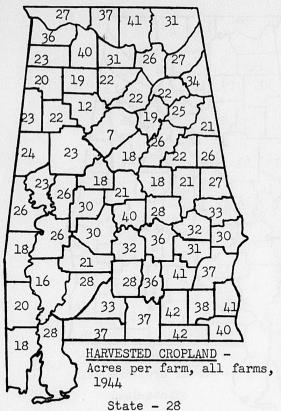
The use of the farm land varied in different parts of the state. The share of the total farm acreage in all cropland, which includes idle and pastured cropland as well as that in crops, was highest in the Tennessee Valley and in southeastern Alabama. The share of the farm land pastured, including pastured cropland, pastured woodland and other grazing land, was comparatively high in the Black Belt and in some neighboring counties. The share of the farm land that was wooded, including both pastured and other woodland, was largest in southwestern Alabama and in the Upper Coastal Plain.

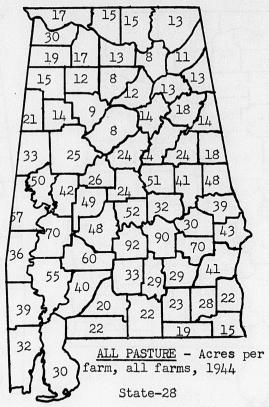


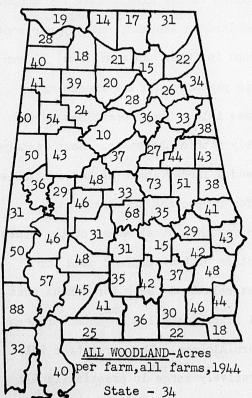




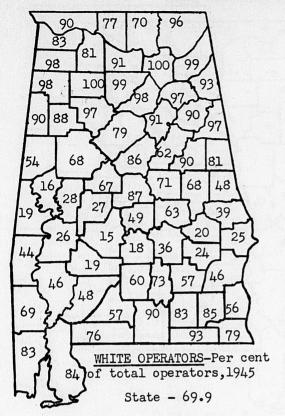
Of all cropland in Alabama, only 75 per cent was in crops in 1944. An additional 10 per cent was in pasture, and the remaining 15 per cent was idle. The proportions varied considerably within the state. Southeastern Alabama used a larger share of her available cropland for crops, and the Piedmont a smaller share, than other areas of the state. The percentage of the cropland used for pasture was relatively high throughout most of central Alabama and low in both northern and southern Alabama. The percentage idle was comparatively large in practically all counties north of the Black Belt and south of the Tennessee Valley.

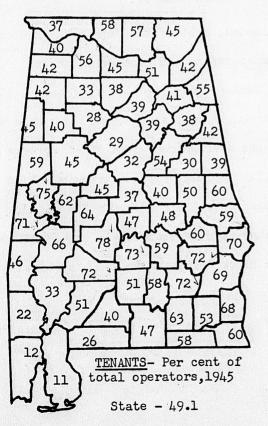


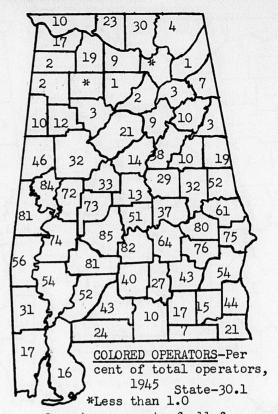




For all farms in the state, the average acreage of harvested cropland per farm was 28. County averages, which varied considerably, were highest in the Tennessee Valley and in the Southeastern Coastal Plain. The average acreage per farm of pastured land, which includes the cropland, woodland, and other land used for pasture, was large in the Black Belt and generally small in northern Alabama. The average acreage per farm of all woodland, pastured and not pastured, was smallest in the Tennessee Valley and on Sand Mountain.

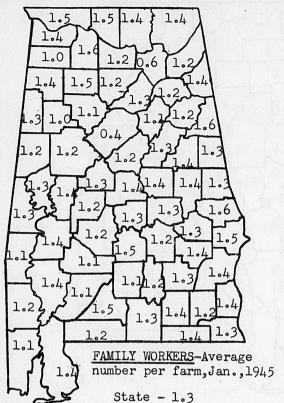


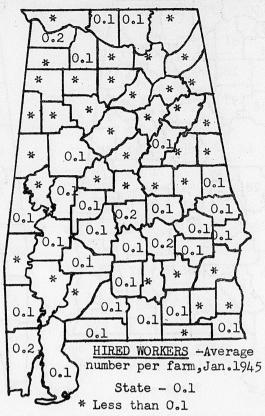


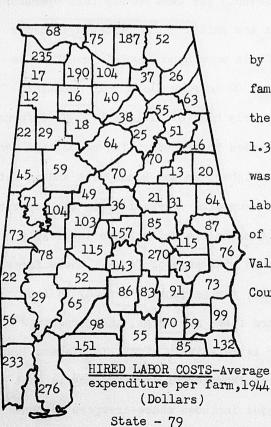


Seventy per cent of all farm operators in Alabama are white. This percentage varies from 100 in some Sand Mountain counties to less than 20 in some Elack Belt counties.

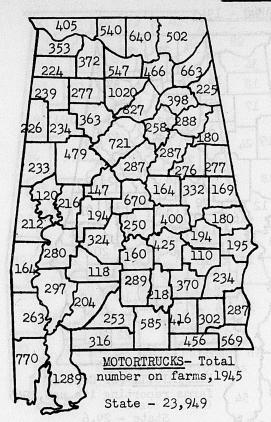
Nearly half of Alabama's 223,400 farms are operated by tenants. The percentage tenancy is highest in the Black Belt and lowest on Sand Mountain. Variations in the percentage of tenants operating farms is closely associated with size of farms. Where farms are small, the percentage tenancy is low; but where farms are large, the percentage tenancy is relatively high. In Alabama, part of the explanation of high tenancy is that the Census includes share-croppers as tenants.

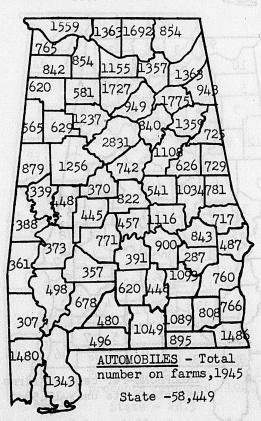


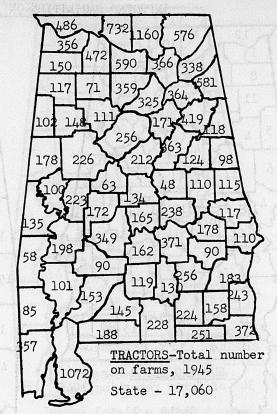




In Alabama, most of the farm work is done by the farm operators and members of their families. During the first week of January, 1945 the average number of family workers per farm was 1.3, while the average number of hired workers was only 0.1. In 1944, expenditures for hired labor averaged only \$79 per farm. The amount of hired labor used was largest in the Tennessee Valley, the Black Belt, and Mobile and Baldwin Counties.



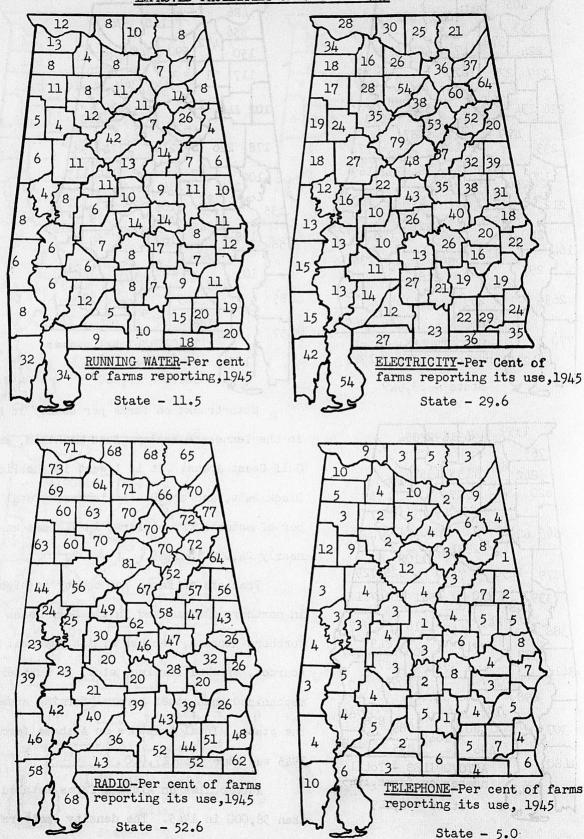


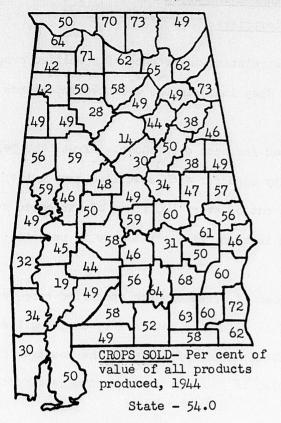


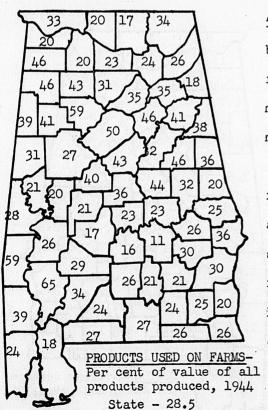
Motortrucks on farms per county is highest in the Tennessee Valley, Sand Mountain, and Gulf Coast Areas. It is lowest in the Piedmont Black Belt, and southwest Alabama. Total number of motortrucks on farms in Alabama was nearly 24,000 in 1945.

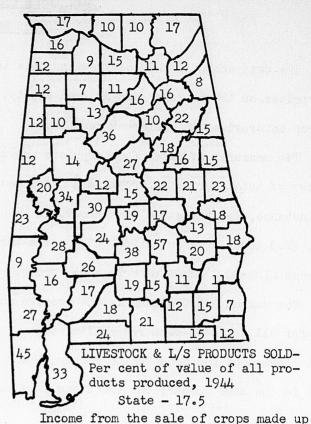
Tractors on farms per county is highest in northern Alabama and in the Gulf Coast area. Northern Alabama, because of its physical resources, type of farming, etc., is further mechanized than other general farming areas of the state. Total tractors on Alabama farms in 1945 was more than 17,000.

Automobiles on Alabama farms totaled more than 58,000 in 1945. The density pattern is about the same as for farm tractors.









54 per cent of the value of all products used by the family or sold in Alabama in 1944. Income from the sale of livestock and livestock products made up an additional 17.5 per cent. The remaining 28.5 per cent was used by farm families.

Crop sales accounted for much of the total in the Tennessee Valley and southeastern Alabama and for little in southwestern Alabama. Livestock and livestock products were more important in the Black Belt and in the Gulf Coast area. A larger part of farm products was used by families on farms in southwestern Alabama and in most counties in central Alabama than in other sections of the state.

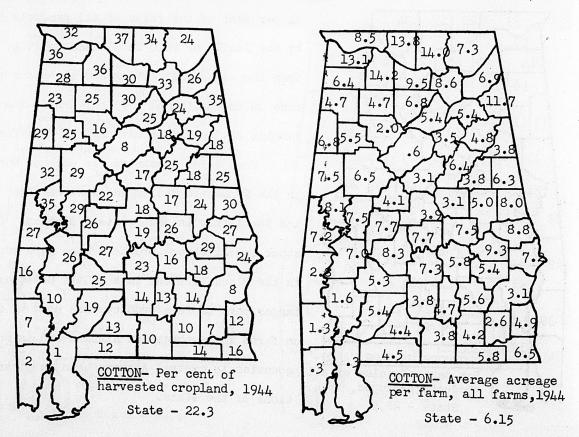
IMPORTANCE OF FARM ENTERPRISES

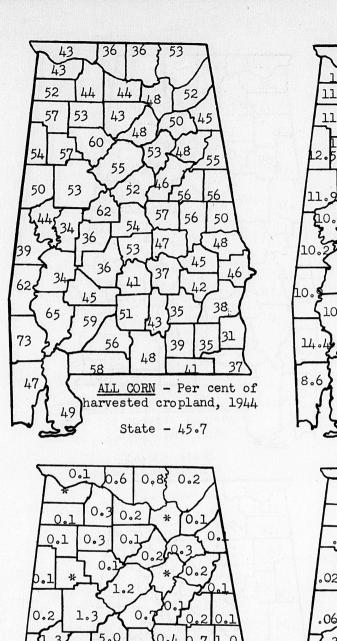
Crop Enterprises

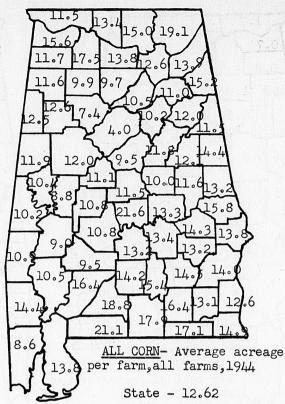
The data shown in this section indicate the relative importance of specified crop enterprises on the average farm in each county. They indicate the relative importance of crop enterprises in different counties.

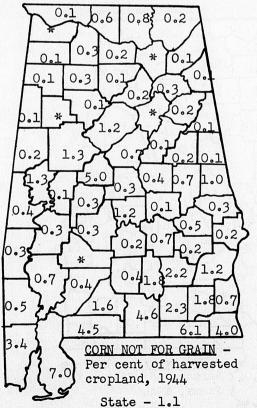
Two measures of size of enterprises are used for each crop shown. First, the percentage of total harvested cropland in each county used for each specified crop enterpri For instance, for the state as a whole, in 1944, out of every 100 acres of harvested crolland, 22.3 acres were in cotton, 45.7 acres were in corn, 11.8 acres were in peanuts, and the remaining 20.2 acres were in other crops.

The second measure used is the average number of acres of each specified crop per farm for all farms in each respective county. This figure is obtained by dividing the total acreage of the crop in the county by the total number of farms in the county. Computed in the same manner, for the state as a whole, in 1944 the average acreage of cotto per farm was 6.15, of corn was 12.62, etc.

