

1955 ANNUAL REPORT
VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE FARM
ANALYSIS SERVICE - SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA

AUSTIN AREA VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
Austin, Minnesota

in cooperation with

VOCATIONAL DIVISION, MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS DEPARTMENTS
~~Institute of Agriculture~~
University of Minnesota

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1955 REPORT OF THE VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE
FARM ANALYSIS SERVICE IN SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA

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INTRODUCTION

The analysis included in this report represents the first attempt of the Austin Area Vocational School to make a study of the farm accounts submitted by vocational agriculture instructors in southeastern Minnesota.

This type of analysis follows the same pattern as that used by the Farm Management Division of the University of Minnesota. These techniques have been developed through studies made with farm management association members since 1928.

We are indebted to Truman Nodland and his associates in the Farm Management Division not only for the assistance given us this year, but for the many years of service rendered to vocational agriculture. The analysis of Veterans' Agriculture farm account books and those of cooperating Vocational Agriculture adult farmers has been the principle, but by no means, the only contribution to Vocational Agriculture by the Farm Management Division.

The main purposes of the farm analysis service in this area are: (1) to give assistance to instructors in the mechanics of farm record supervision (2) to assist instructors and cooperating farmers in farm accounting techniques (3) to aid the farmer in the study of his farm business through analysis reports and (4) to provide case study material that can be used by farmers and farm groups to study management problem. The analysis is not set up for research purposes, but we hope that the data included here can be used for comparative studies.

This report and the analysis of records included in the report were done under the direction of Charles M. Painter, Vocational Agriculture Instructor of the Austin Area Vocational School. Clerical assistants were: Donna (Mrs. Donald) Hanson, Adelaide (Mrs. James) Dice and Sandra Beck. Marion Knutson, vocational office secretary, assisted with the preparation of the report.

Directing in a supervisory capacity for this and the other cooperating projects were: G. R. Cochran, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education and S. K. Wick, Assistant Director of Vocational Education in charge of Area Vocational schools and Floyd Lueben, director of the Austin Area Vocational School. Promotion and technical assistance were provided by Milo Peterson, Professor of Agriculture Education and Lauren Granger, Farm Management Coordinator.

The professional assistance of G. A. Pond, University Division of Agricultural Economics, E. H. Hartmans and Harland Routhe, Agriculture Extension Service have done much to bring farm management study up to date. Lauren Granger's services are the result of a grant from the Hill Family Foundation.

Farmers pay a fee to cover the actual analysis costs. This fee covers the clerical costs of the analysis and cost of paper and stencils.

Eight schools submitted 1955 farm records for analysis:

Austin	28	Rochester	2
Owatonna	3	Lake City	3
Kenyon	1	Winona	5
Byron	1	Rushford	1

Total	44
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Because of some problems in getting work organized it has seemed advisable to submit two reports. Several tables not found in this report will be included in a supplementary report to be completed at a later date. The information pertaining to the individual farm problem is included here. Information in the supplement will be largely of research value only.

No table was included for family living from the farm because information on these items was for the most part incomplete.

Table 1 Summary of Farm Inventories, 1955*

Items	Your farm		Average of 44 farms	
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Dec. 31
Size of farm (acres)			235	
Size of business (work units)**			419	
Dairy and dual purpose cows			\$ 2785	\$ 2727
Other dairy & dual purpose cattle			1198	1476
Beef cattle (incl. feeders)			1760	1766
Hogs			2071	1498
Sheep (including feeders)			90	75
Poultry (including turkeys)			212	211
Productive livestock (total)			8116	7753
Horses			23	24
Crop, seed and feed			5557	5398
Power mach. (farm share)			2563	2956
Crop and general machinery			3562	3448
Livestock equipment			1162	1283
Machinery & equipment (total)			7287	7687
Miscellaneous			--	2
Land			12599	12508
Buildings, fences, etc.			9394	9723
Total farm capital			42976	43095

