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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JESSE H. JONES, Secretary

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

J. C. CAPT, Director (Appointed May 22, 1941)

WILLIAM LANE AUSTIN, Director (Retired January 31, 1941)

PHILIP M. HAUSER, Assistant Director



SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

AGRICULTURE

ABANDONED OR IDLE FARMS

Number and acreage, with classification of those reporting acreage by cause of nonoperation and by year of abandonment

Statistics for counties and a summary for the United States

A special study

Division of the Census
Library

Prepared under the supervision of
ZELLMER R. PETTET
Chief Statistician for Agriculture

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1943

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
Washington, D. C. April 30, 1943

SIR:

I transmit herewith a special compilation from the Census of Agriculture Returns of the Sixteenth Decennial Census entitled "Abandoned or Idle Farms." The study gives information on the number and acreage of abandoned or idle farms, with classification of those reporting acreage by cause of nonoperation and by year of abandonment, with statistics for counties and with a summary for the United States.

Provision for the Sixteenth Decennial Census was made in the Act providing for the Fifteenth and subsequent Decennial Censuses. This recording of the abandoned or idle farms represents one of the expedients used by the Bureau of the Census for enumeration control. Enumerators were instructed as follows: "Farms not operated in 1939 and on which no operations are contemplated in 1940, if used for agricultural purposes (including grazing) within the past 10 years, are to be recorded on the Abandoned or Idle Farm List."

The collection and compilation of these statistics and the preparation of this report were under the supervision of Z. R. Pettet, Chief Statistician for Agriculture, assisted by Sherman S. Slick, Assistant Chief Statistician, and Hilton E. Robison, Principal Statistician. Acknowledgment is due C. E. B. Holland for tabulation of the data, Lois Hutchison for the assembling of the data and preparation of tables, and H. A. Tucker for the arrangement and presentation.

Respectfully,

J. C. CAPT,
Director of the Census

Hon. JESSE H. JONES,
Secretary of Commerce

SIXTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1940

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3.—South Atlantic States

Part 4.—East South Central States
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6.—Mountain and Pacific States

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III.—Color, Tenure, and Race of
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V.—Work Off Farm, Age, and
Years on Farm

Chapter VI.—Cooperation, Labor, Expenditures,
Machinery, Facilities, and
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VII.—Livestock and Livestock Products
VIII.—Field Crops and Vegetables
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X.—Value of Farm Products

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Hawaii

Possessions:
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Guam

Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands of the United States

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A Separate Composite Map Showing Irrigation by Drainage Basins.

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Cows Milked and Dairy Products.—Number of Cows Milked, Milk Produced, Disposition of Dairy Products, and Number of Cows Kept Mainly for Milk Production, Classified by Number of Cows Milked, by Counties; with Related Data for Other Classes of Livestock and Livestock Products for the States and also for the United States (one volume).

Special Cotton Report.—Cotton Harvested by Number of Bales Harvested, and by Counties, with Acreage and Production of Cotton, and Value of Farm Products (one volume).

Special Cross-line Acreage Report.—Farms Reporting and Acreage by Place of Enumeration and by Location of Acreage, with Relationship to All Farms, by Counties: 1940 and 1935 (one volume).

Drainage Monograph.—A Comparison of Agriculture Within and Outside of Drainage Enterprises in the Alluvial Lands of the Lower Mississippi Valley (paper bound).

Irrigation Monograph.—A Tabular and Graphic Presentation of Specified Irrigation Census Statistics (paper bound).

¹ Agriculture volumes I and II and the volumes "Irrigation of Agricultural Lands" and "Drainage of Agricultural Lands" are comprised of State bulletins. Separate bulletins for each State are available. Separate chapters of Agriculture volume III are also available.

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction-----	1
Definition of abandoned or idle farms-----	1
Number and size of abandoned farms-----	1
Abandoned or idle farms by cause of nonoperation-----	1
Chart—Abandoned or idle farms by cause of nonoperation for the United States: 1940-----	2
Abandoned or idle farms by year of abandonment-----	2
Chart—Abandoned or idle farms by year of abandonment for the United States: 1940-----	2
Appraisal of the statistics-----	3
Dot map—Abandoned or idle farms-----	3
Facsimile—Abandoned or idle farm list-----	202

TABLES

	Page
Table 1.—Abandoned or idle farms—Number and acreage, with classification of those reporting acreage, by cause of nonoperation and by year of abandonment; and average acreages; by divisions and States: Census of 1940-----	4
Table 2.—Abandoned or idle farms—Percent distribution of farms and acreage, by cause of nonoperation and year of abandonment; by divisions and States: Census of 1940-----	10
Table 3.—Abandoned or idle farms—number and acreage, with classification of those reporting acreage by cause of nonoperation and by year of abandonment, by counties: Census of 1940-----	14