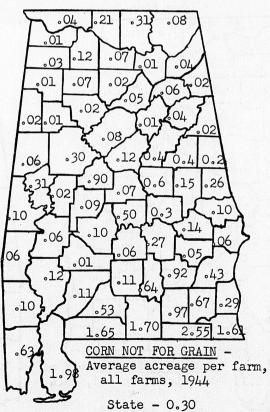




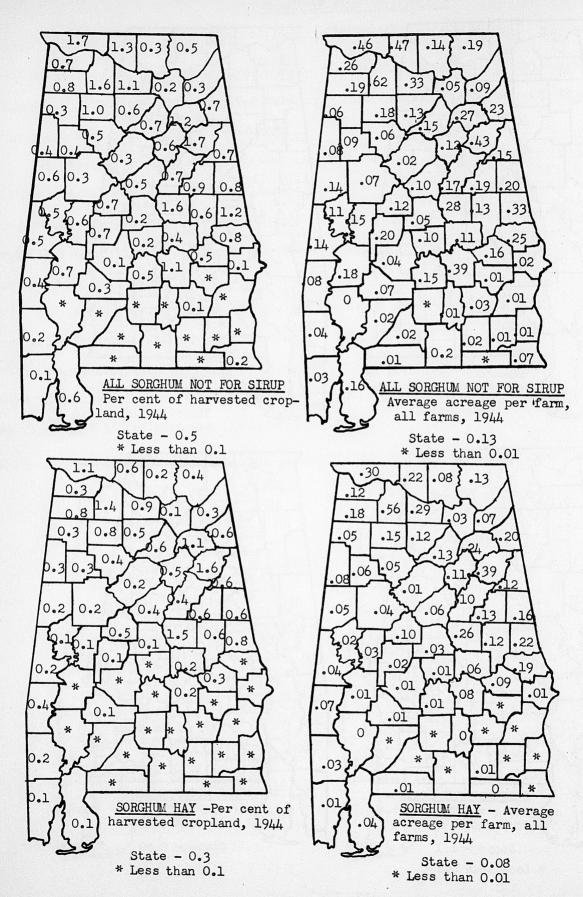


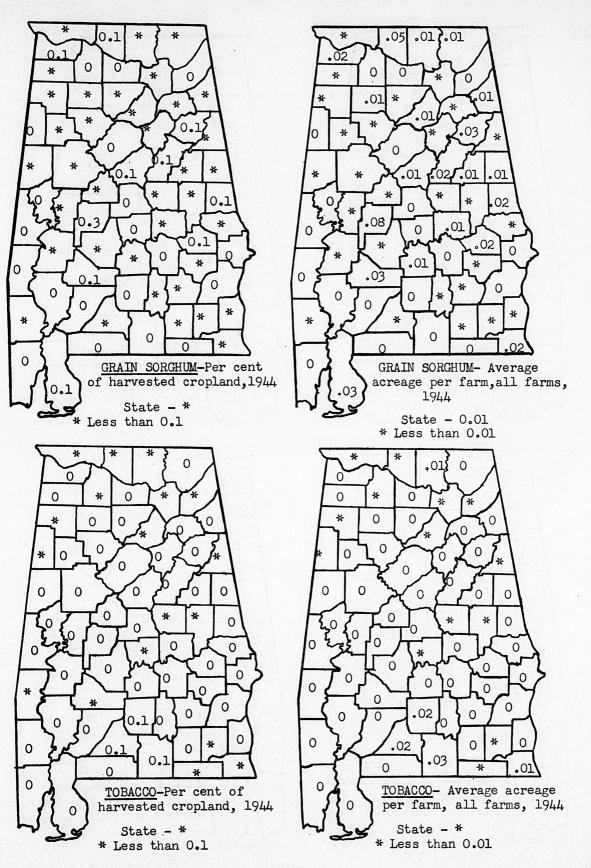


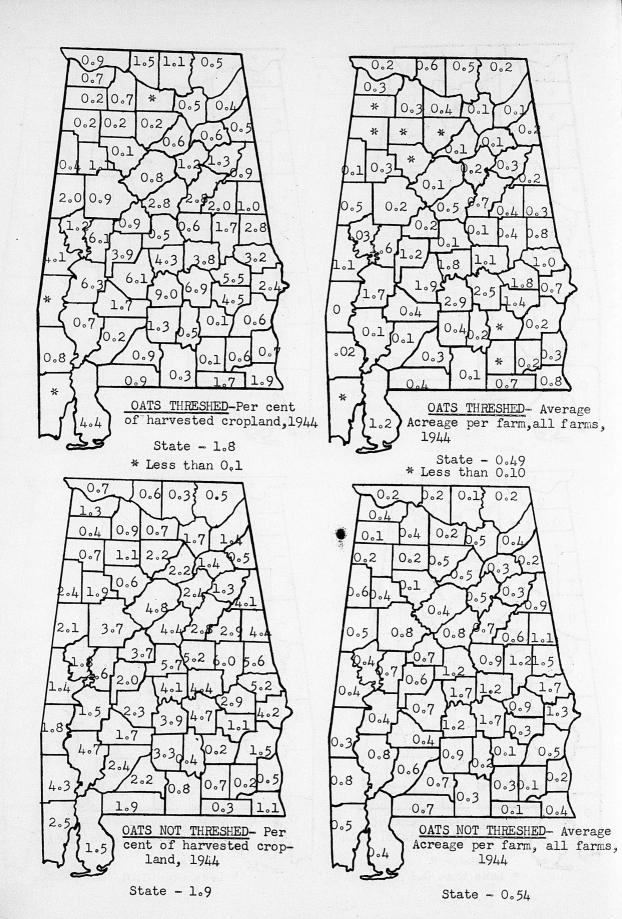
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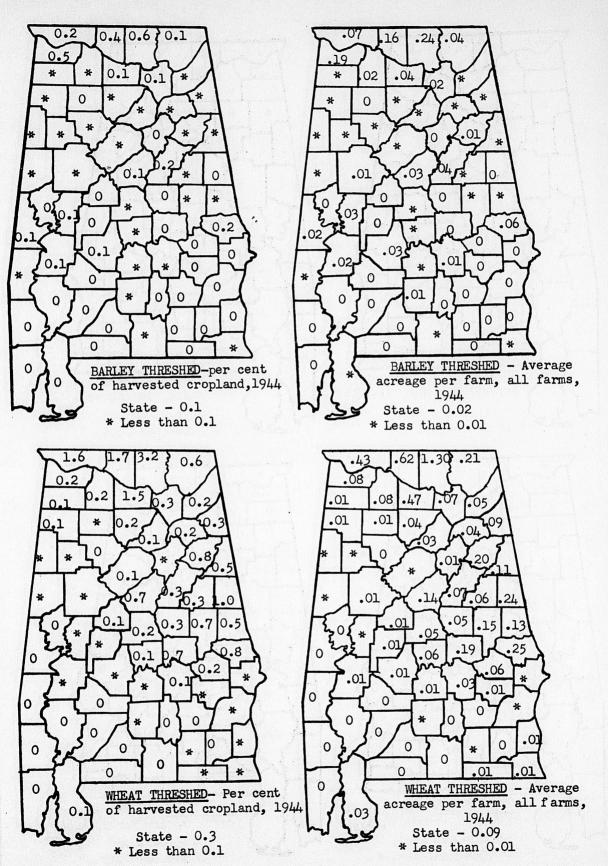


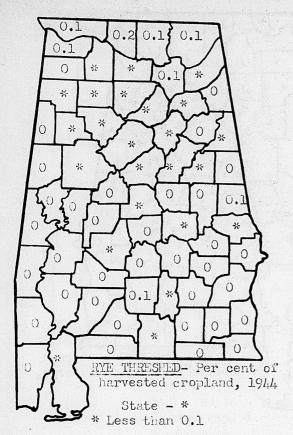
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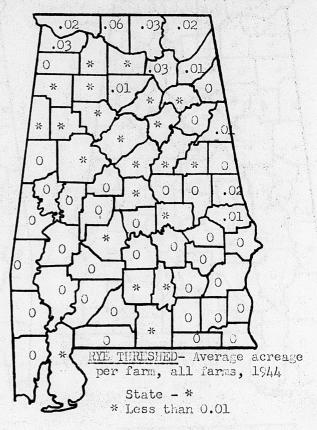


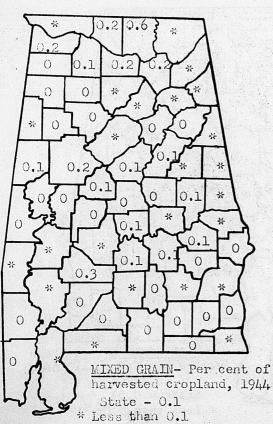


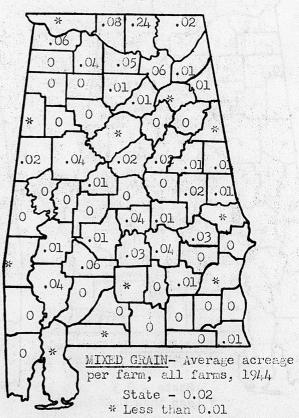


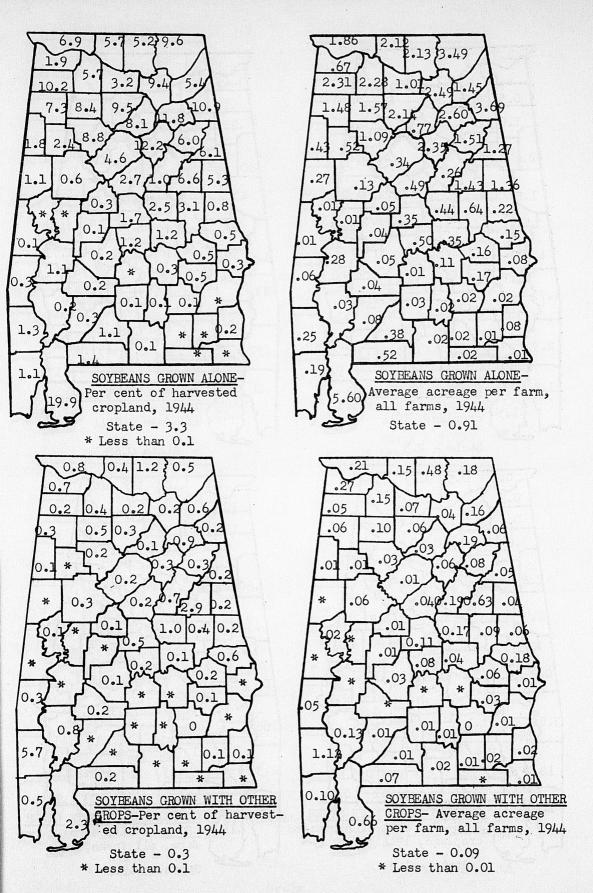


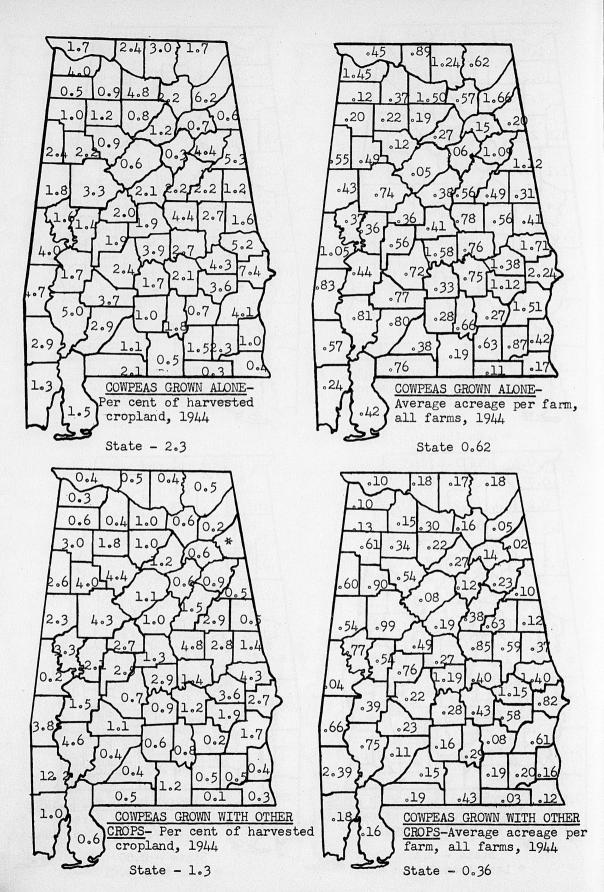


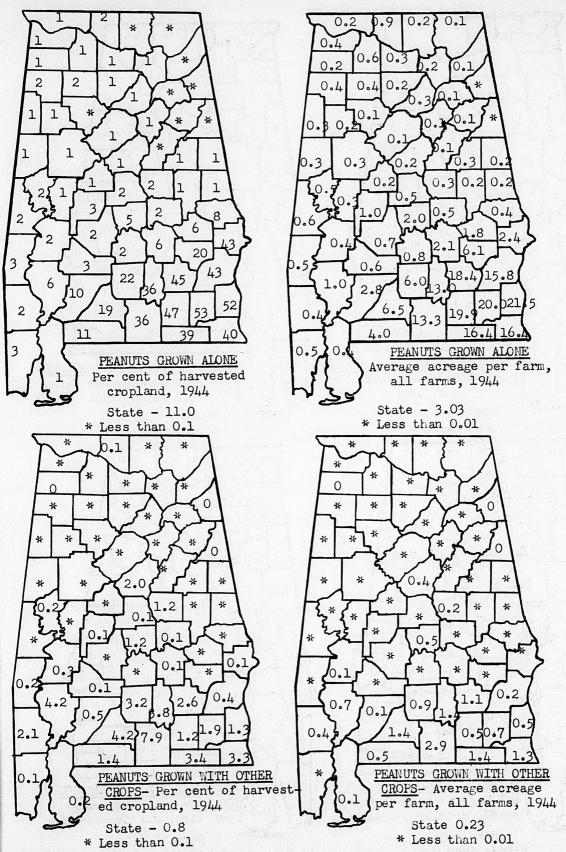


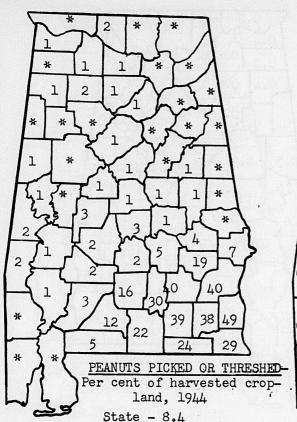




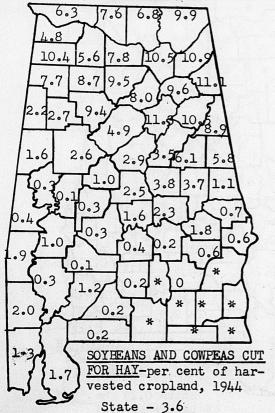






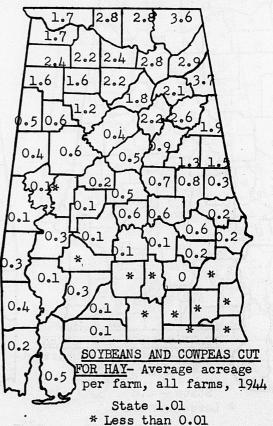


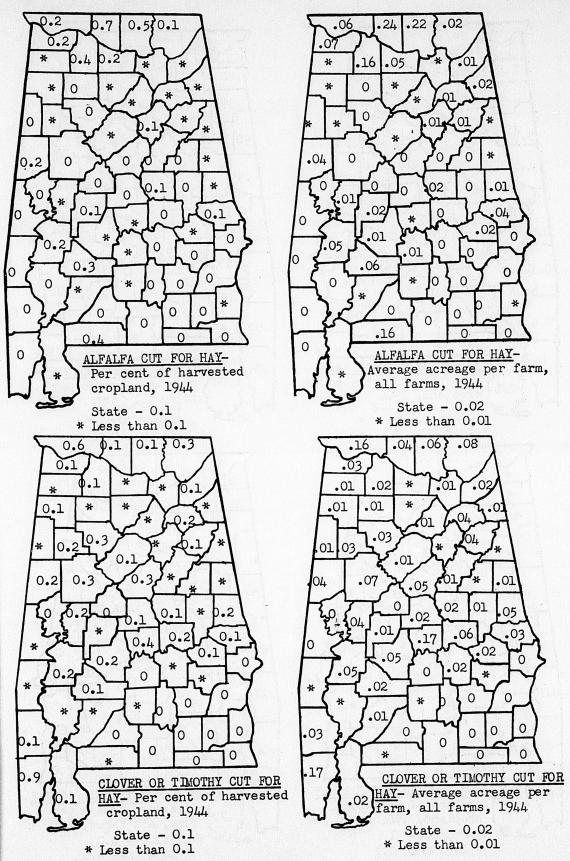
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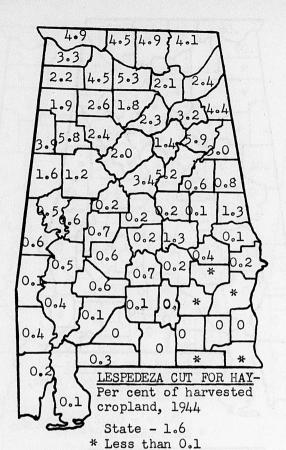


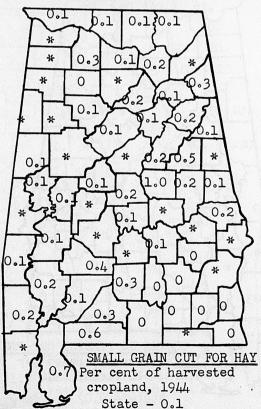
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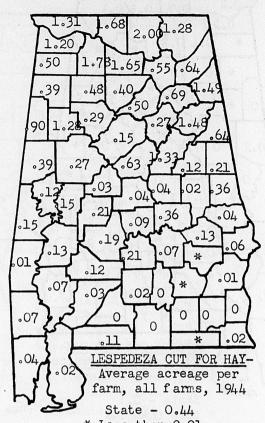