Items	15 most profitable farms		Average of 44 farms	
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Dec. 31
Size of farm (acres)	254		233	
Size of business (work units)**	477		385	
Dairy and dual purpose cows	\$ 3443	\$ 3629	\$ 2381	\$ 2274
Other dairy & dual purpose cattle	1472	1754	1224	1772
Beef cattle (incl. feeders)	632	584	1598	1427
Hogs	1796	1538	2757	1926
Sheep (including feeders)	127	143	88	45
Poultry (including turkeys)	189	167	141	163
Productive livestock (total)	7659	7815	8189	7607
Horses	16	19	27	26
Crop, seed and feed	4891	5674	6951	5670
Power Mach. (farm share)	2406	3104	2806	3160
Crop & general machinery	3324	3341	3921	3870
Livestock equipment	1206	1612	1111	991
Machinery & equipment (total)	6936	8057	7838	8021
Miscellaneous	--	5	--	--
Land	13399	13399	13055	12789
Buildings, fences, etc.	10764	11949	9883	9542
Total farm capital	43665	46918	45943	43655

* For the purpose of comparison, all the data shown in this report with the exception of household expenses are presented on a full-owner basis. The assets, expenses and receipts of the landlord were included in the records from rented farms.

** See explanation of work unit on page 7.

Table 2 Summary of Farm Earnings (Cash Statement), 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of 44 farms	15 most profitable farms	15 least profitable farms
FARM RECEIPTS				
Dairy and dual-purpose cattle		\$ 1273	\$ 2048	\$ 913
Dairy products		4310	6088	3247
Beef cattle (including feeders)		2362	656	1605
Hogs		4702	4837	5320
Sheep and wool (including feeders)		81	105	77
Horses		6	7	12
Poultry		858	2491	76
Eggs		1083	645	571
Corn		1622	882	2419
Small grain		94	21	200
Other crops		752	570	1023
Mach. & equip. sold & gas tax refund		362	118	730
Income from work off the farm		208	504	131
(1) Total farm sales		17715	18972	16324
(2) Increase in farm capital		119	3253	-
(3) Family living from the farm		246	247	230
(4) Total farm receipts (1)+(2)+(3)		18078	22472	16554
FARM EXPENSES				
Dairy and dual-purpose cattle bought		647	1399	429
Beef cattle bought (incl. feeders)		1275	139	365
Hogs bought		263	498	85
Sheep bought (incl. feeders)		-	1	-
Horses bought		2	6	-
Poultry bought		138	245	66
Misc. Livestock expense		407	526	368
Feed bought		3093	3704	2918
Fertilizers		693	591	849
Other crop expenses		691	185	796
Custom work hired		539	480	194
Gas, oil & grease bought(farm share)		692	690	809
Rep. of mechanical power(farm share)		341	338	351
Repair and upkeep of real estate		245	233	387
Rep. & upkeep of crop & gen. mach.		228	231	313
Rep. & upkeep of livestock equip.		81	105	65
Wages of hired labor		550	550	727
Electricity expense (farm share)		187	228	206
Real estate & pers. prop. taxes		604	660	645
Cash rent		42	26	97
General farm expense		246	290	272
(5) Total cash operating expense		10964	11125	9927
(6) Cap. purchases-mech.pow.(f.share)		821	1203	632
(7) " " -crop & gen. mach.		746	871	884
(8) " " -livestock equip.		238	316	129
(9) " " -bldgs. & fencing		790	1384	500
(10) Total farm purchases (5) to (9)		13559	14899	12087
(11) Decrease in farm capital		-	-	2117
(12) Interest on farm capital		2165	2189	2288
(13) Unpaid family labor		268	295	268
(14) Board furnished hired labor		73	93	106
(15) Total farm expenses (10) to (14)		16065	17476	16866
(16) Labor earnings (4) - (15)		2013	4996	-312