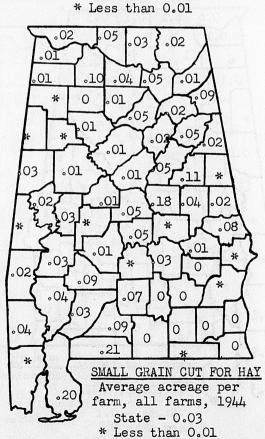


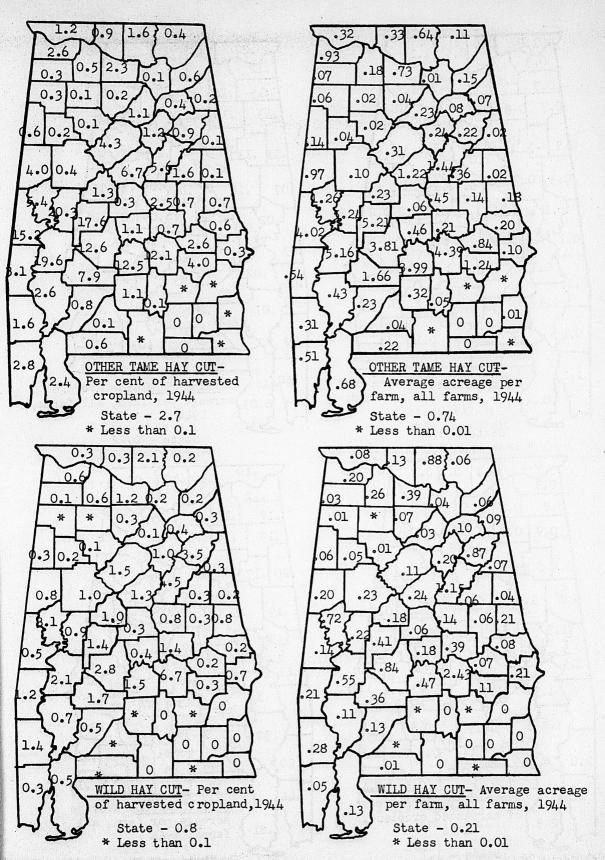


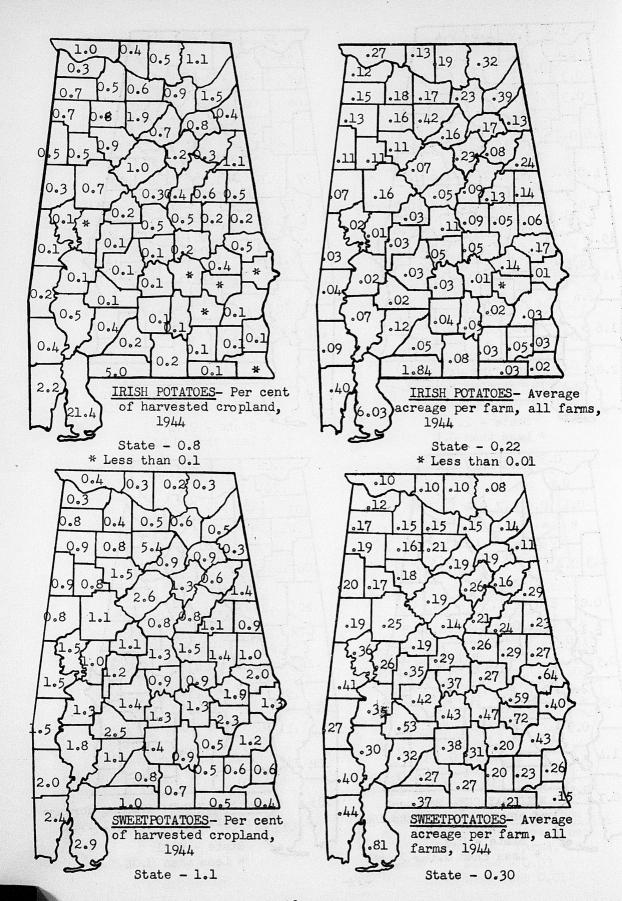


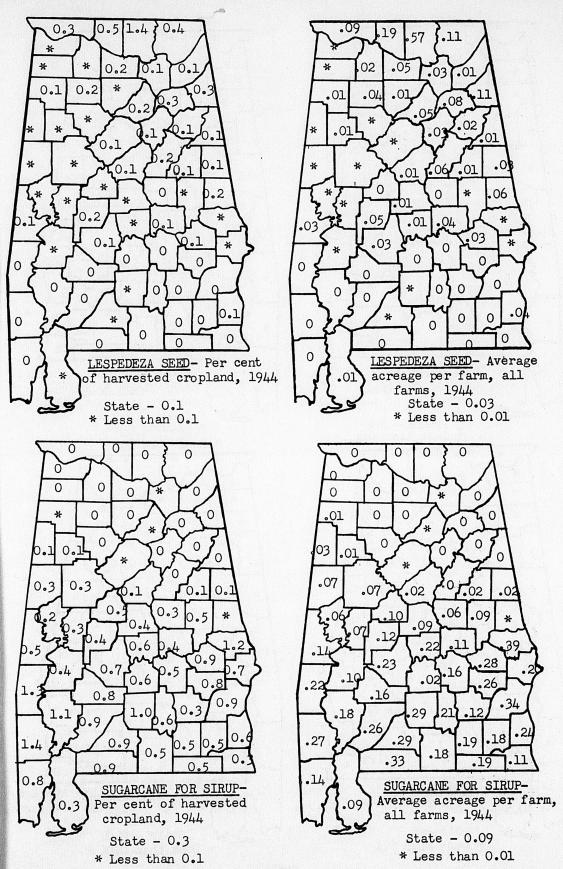
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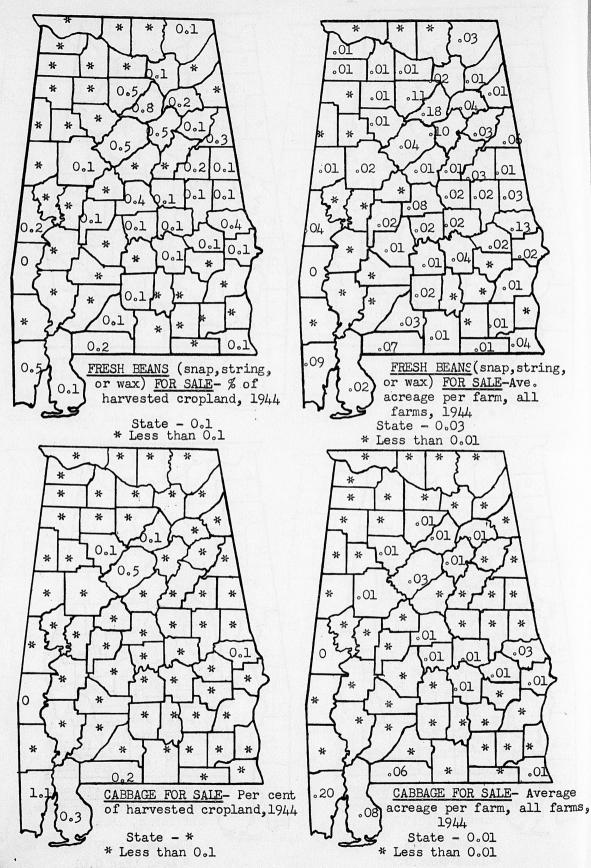


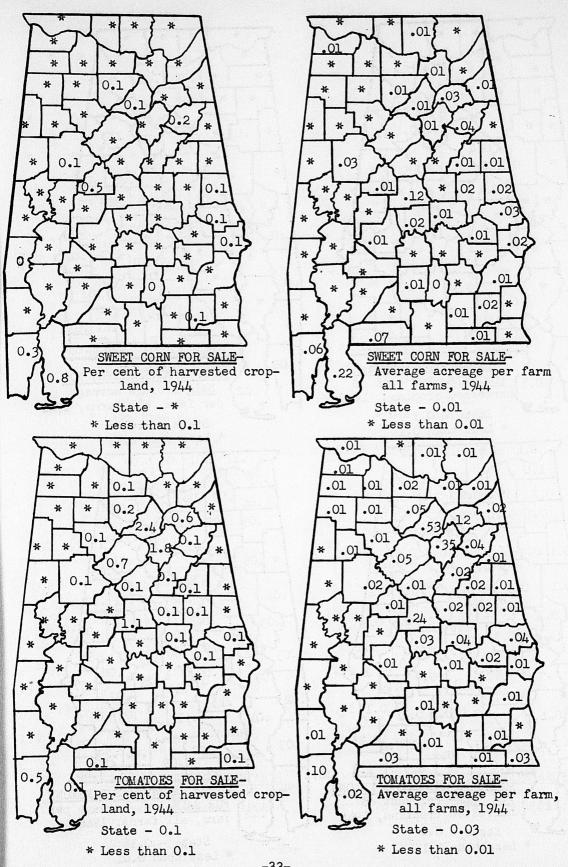


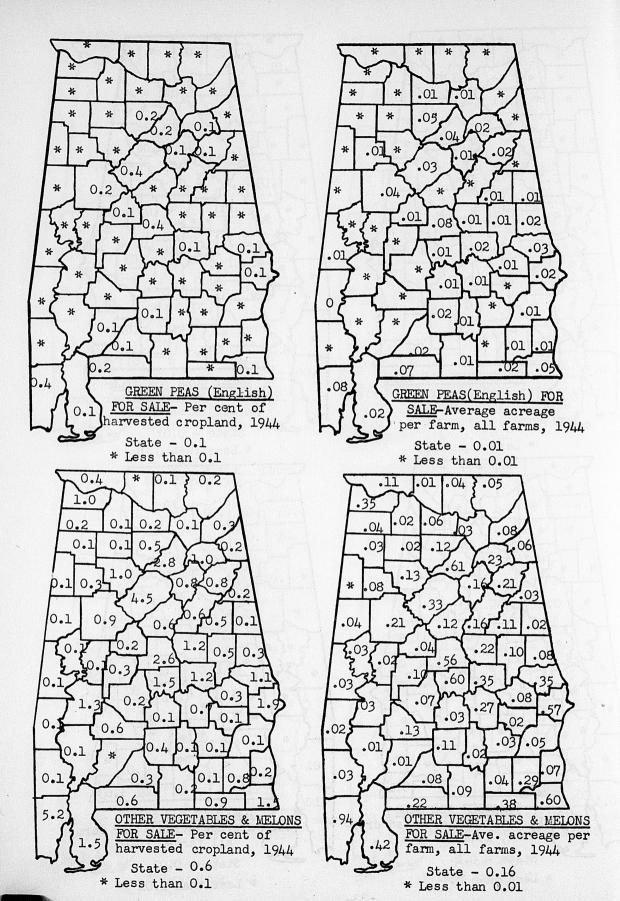


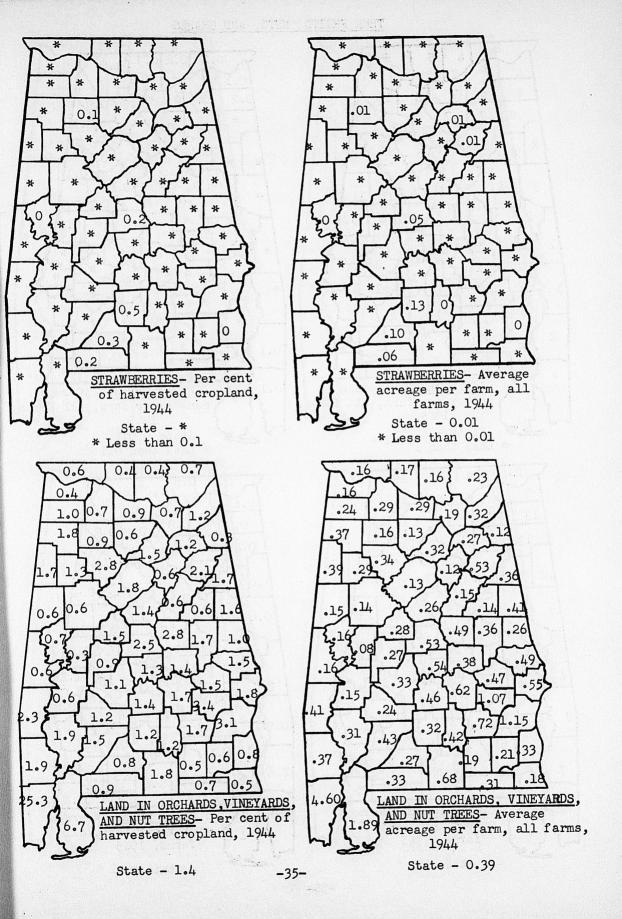


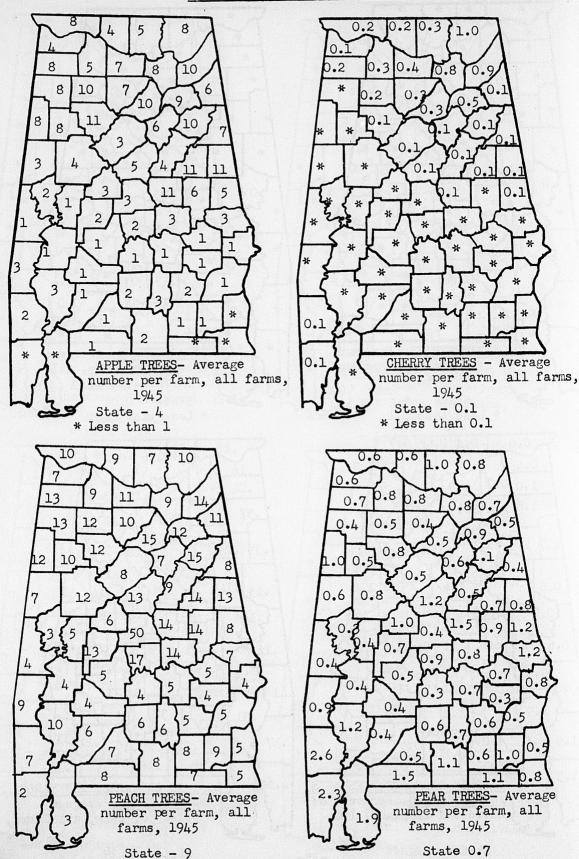


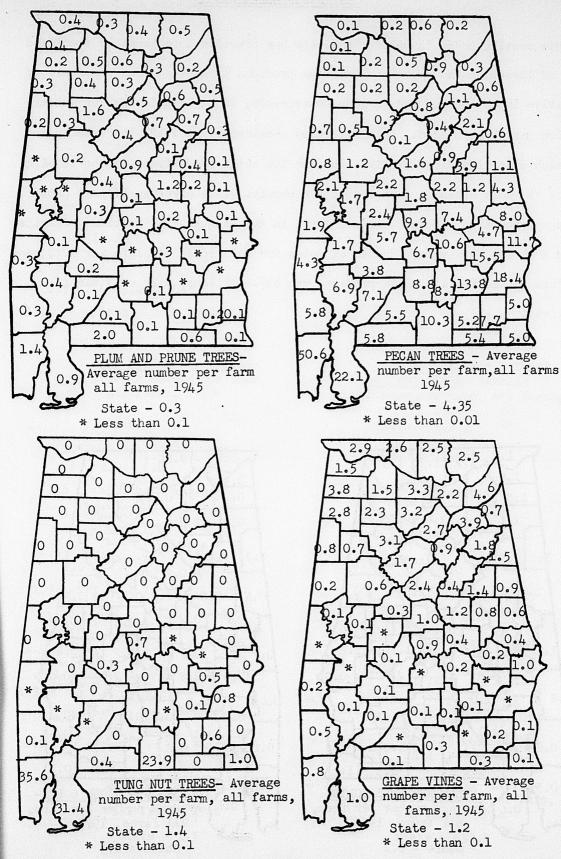






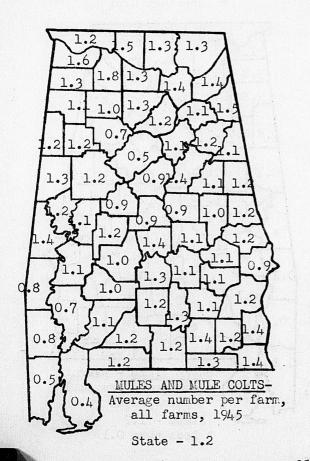


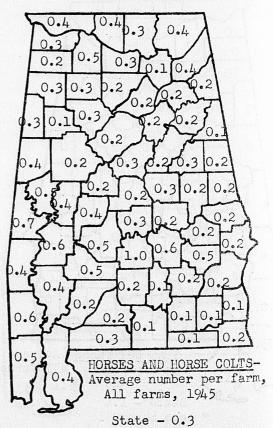


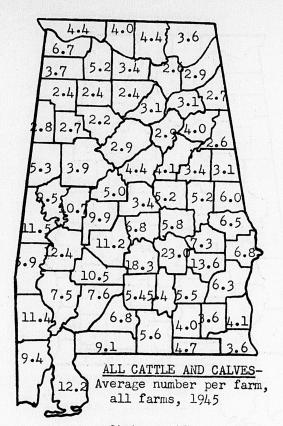


LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISES

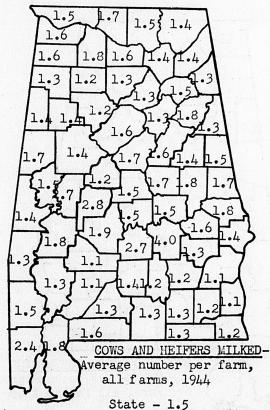
This section presents data to indicate the relative importance of specified classes of livestock and types of livestock products in Alabama. As a measure of the relative importance of the various enterprises, the average number or average production per farm is used. This figure is obtained by dividing the total number of each specified class of livestock, or the total production, by the total number of farms reported in each respective county. This gives an average number or average production per farm for all farms in the county. For instance, for the state as a whole, the average number of mules and mule colts per farm was 1.2, cows and heifers milked was 1.5, milk produced was 638.9 gallons, milk sold was 161 gallons, etc.

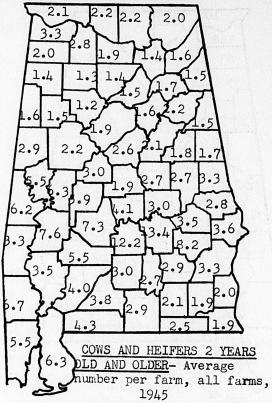


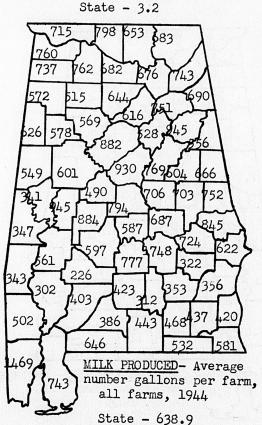


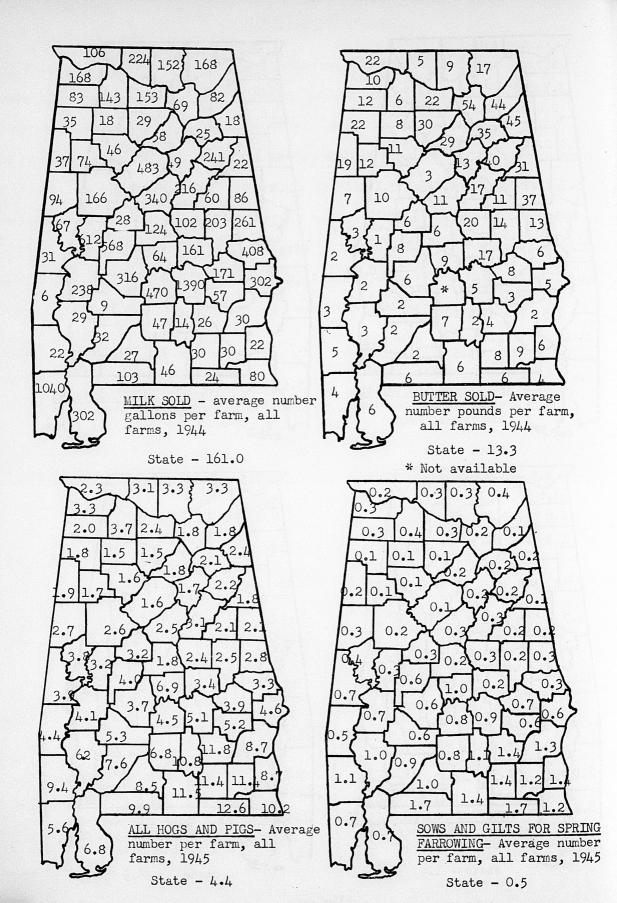


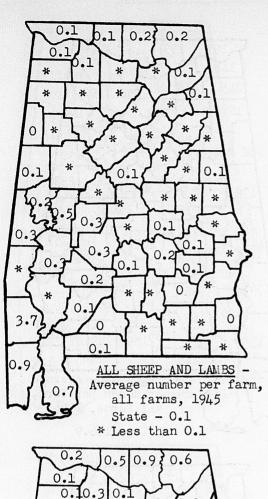


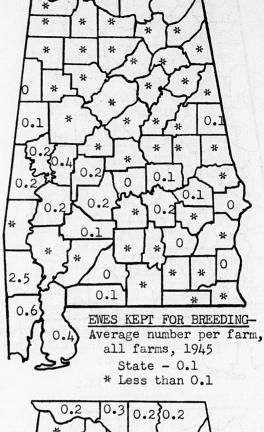




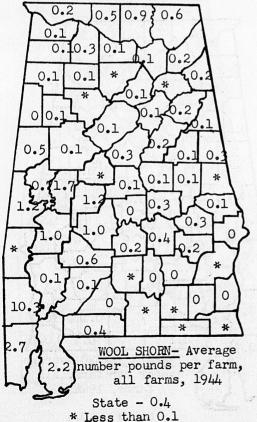


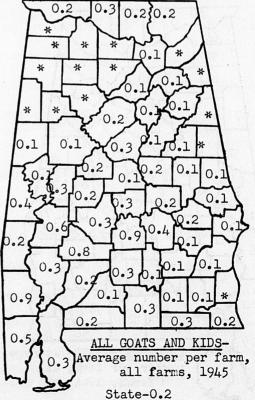






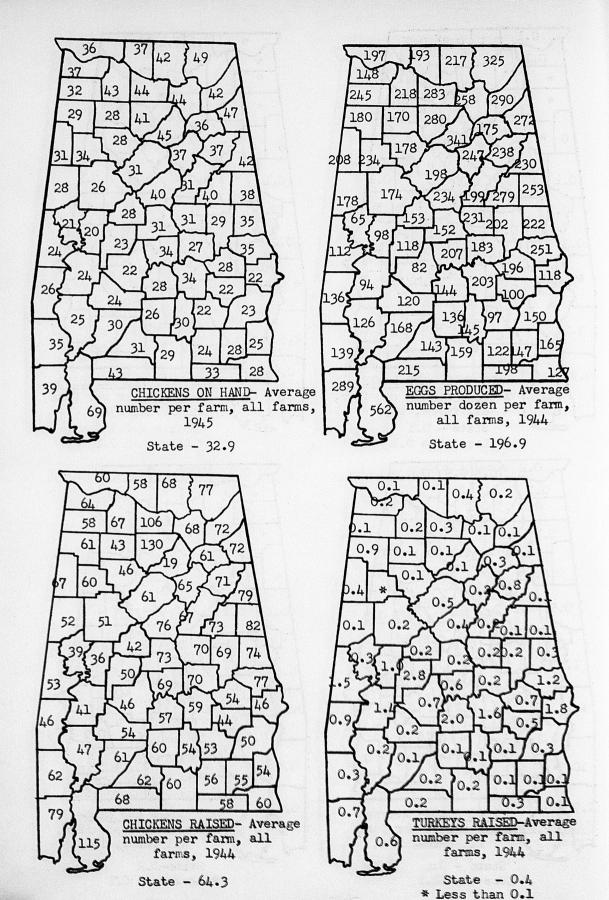
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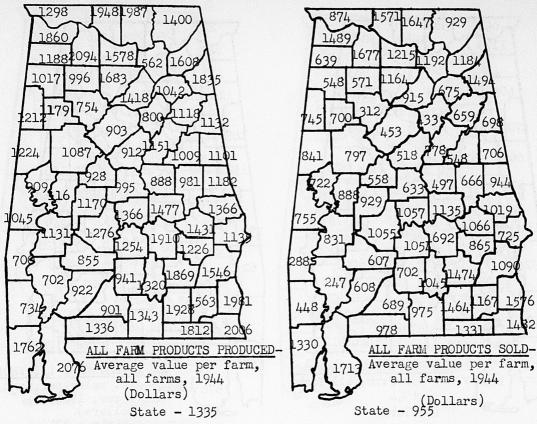




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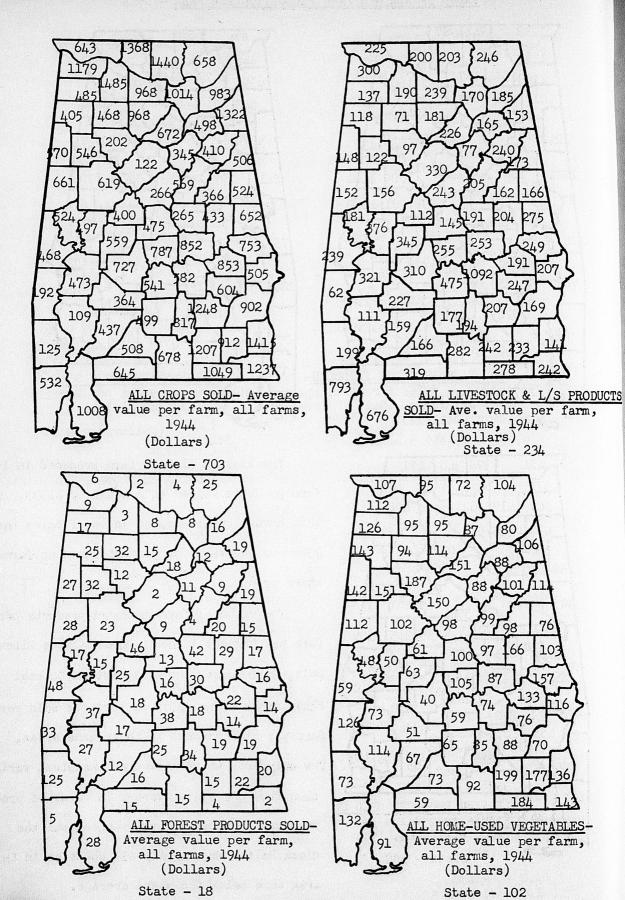
-41-



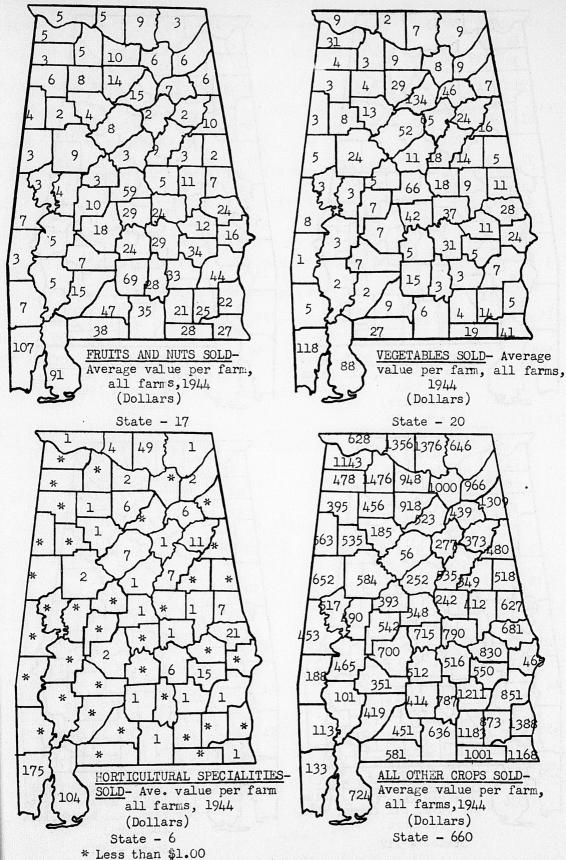


The average Alabama farm produced in 1944 farm products valued at a total of \$1335. Of this amount, \$955 was the value of sales and \$380 was the value of products used on farms where produced.

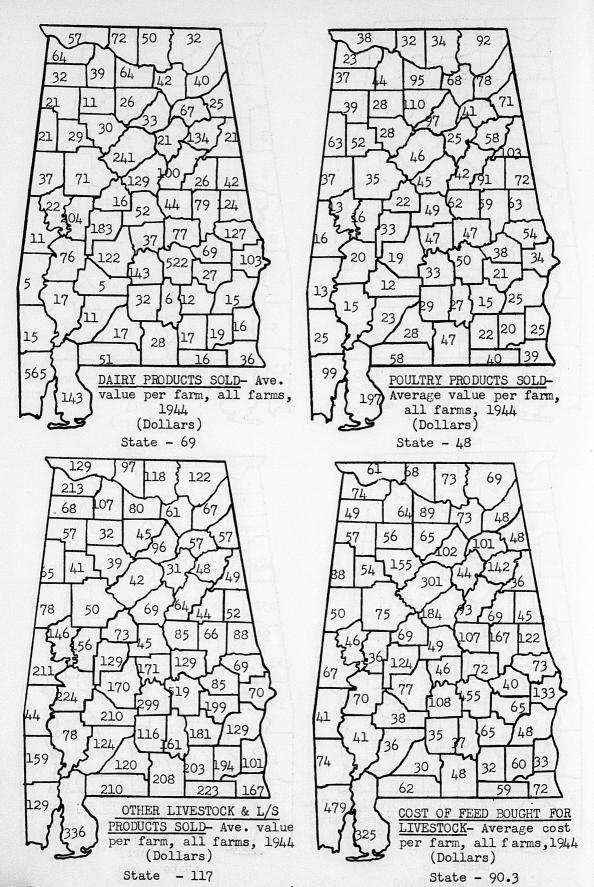
The value of farm-produced products per farm was highest in north Alabama, the Black Belt, Gulf Coast, and southeastern Coastal Plain areas. The value of products sold per farm was also highest in these same areas. The only area which showed a consistent variation from the state average in value of products used on farms where produced was the Black Belt. Practically all counties in this area were below the state average.



-44-



-45-



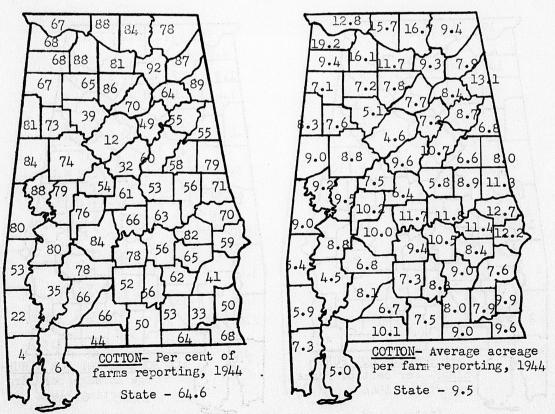
PREVALENCE AND SIZE OF ENTERPRISES ON ALABAMA FARMS

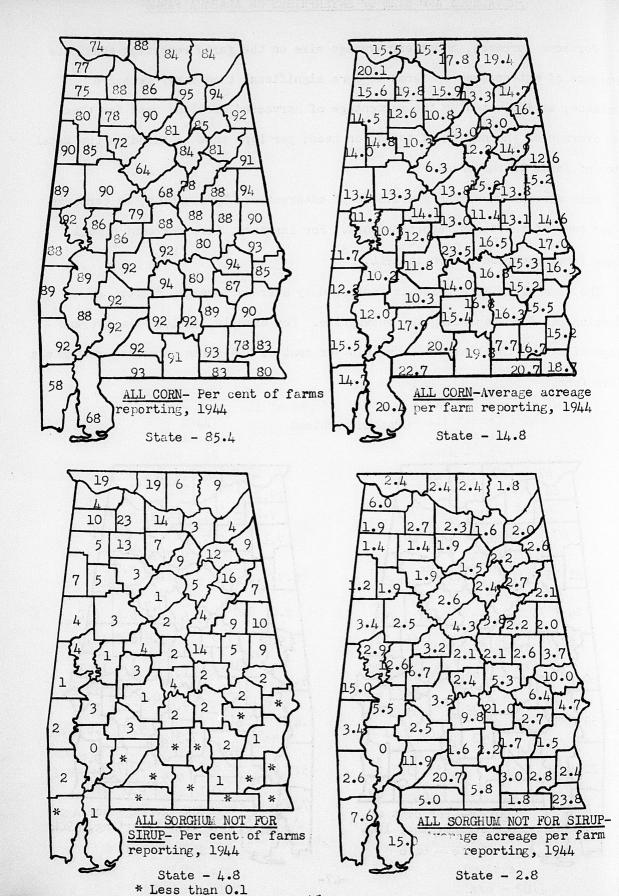
For some purposes, and their average size on the farms reporting them, the prevalence of enterprises on farms is more significant than their relative mportance, as indicated by the percentage of harvested cropland used for them, an average of the number of acres, or head, per farm that is based on the total number of farms in the area.

This section shows the prevalence of enterprises, by counties, in terms of he per cent of the farms reporting them. For instance, 64.6 per cent of all labama farms reported cotton in 1944.

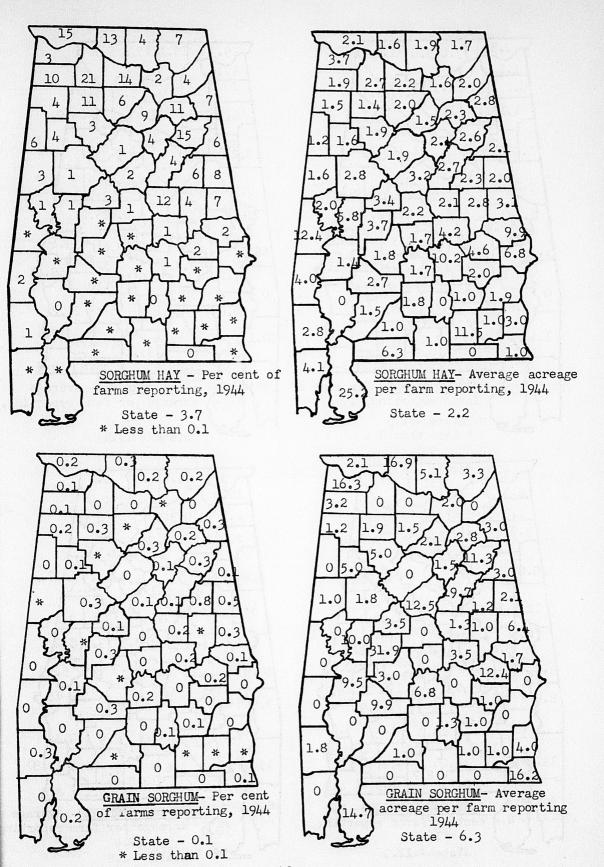
The size of an enterprise is indicated by average acreage, number, or roduction per farm reporting the enterprise. For example, in 1944 the average creage of cotton in Alabama on the 64.6 per cent of the farms reporting cotton was 1.5 per farm.

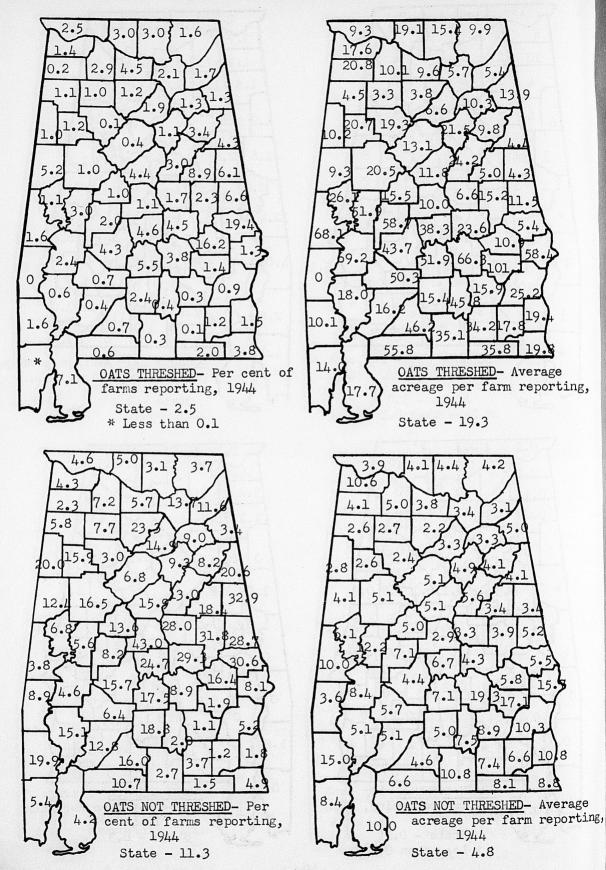
Crop Enterprises

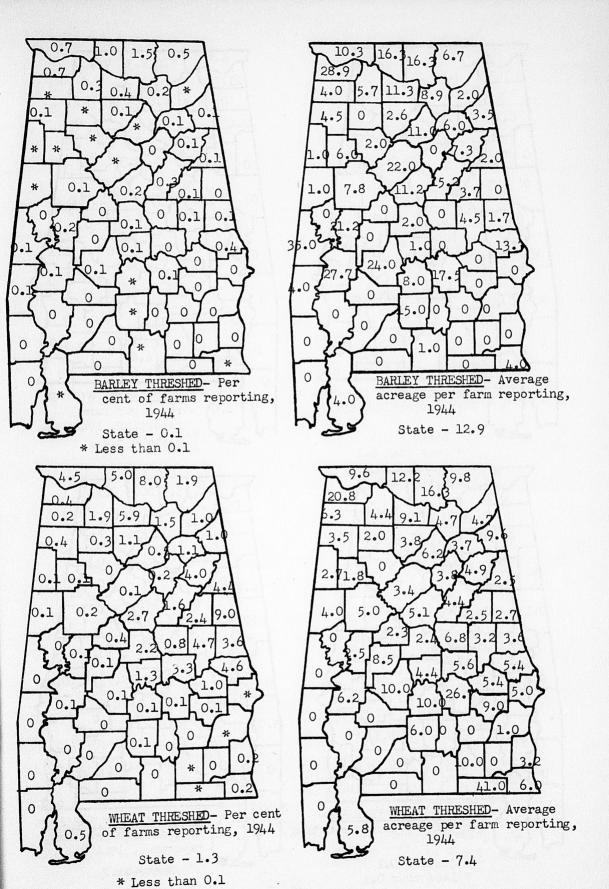




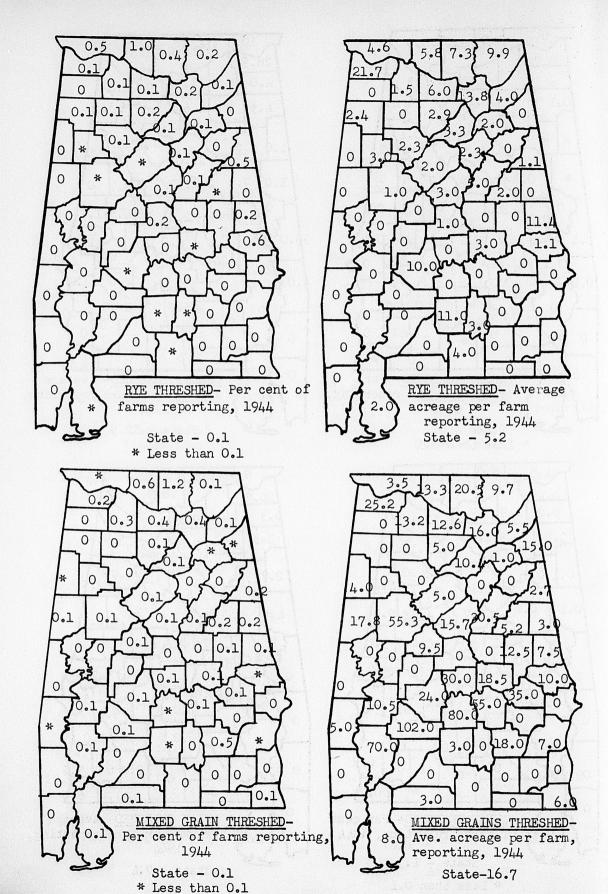
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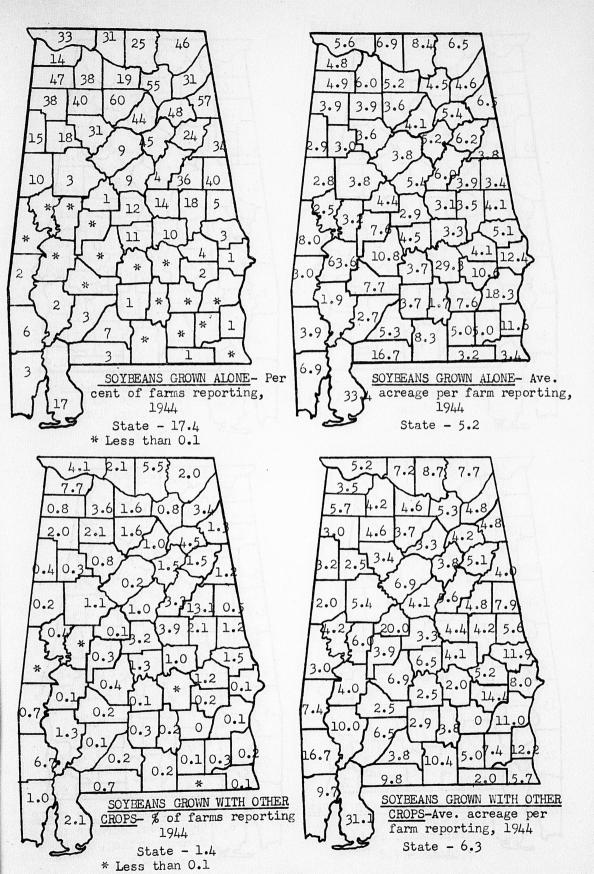