Table 3 Household and Personal Expenses for
Those Farms Which Kept Complete Accounts of These Expenses, 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of 15 farms
Number of persons - family	_____	4.3
Number of adult equiv. - family	_____	2.5
other*	_____	.5
Food and meals bought	_____	\$654.36
Operating and supplies	_____	268.51
Furnishings and equipment	_____	163.82
Clothing and clothing materials	_____	215.36
Personal care, personal spending	_____	183.61
Education, recreation and development	_____	109.75
Gifts and special events	_____	98.50
Medical care and health insurance	_____	245.16
Church, welfare	_____	93.26
Personal share of auto expense and telephone	_____	132.08
Operator's share of upkeep on dwelling	_____	194.72
Household share of electric expense	_____	84.21
Total cash living expense	_____	2443.36
H.H. & pers. share of new auto	_____	288.65
New dwelling	_____	-
Taxes and other deductions	_____	10.37
Life insurance	_____	173.72
Other savings and investments	_____	51.72
Total household and personal cash expense	_____	2967.82
Income:		
Operators labor earnings	_____	\$1712.63
Return to capital and labor	_____	4049.34

* Hired help or others boarded.

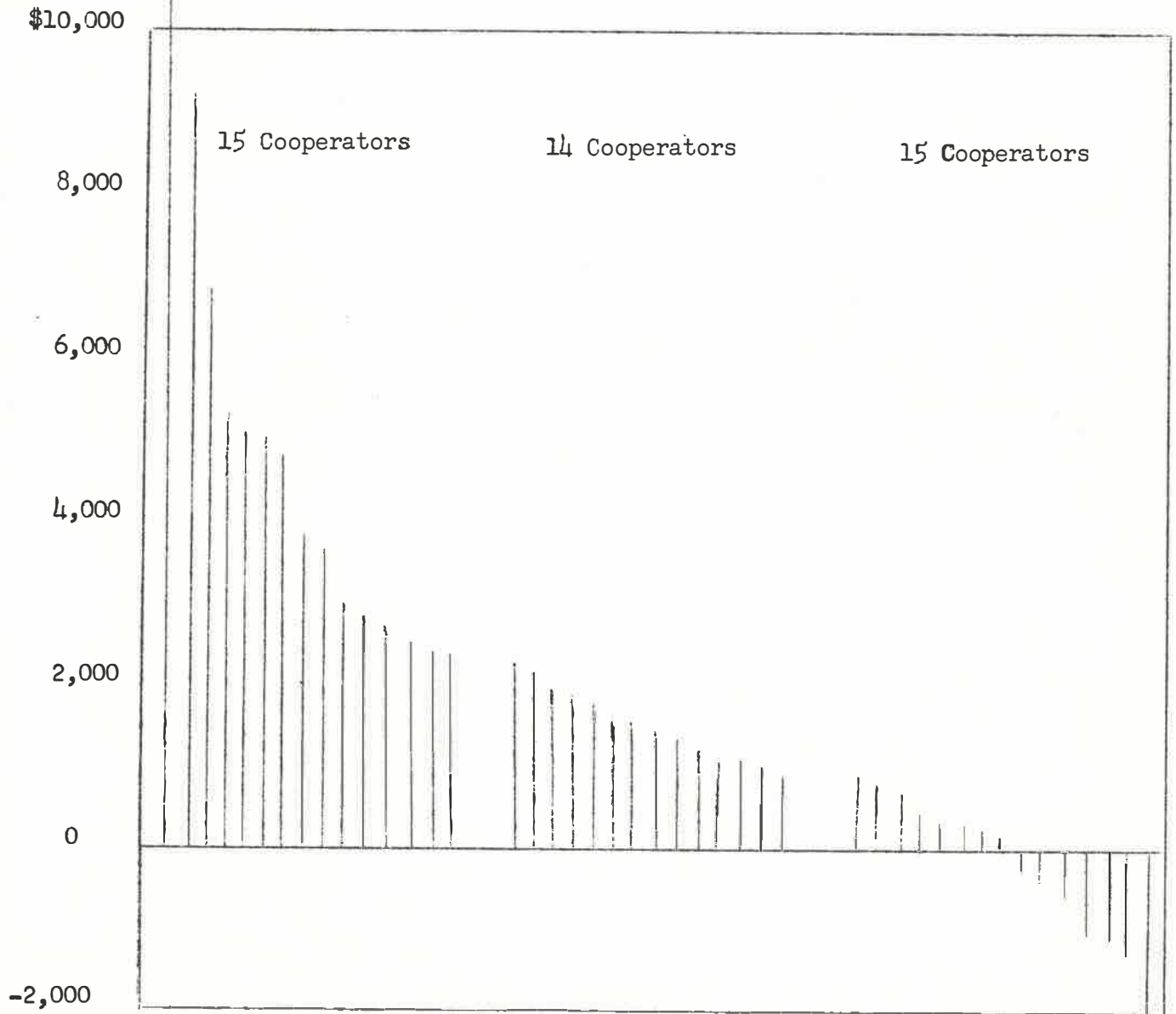
Table 4 Net Worth Statement for Those Farmers Who Kept a Complete
Record of All Assets and Liabilities, 1955 (Operator's Share)

Items	Your farm		27 owners	
	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Dec. 31
Total farm capital	_____	_____	\$34,717	\$34,554
Auto (Personal Share)	_____	_____	369	447
Dwelling	_____	_____	2,240	2,279
Other personal assets	_____	_____	2,226	2,219
TOTAL ASSETS	_____	_____	39,552	39,499
Real estate indebtedness	_____	_____	3,186	3,396
Other indebtedness	_____	_____	9,001	8,511
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_____	_____	12,187	11,906
Farmer's net worth	_____	_____	27,365	27,593
Gain in net worth	_____	_____		228

RANGE IN EARNINGS

The wide variation shown below is typical of other farm management studies. The average for the high and low return groups are shown in Table 2. The effects of efficient farm management in the area were probably more difficult to measure this year due to some unusual situations. Factors that seemed to have the greatest influence on labor earning in this area would in our appraisal rank as follows:

1. Crop yields (particularly as related to the drouth)
2. Size of business
3. Return per \$100 feed to productive livestock
4. Hired labor costs
5. Work Units per worker
6. Kinds of livestock produced
7. Time of marketing



"WORK UNITS"

The total "work units" for any one farm is a measure of the size of that farm business. A work unit as used in this report is the average accomplishment of a farm worker in a ten hour day. The number of work units for each class of livestock and each acre of crop are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 Number of Work Units for Each Class of Livestock and Each Acre of Crop

Item	No. of work units	Item	No. of work units
Dairy and dual-purpose cows	10.0 per cow	Small grain	.5 per acre
Other dairy & du. pur. cattle	3.5 per an. unit*	Sugar beets	1.5 per acre
Beef breeding herd	3.5 per an. unit*	Sweet corn	.7 per acre
Feeder cattle	.25 per 100 lbs.	Corn husked	.7 per acre
Sheep - farm flock	1.5 per an. unit*	Corn, hogged	.4 per acre
Sheep - feeders	.3 per 100 lbs.	Corn, shredded	1.5 per acre
Hogs	.2 per 100 lbs.	Corn, silage	1.0 per acre
Turkeys	.5 per 100 lbs.	Corn, fodder	1.0 per acre
Hens	20.0 per 100 hens	Alfalfa hay	.6 per acre
Canning peas	.5 per acre	Soybean hay	.8 per acre
Soybeans for grain	.5 per acre	Other hay crops	.4 per acre

* Animal unit represents one dairy cow or bull, two other dairy cattle, $1\frac{1}{4}$ beef cows or bull, 1 feeder steer or heifer, $3\frac{1}{3}$ other beef cattle, 7 sheep, $1\frac{1}{4}$ lambs, $2\frac{1}{2}$ hogs, 5 pigs, 50 hens or 1,100 pounds of turkeys produced.