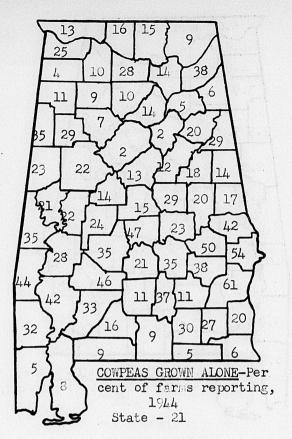


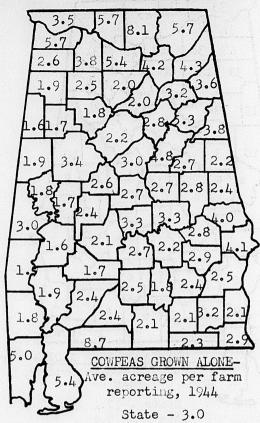


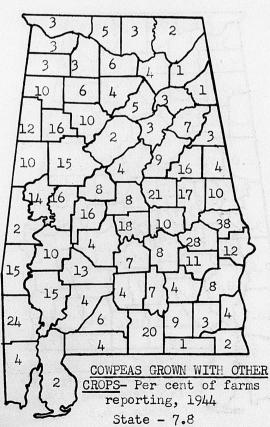
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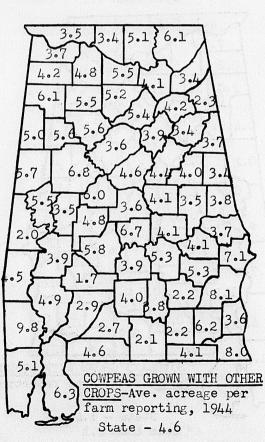


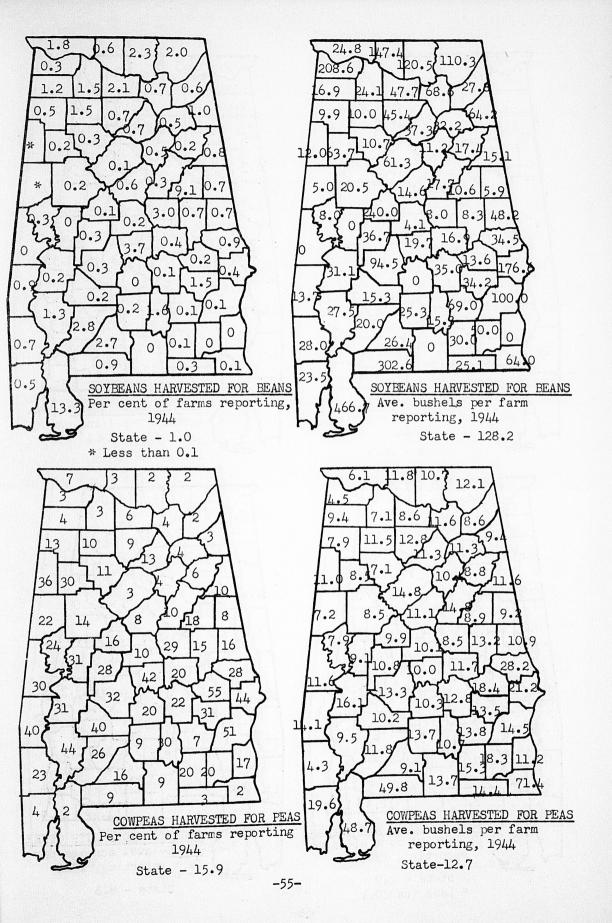


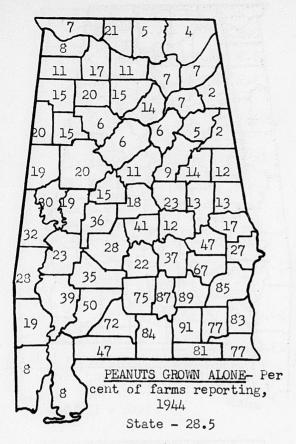


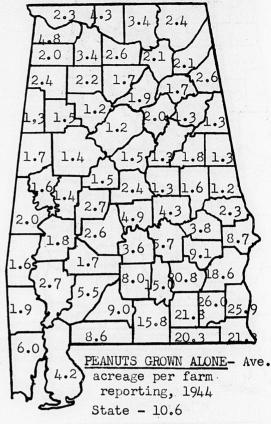


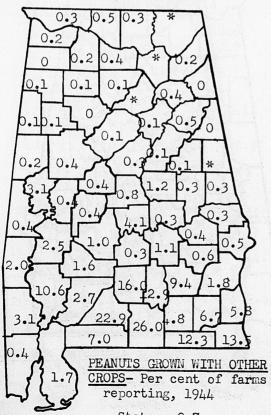


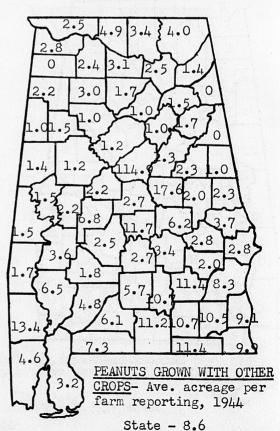




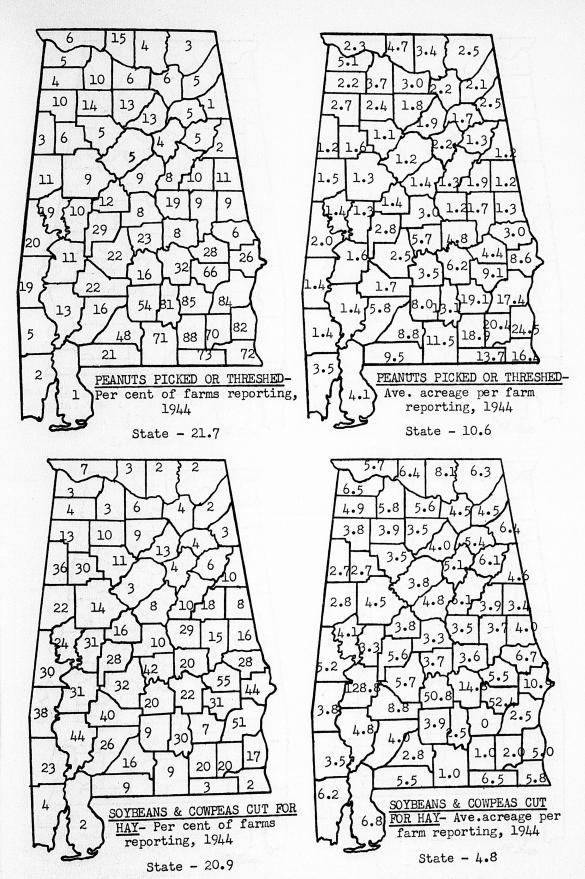


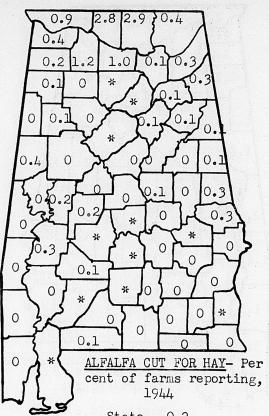




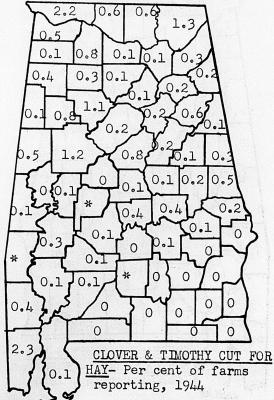


State - 2.7 * Less than 0.1



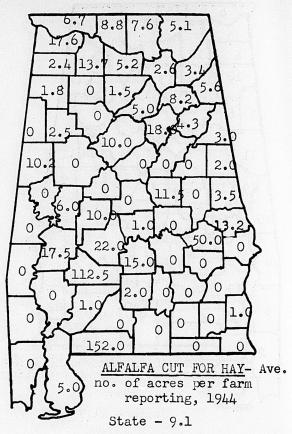


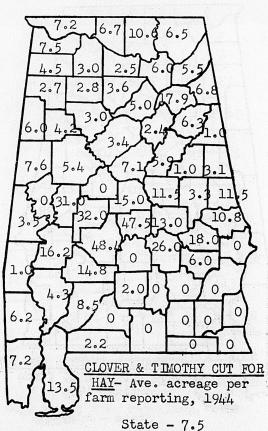
State - 0.2 * Less than 0.1

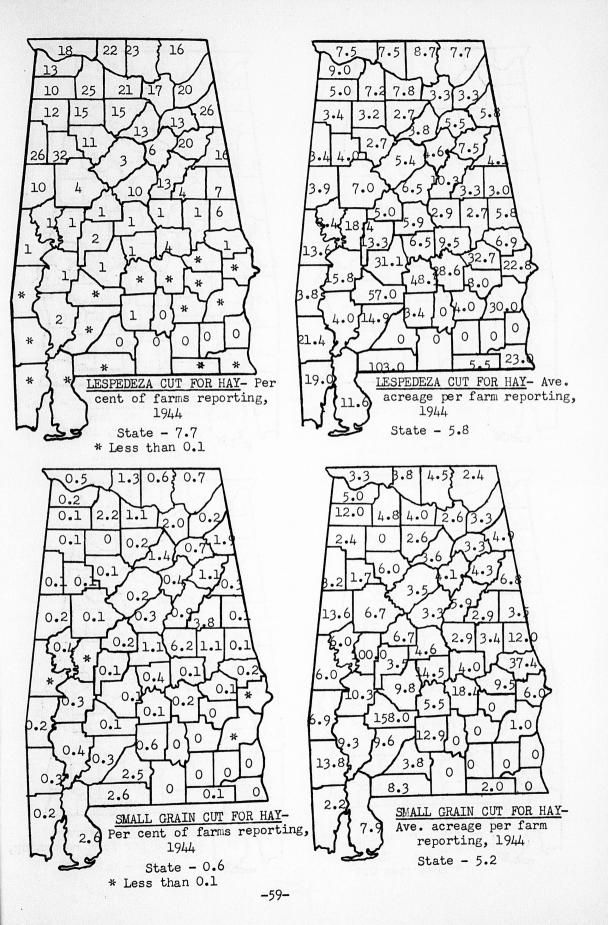


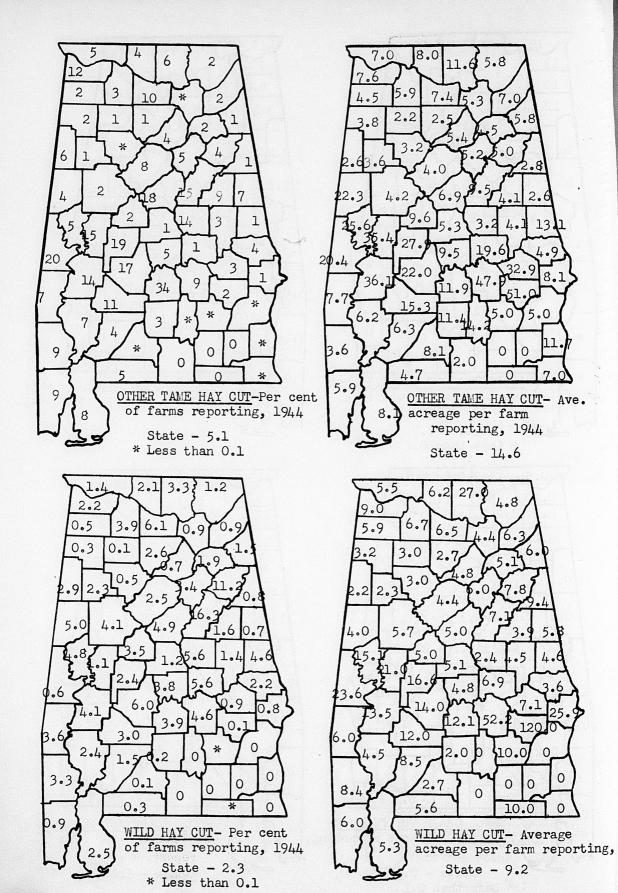
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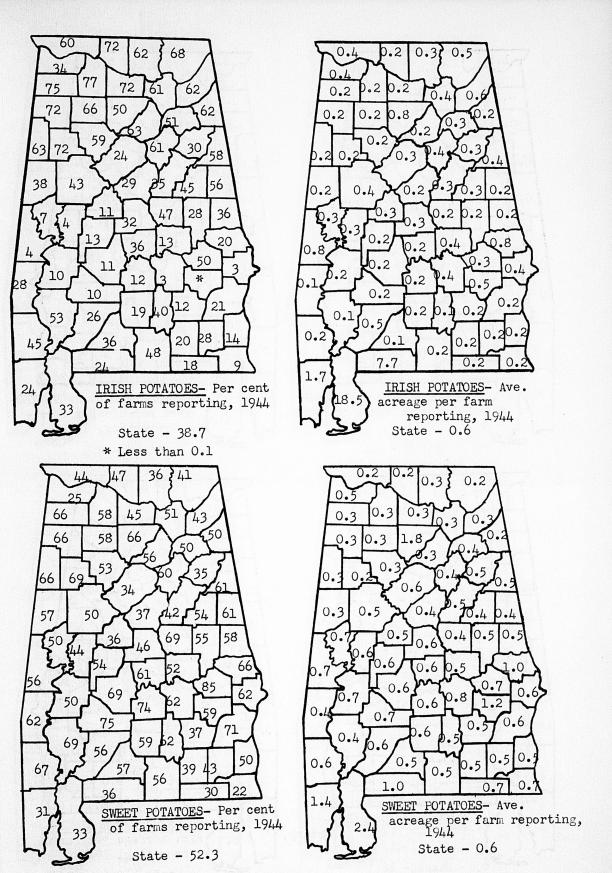
State - 0.3