Table 6 Measures of Farm Organization and Management Efficiency, 1955

Measures used in chart on page 9	Your farm	Average of 44 farms	15 most profitable farms	15 least profitable farms
Operator's earnings	\$ _____	\$2013	\$4996	- \$312
(1) Crop yields*	_____	100	112	92
(2) Per cent tillable land in high ret.crops	_____	61.6	62.0	62.6
(3) Ret. for \$100 feed to prod. livestock*	_____	100.	123.	92.
(4) Prod. Livestock units per 100 acres**	_____	33.9	41.6	31.5
(5) Size of business - work units	_____	419	471	385
(6) Work units per worker	_____	291	333	229
(7) Pow., mach., equip., & bldg. exp. per work unit	\$ _____	\$ 10.62	\$ 9.53	\$12.24

Items related to some of the above measures:

(3) Index of return for \$100 feed from:				
Dairy cattle (see pages 13 & 14)	_____	100	116	88
Beef cattle-breeding herd (see p.15)	_____	100	100	83
Beef cattle-feeders (see page 15)	_____	100	115	80
Hogs (see page 12)	_____	100	105	101
Sheep - farm flock (see page 16)	_____	100	94	175
Chickens (see page 17)	_____	100	94	78
Turkeys (see page 18)***	_____	100	117	-
(4) Number of animal units	_____	64.7	69.8	59.1
(5) Work units on crops	_____	98	90	104
Work units on productive livestock	_____	321	381	281

* Given as a percentage of the average.

** Acres in timber not pastured, roads, waste and farmstead were not included.

*** Based on \$150 return per \$100 feed. (artificial index)

THERMOMETER CHART

Using your figures from page 8, locate your standing with respect to the various measures of farm organization and management efficiency. The averages for the 44 farms included in this summary are located between the dotted lines across the center of this page.