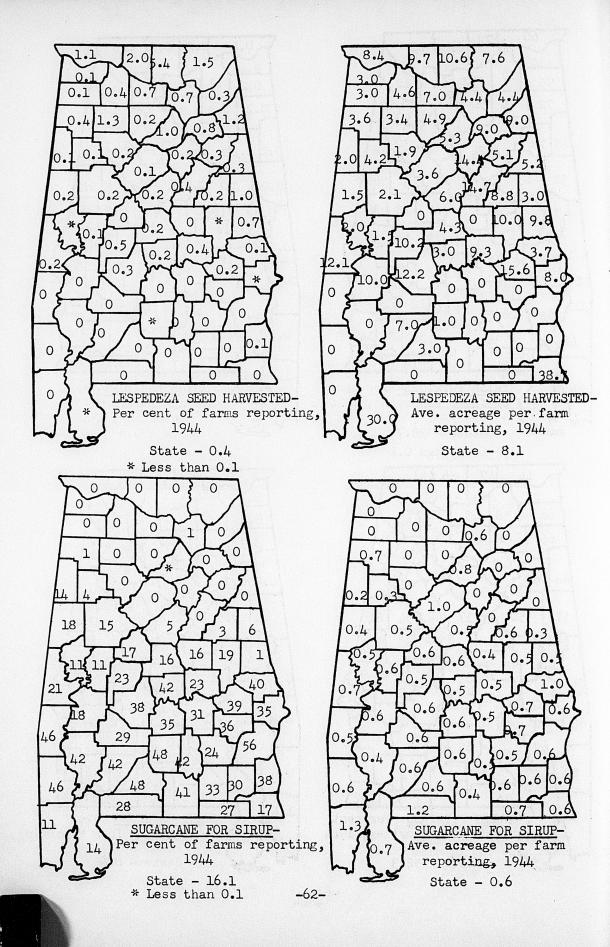


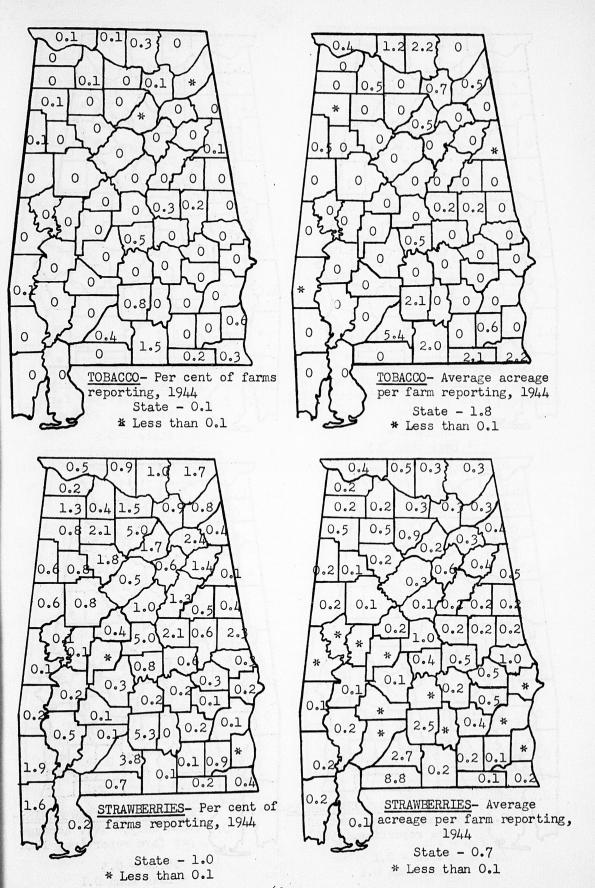


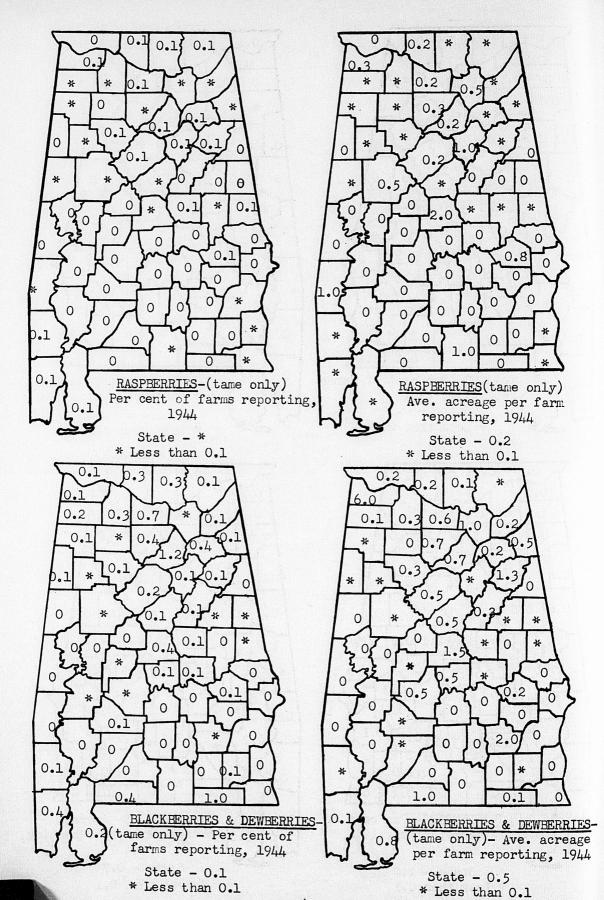


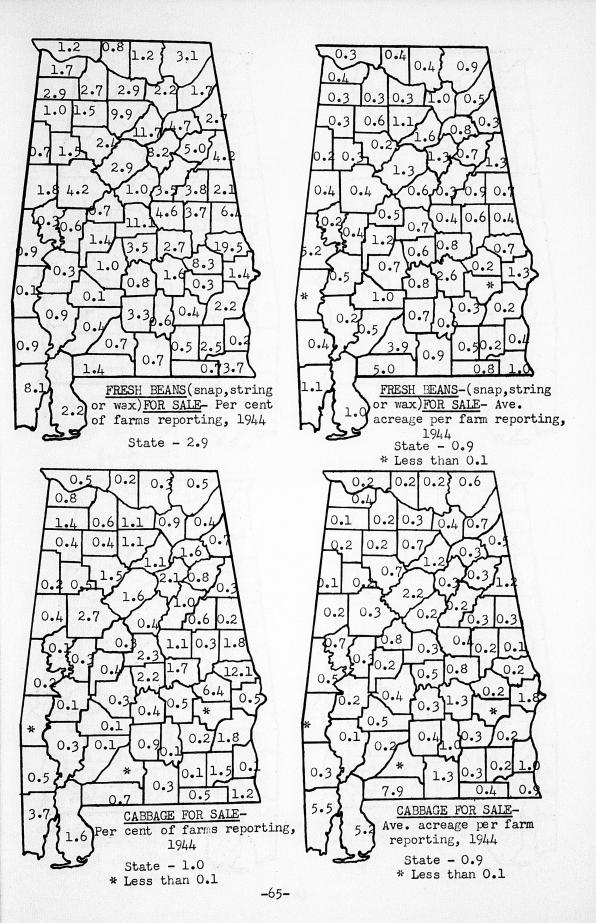


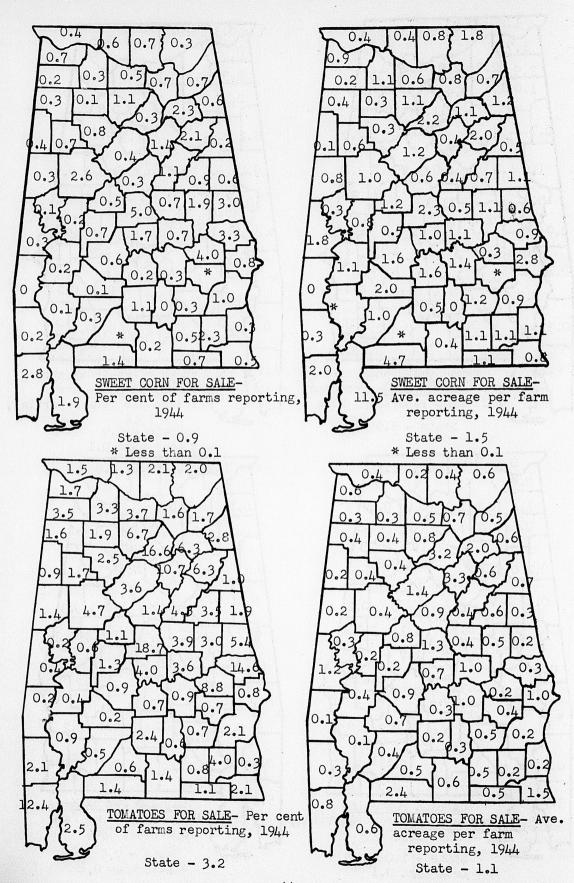


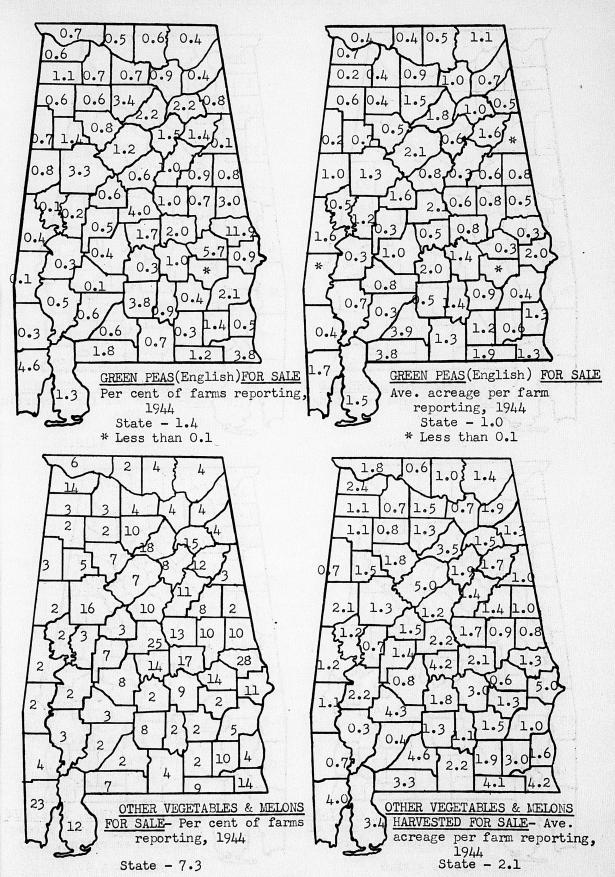


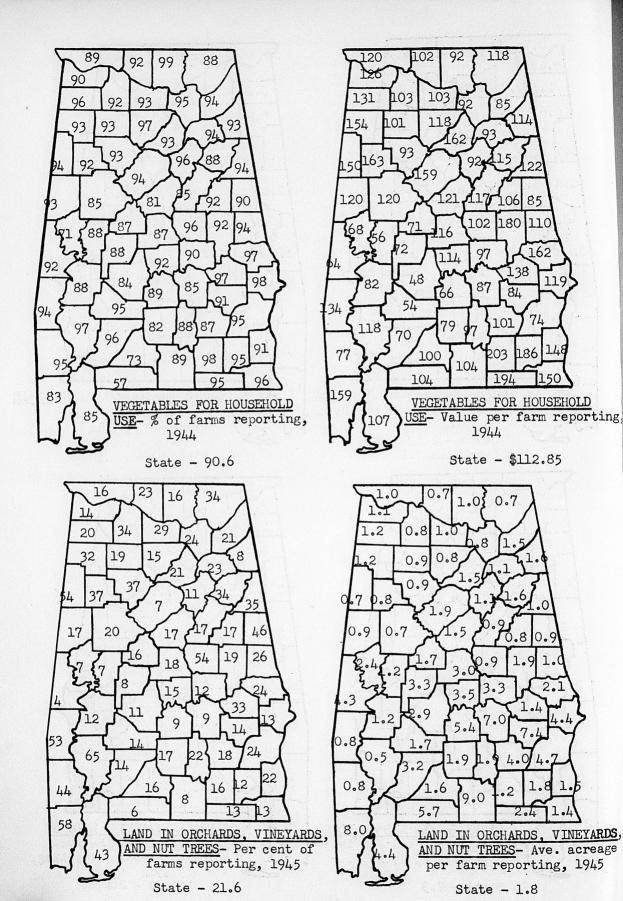




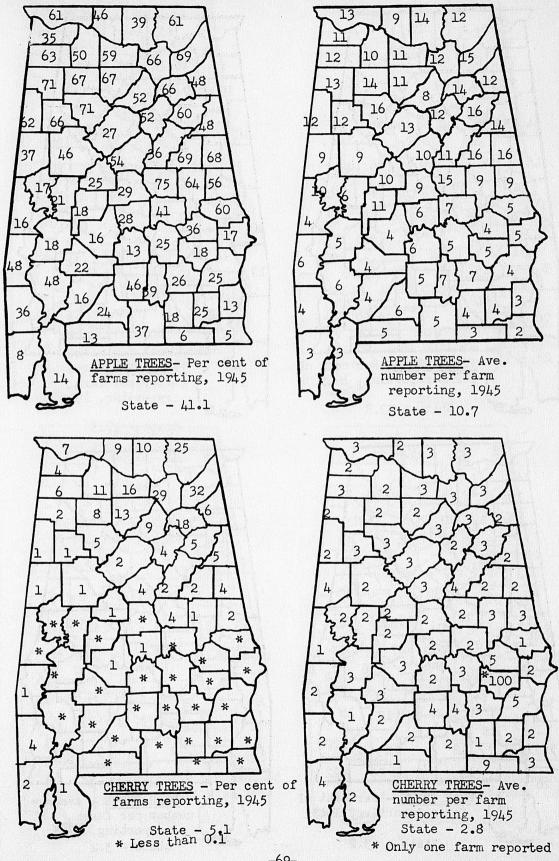


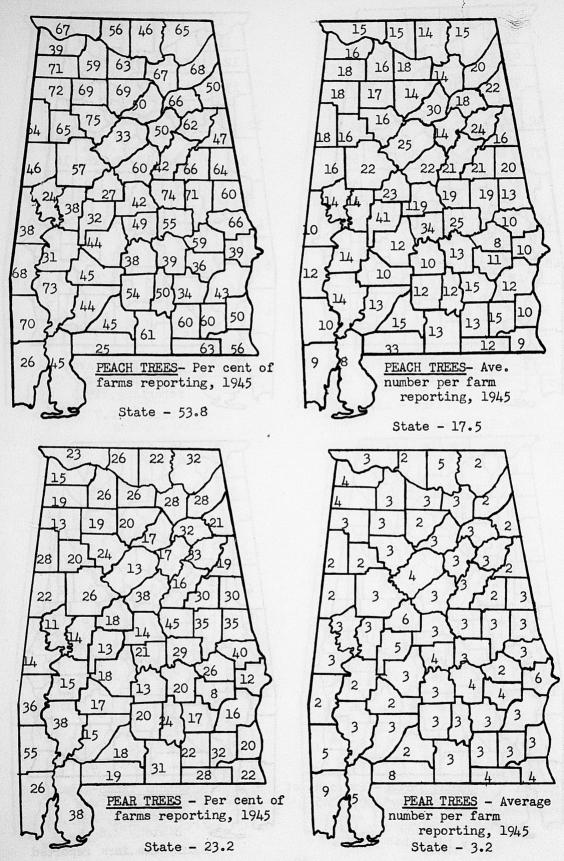


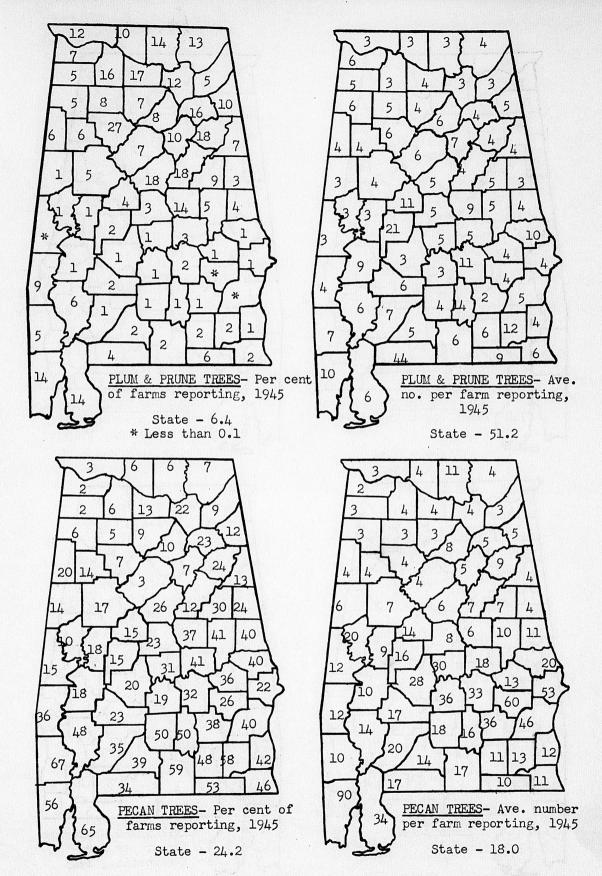


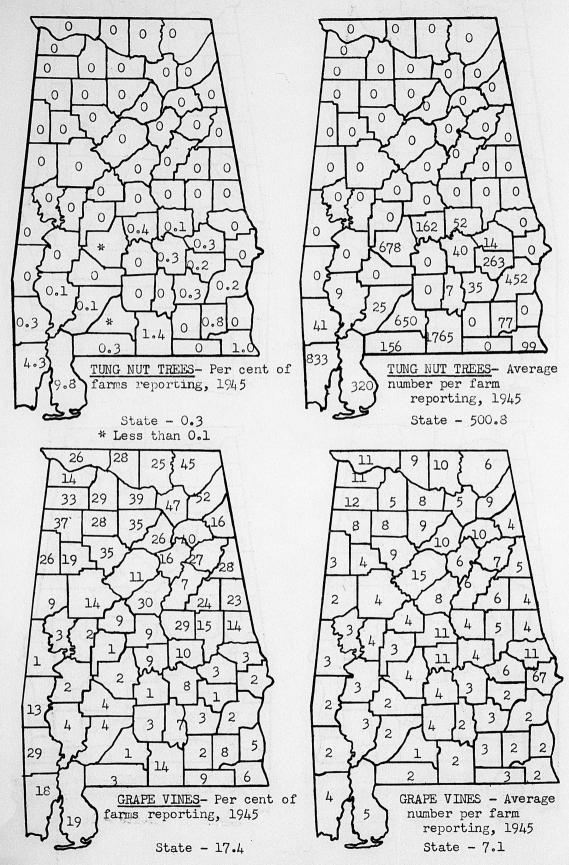


TREE FRUITS, NUTS, AND GRAPES

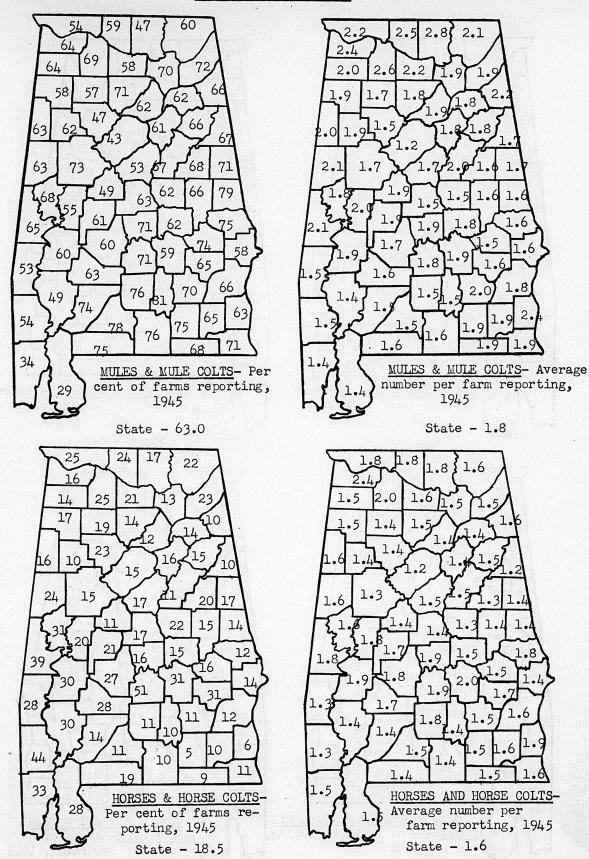


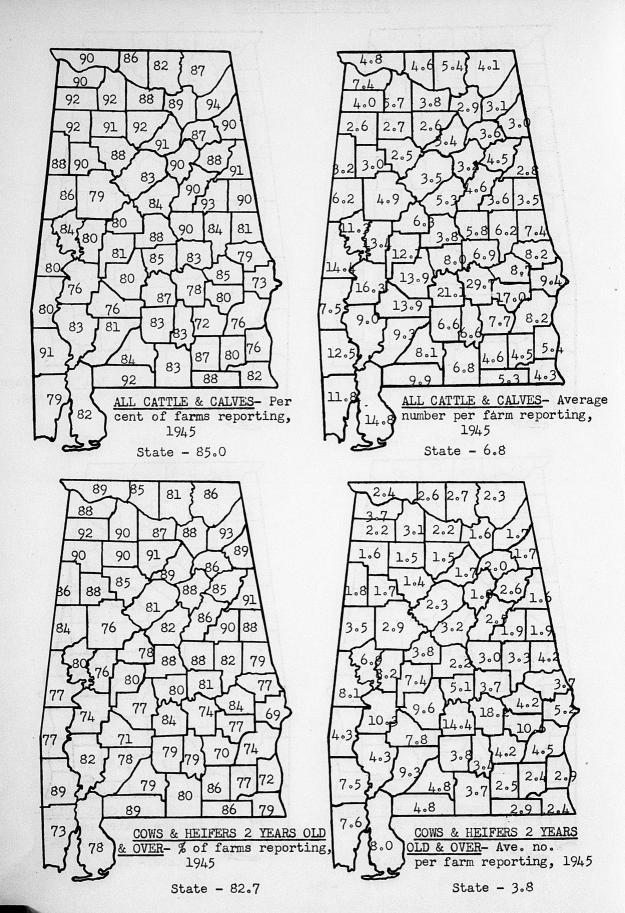


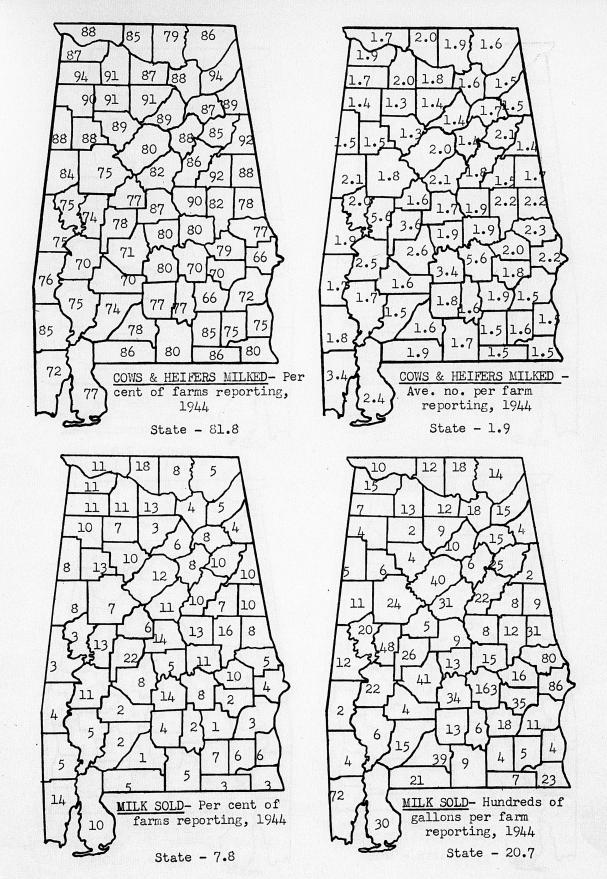


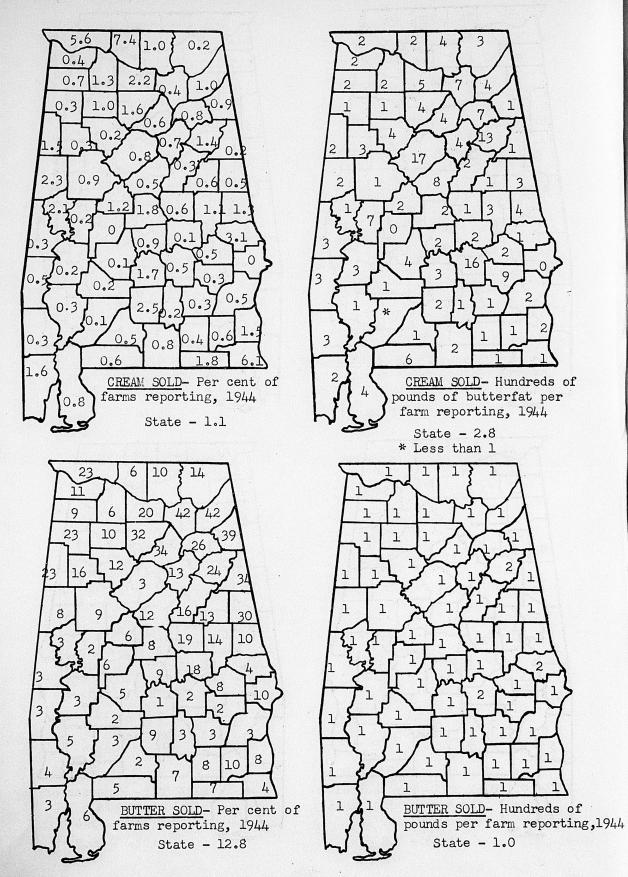


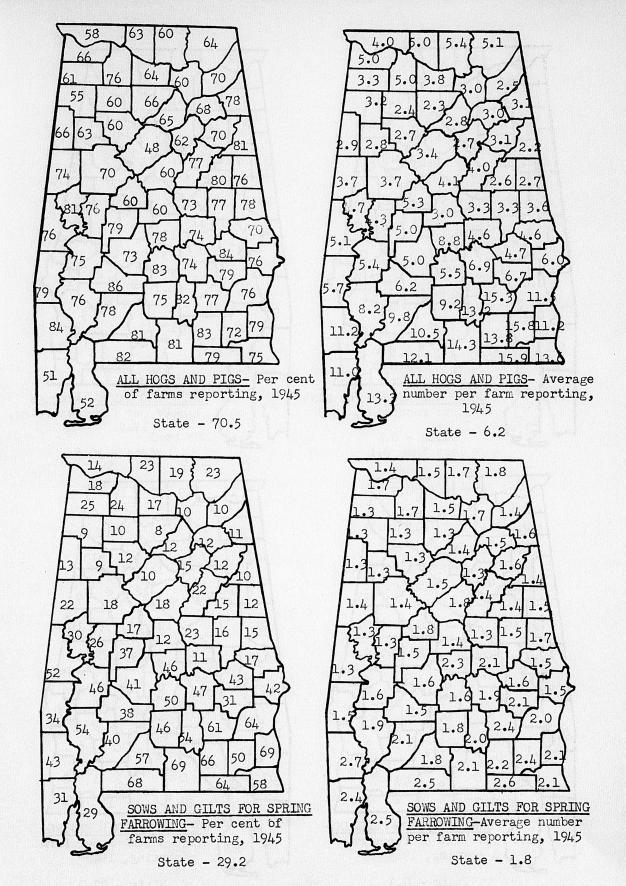
LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISES

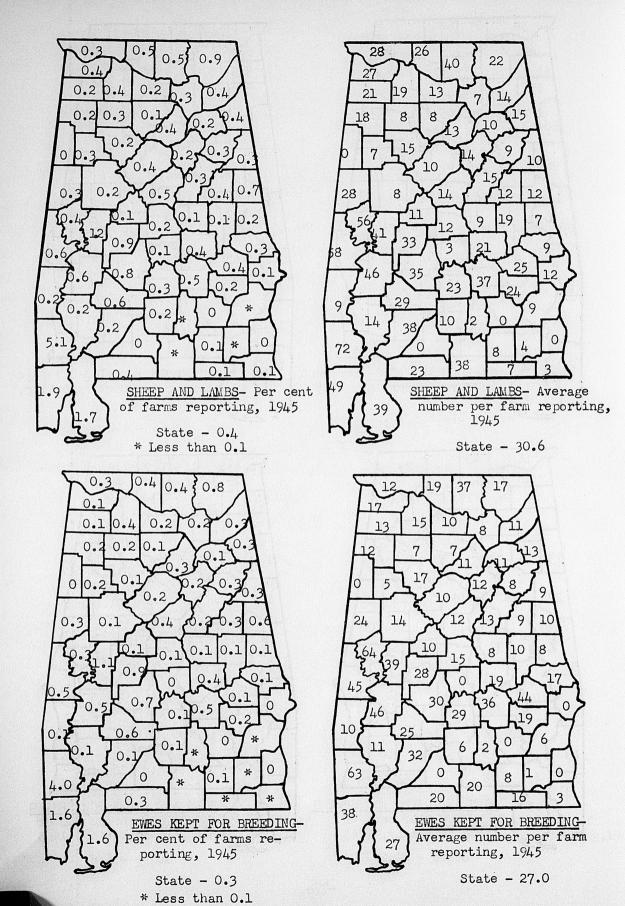


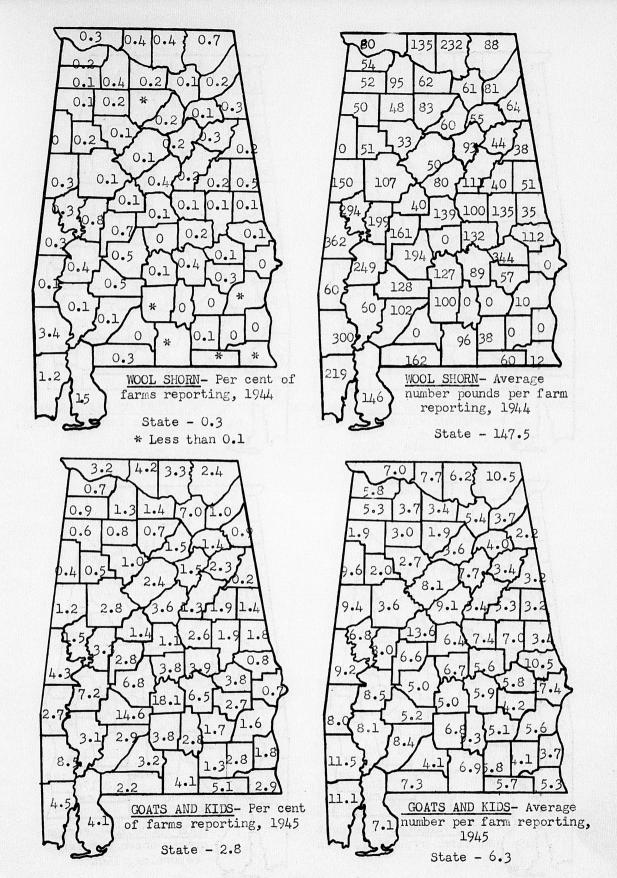


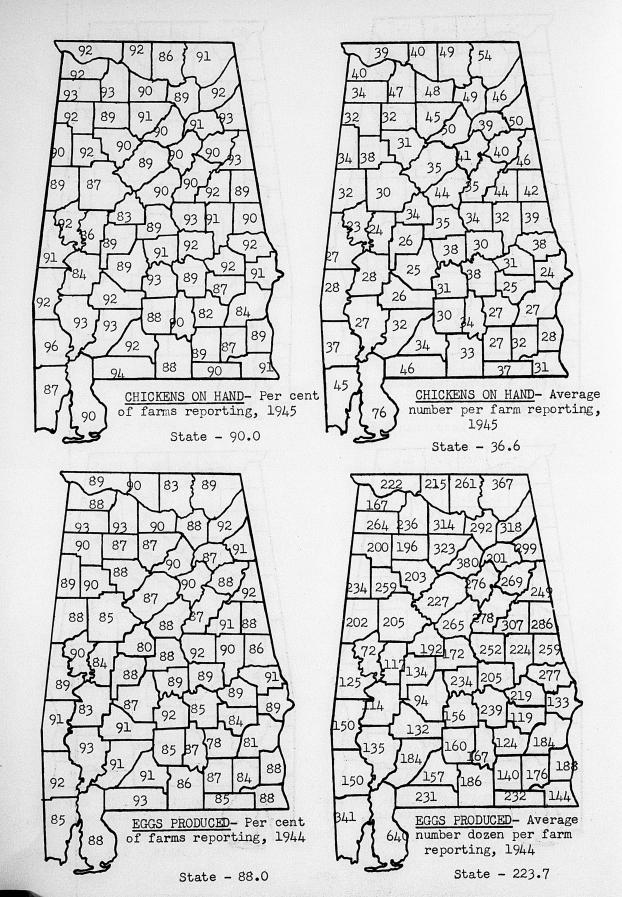


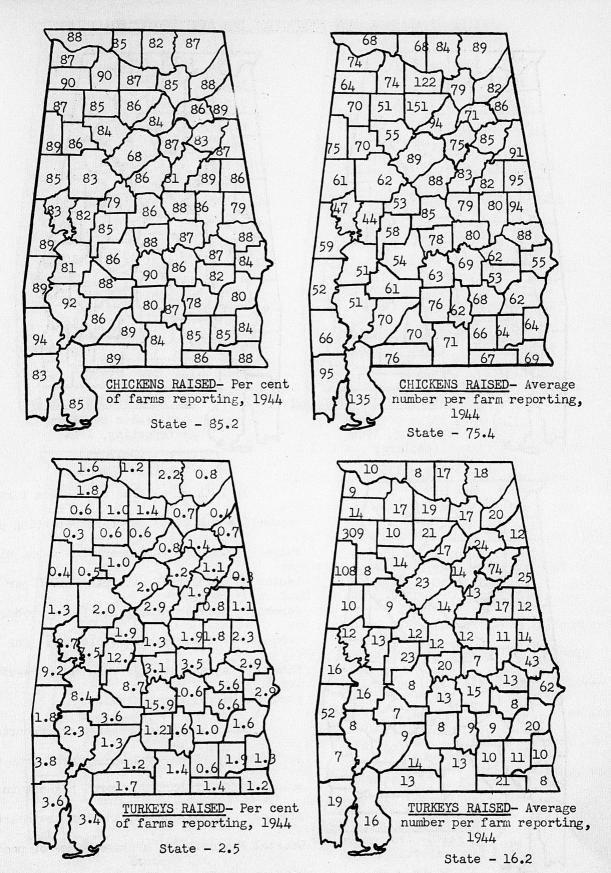


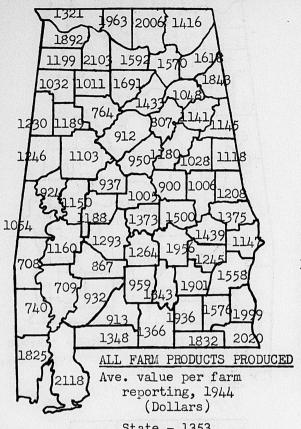


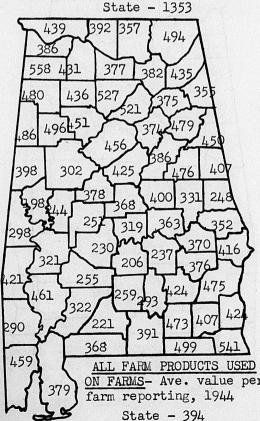




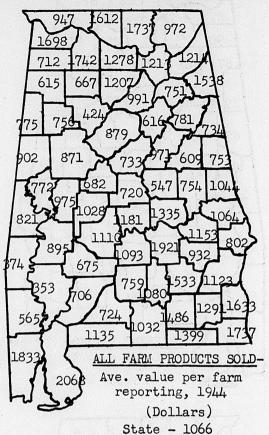








(Dollars)



In 1944, the value of Alabama farm production was \$1353 per farm reporting production. Products were sold from about ninetenths of the farms, returning \$1066 per farm reporting sales. Nearly all farms produced food and/or fuel for household use. For those farms, the average value of home-used products was \$394 per farm.

Both the value of all farm products

259
293
473
407
422

391
473
407
422

sold per farm reporting, were highest in nor

Alabama, the Gulf Coast, and the southeastern

ON FARMS- Ave. value per farm reporting. The average value of product farm reporting, 1944

State - 394

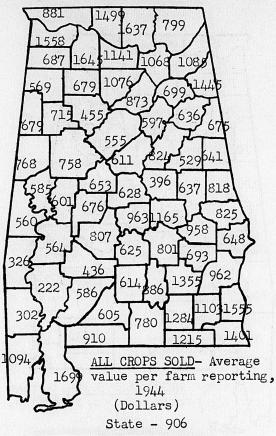
Both the value of all farm products

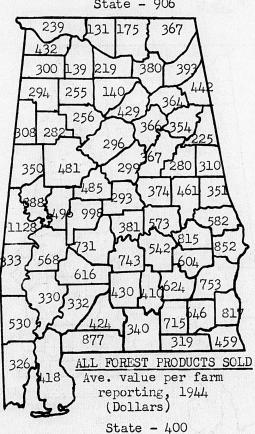
per farm reporting, and the returns from those sold per farm reporting, were highest in nor

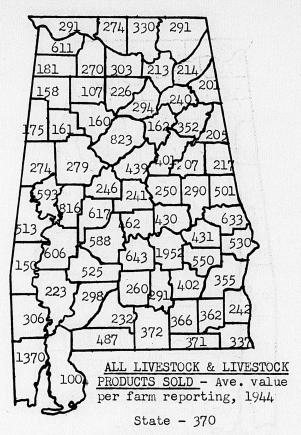
Alabama, the Gulf Coast, and the southeastern

Coastal Plains. The average value of products

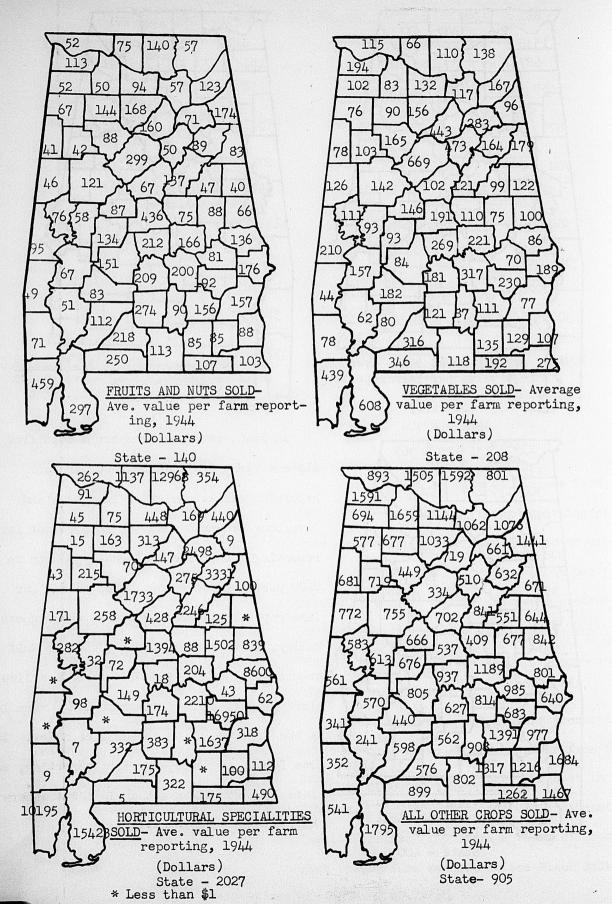
used on the farm was low in the Black Belt.

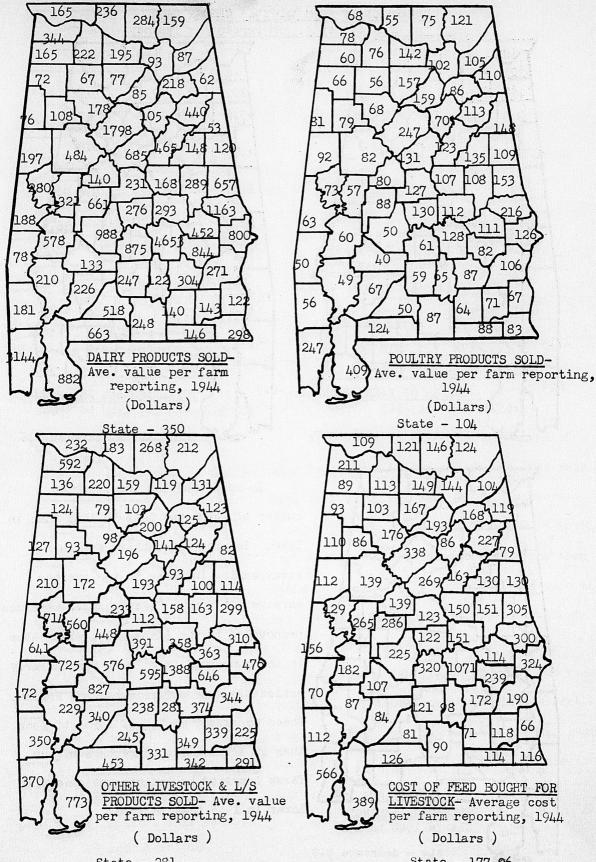






In 1944, receipts from crops sold from
Alabama farms amounted to \$906 per farm
reporting sales. Sales of livestock and
livestock products amounted to \$370 per farm
reporting, and those of forest products to
\$400 per farm reporting. Crop sales, per
farm reporting, were largest in the Tennessee
Valley, southeastern Alabama, and the Gulf
counties. Receipts from livestock and livestock products, per farm reporting, were largest
in the Black Belt and the Gulf counties. Income
from forest products, per farm reporting, was
less in north Alabama than in the southern
half of the state.



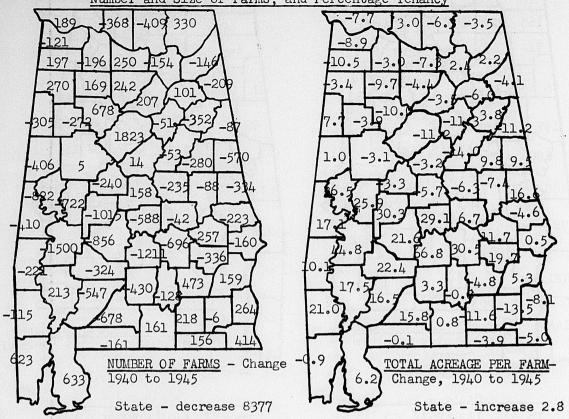


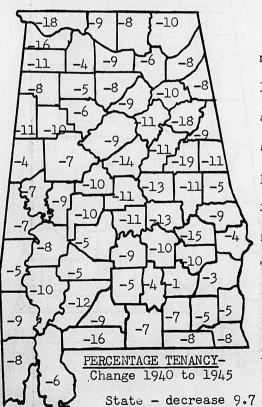
State - 281

State - 177.96

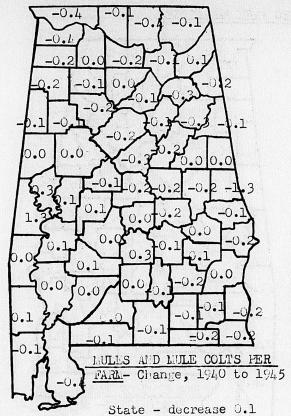
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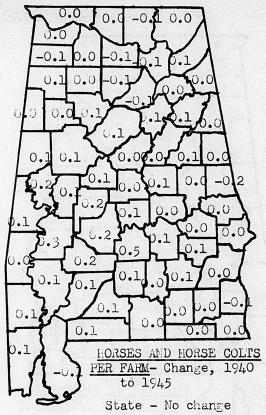
COMPARISON OF 1940 AND 1945 CENSUS DATA
Number and Size of Farms, and Percentage Tenancy

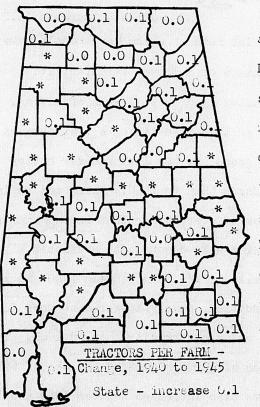




In most counties the reported number of farms was less in 1945 than in 1940. In many cases there was an accompanying increase in the average acreage per farm. These changes were most pronounced in the Black Belt. Increases in the number of farms were particularly noticeable around Birmingham and Mobile. These consisted mostly of farms of less than 10 acres. The percentage of the farms operated by tenants was generally lower in 1945 than in 1940





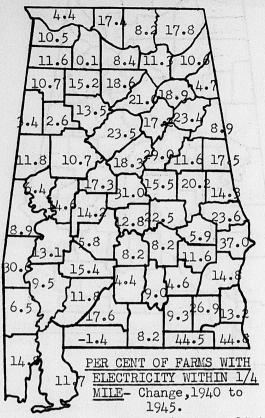


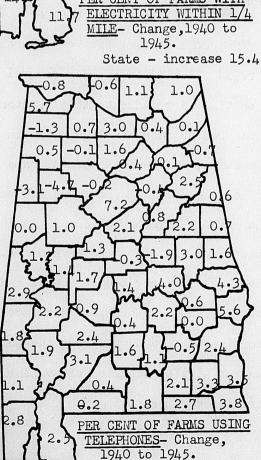
* Less than 0.1

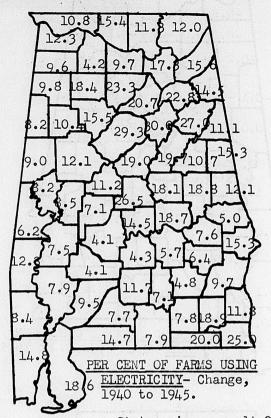
at a rapid rate in Alabama for several years.

Data on this page indicate that tractors have shown a greater increase in numbers in northern, northeastern, and southeastern Alabama than in other sections of the state. At the same time, the number of workstock on farms has shown greatest decreases in these same areas. This has been particularly true of mules and mule colts. The rate of workstock displacement by tractors was slowed down during the war years because of limited supplies of available tractors and tractor equipment.

UTILIZATION OF IMPROVED FARM FACILITIES







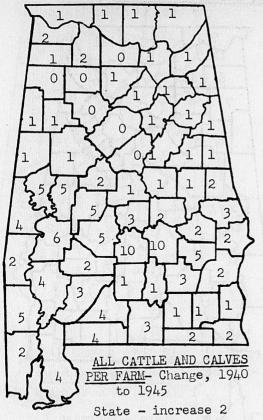
State - increase 14.2
The rate at which farm people take

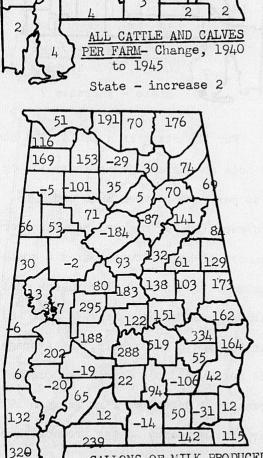
advantage of improved farm facilities indicates changes in levels of living.

Data on this page indicate that farmers as a group are now living under better standards than in 1940. There was an increase of over 15 per cent in the number of farms with electricity available within 1/4 mile of the farm between 1940 and 1945. In addition, nearly 15 per cent more farmers were using electricity than in 1940. The number of farms reporting the use of telephones also increased between 1940 and 1945, with largest increases occuring in central and southern Alabama.

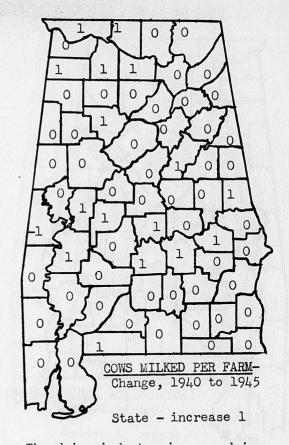
State - increase 1.4

CATTLE ON FARMS, COWS MILKED, AND MILK PRODUCTION

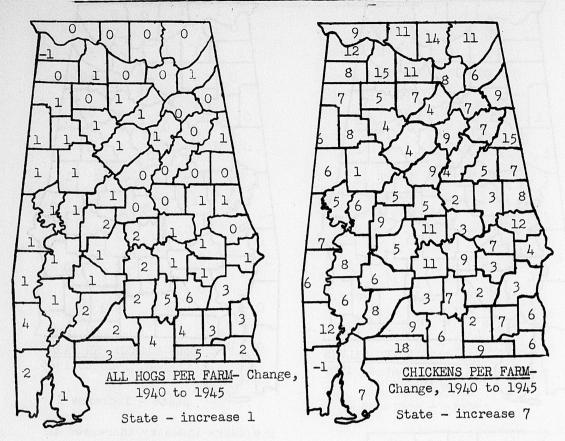


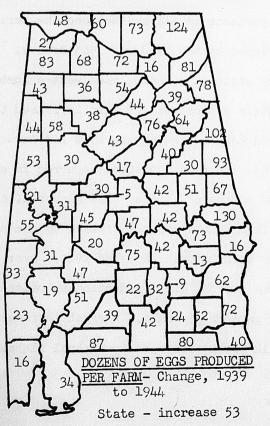


1945 State-increase 92



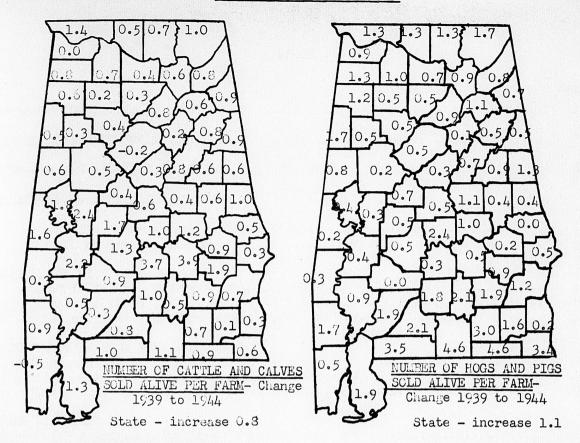
The dairy industry increased in importance in Alabama between the periods covered by the 1940 and 1945 Census. For the state as a whole, the average number of cattle and calves per farm increased two head between January 1, 1940 and January 1, 1945. Largest increases occurred in central and southern Alabama. The number of cows milked in the state increased by one head per farm between 1939 and 1944. Over the same period, milk production increased by 92 gallons per farm. Largest increases in GALLONS OF MILK PRODUCED milk production were in central Alabama. FARM- Change, 1940 to





For the state as a whole, the number of hogs on Alabama farms increased by one head per farm between 1940 and 1945. Largest increases in hog numbers per farm were in the commercial hog producing area — southeastern Alabama. The number of chickens on Alabama farms also increased between 1940 and 1945. For the state as a whole, the average increase was seven head per farm. Egg production increased 53 dozen per farm between 1939 and 19 Largest increases in egg production per farm were in northern Alabama.

SALE OF LIVE MEAT ANIMALS



0.1 0.1 0.0 0.1 0.1 0 0 0.0 * 0 -1.5 * SOLD ALIVE PER FARM-Change, 1939 to 1944

The sale of live meat animals per farm increased in Alabama between 1939 to 1944. In the case of cattle, the average number sold increased nearly 1.0 head per farm during this period. Largest increases in cattle sales were in the Black Belt counties. The number of hogs sold increased by more than 1.0 head per farm between 1939 and 1944. Largest increases in hog sales were in southeastern Alabama, in the commercial producing area. The decrease in the number of sheep sold per farm indicates the continued decline in the importance NULBER OF SHEEP AND LAMBS of this enterprise. Slight increases in sheep sales in central and north Alabama were more than offset by declines in south Alabama.

* Less than 0.1

State - decrease 0.1

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	1 48
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All home-used vegetables	44
Fruits and nuts sold	45
Vegetables sold	45
Horticultural specialties sold	45 45
All other crops sold	46
Poultry products sold	46
Other livestock and livestock products sold	46
Cost of feed bought for livestock	46
PREVALENCE AND SIZE OF ENTERPRISES ON ALABAMA FARMS:	
Gran Enterprises (Don cont of Forms Percenting and Avenage Number of	
Crop Enterprises (Per cent of Farms Reporting and Average Number of Acres per Farm Reporting, 1944)	
Cotton	47
All corn	48

	Table 1815 Control of the Control of	Page
4.1	All sorghum not for sirup	48
	Sorghum hay	49
	Grain sorghum	49
	Oats threshed	50
	Oats not threshed	50
	Barley threshed	51
	Wheat threshed	51
	Rye threshed	52
	Mixed grains threshed	52
	Soybeans grown alone	53
	Soybeans grown with other crops	53
	Cowpeas grown alone	54
	Cowpeas grown with other crops	54
1.1	Soybeans harvested for beans	55
	Cowpeas harvested for peas	55
	Peanuts grown alone	56
	Peanuts grown with other crops	56
	Peanuts picked or threshed	57
9.4	Soybeans and cowpeas cut for hay	57
	Alfalfa cut for hay	58
	Clover & timothy cut for hay	58
2 9 1	Lespedeza cut for hay	59
5 V 1	Small grain cut for hay	59
	Other tame hay cut	60
200	Wild hay cut	60
	Irish potatoes	61
	Sweet potatoes	61
	Lespedeza seed	62
· 8 J	Sugarcane for sirup	62
3 4 6	Tobacco	63
	Strawberries	63
	Raspberries (tame only)	64
	Blackberries & dewberries (tame only)	64
	Fresh beans (snap, string, or wax) for sale	65
	Cabbage for sale	65
	Cabbage for sale	66
	Tomatoes for sale	66
	Green peas (English) for sale	67
	Other vegetables & melons for sale	67
	Vegetables for household use	68
	Land in orchards, vineyards, and nut trees	68
Tree	Fruits, Nuts and Grapes (Per Cent of Farms Reporting and	
	Average Number of Trees per Farm	1000
	Reporting, January 1, 1945)	
	Apple trees	69
	Cherry trees	69
200	Peach trees	70
	Pear trees	70
	Plum & prune trees	71

		rage
	Pecan trees	71
	Tung nuts	72
	Grape vines	72
Live	stock Enterprises (Per cent of Farms Reporting and Average number or Production per Farm Reporting,	
1975 1975 - F. S. F. F.	Jan. 1, 1945)	
	Mules & mule colts	770
10		73
	Horses & horse colts	73
	All cattle & calves	74
	Cows & heifers 2 years old & over	74
	Cows & heifers milked	75
	Nilk sold	75
	Cream sold	76
	Butter sold	. 76
	All hogs & pigs	77
	Sows & gilts for spring farrowing	77
	Sheep & lambs	78
	Ewes kept for breeding	78
	Wool shorn	79
	Goats & kids	79
	Chickens on hand	80
	Eggs produced	80
	Chickens raised	81
	Turkeys raised	81
VALUE OF	ALABAMA FARM PRODUCTION PER FARM REPORTING, 1944:	
	All farm products produced	82
	All farm products sold	82
		82
	All arms rold	83
	All crops sold	
	All livestock and livestock products sold	83
	All forest products sold	83
	Fruits & nuts sold	84
	Vegetables sold	84
	Horticultural specialties sold	84
	All other crops sold	84
	Dairy products sold	85
	Poultry products sold	85
	Other livestock and livestock products sold	85
	Cost of feed bought for livestock	85
COMPARISO	N OF 1940 and 1945 CENSUS DATA	
Mumb	per and Size of Farms, and Percentage Tenancy (Change, 1940	
	to 19/5)	
4 3 5 7	kan properties and an experience of the contract of the contra	1
	Number of farms	86
	Total acreage per farm	86
	Percentage tenancy	86

Farm Mechanization (Change	, 1940 to 1945):	Page
Horses & horse colts	r farmper farm	87 87 87
Utilization of Improved Far	rm Facilities (Change, 1940 to 1945):	
Per cent of farms using	n electricity within 1/4 mile	88 88 88
	ed, and Milk Production (Change, 1940 o 1945):	
Cows milked per farm	ced per farm	89 89 89
Hogs on Farms, Chickens on	Farms, and Eggs Produced (Change, 1940 to 1945):	
Chickens per farm	ed per farm	90 90 90
Sale of Live Meat Animals	(Change, 1940 to 1945):	
Number of hogs and pig	calves sold alive per farm	91 91 91