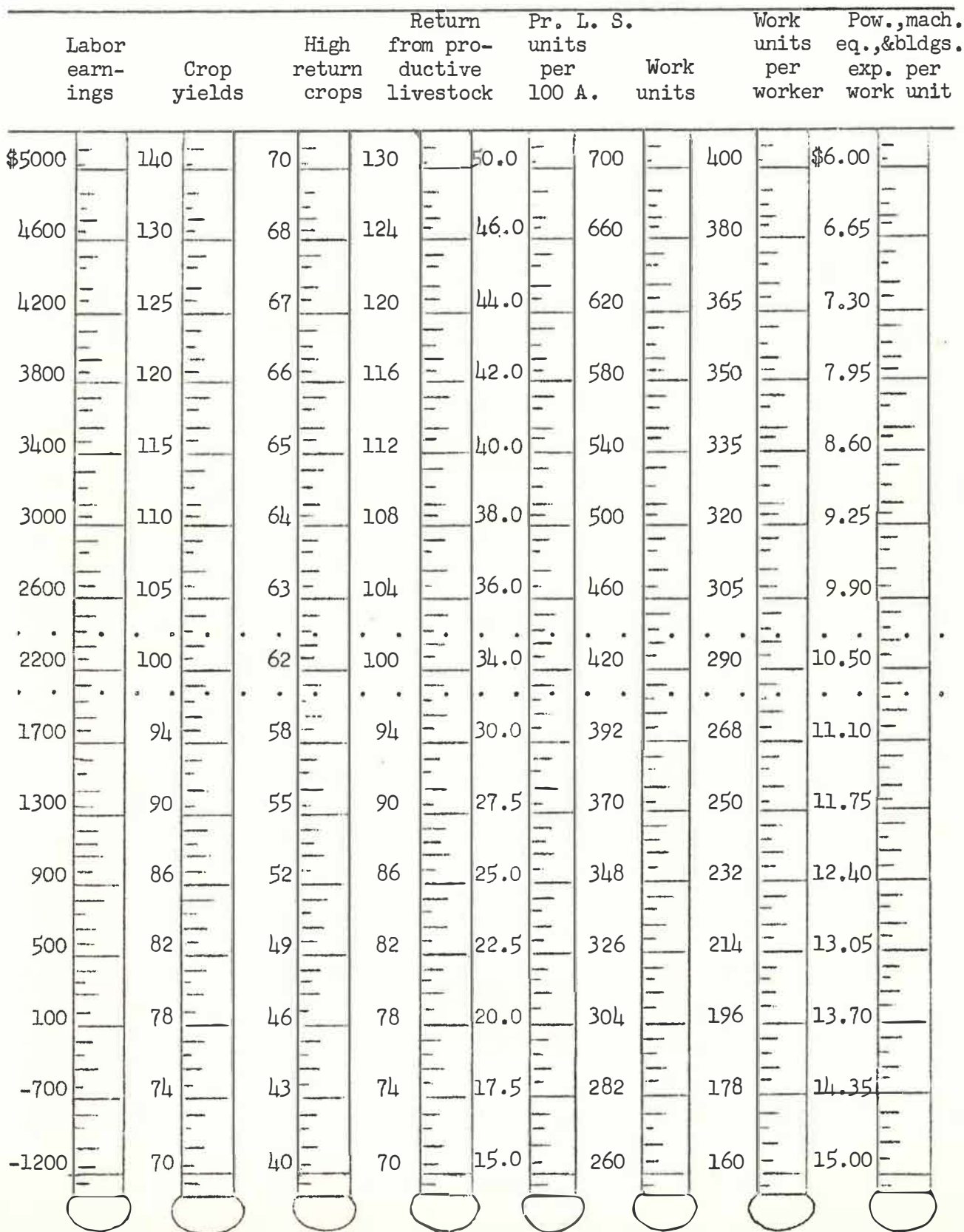


Table 7 Distribution of Acres and Yield, 1955

Crop	Crop rating	Number growing	Acres your farm	Average acres of 44 farms	Your yield	Average yield 44 farms
Oats (and mixtures)	D	42	_____	35.6	_____	50.3
Total small grain & peas*			_____	37.4	_____	
Canning corn	B	3	_____	1.1	_____	3.4T
Corn grain	A	44	_____	56.2	_____	53.7
Soybeans (grain)	C	19	_____	15.8	_____	20.
Corn silage	B	29	_____	6.6	_____	11.6T
Total cultivated crops*			_____	79.7	_____	
Alfalfa hay	A	38	_____	26.3	_____	2.9T
Red Clover hay	B	15	_____	6.3	_____	2.2T
Total tillable land in hay			_____	34.8	_____	
Alfalfa pasture	A	26	_____	12.7		
Other legume pasture	C (or B)	14	_____	5.9		
Other tillable pasture	D	4	_____	.9		
Total tillable land in pasture			_____	19.2		
Tillable land not cropped D		4	_____	1.1		
Total tillable land			_____	176.2		
Non-tillable pasture		26	_____	24.3		
Timber		9	_____	16.		
Roads and waste			_____	9.2		
Farmstead			_____	7.8		
Total acres in farm				234.5		
Per cent land tillable			_____	78.4		
Per cent in high return crops			_____	61.6		

* Fewer than three operators raised barley (D), wheat (D), canning peas (A) and corn for fodder (D).

The following crops averaged less than .5 acres per farm (44 farms), so are not itemized above; legumes for seed (C), non legume hay (D) and wild hay.

Omissions of small acreages result in less than total of class group.

TOTAL FEED COSTS AND RETURNS FROM YOUR LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISES

The total "return over feed costs" for each class of livestock is shown in Table 8. This differs from the "return over feed" shown in the enterprise statement in that it is the total for each class of livestock instead of a return "per head" "per unit" or "per 100 pounds". These data indicate the relative importance of different classes of livestock as a source of income and as a market for feed. The value of milk consumed by calves is included in the total returns from dairy or dual purpose cows and in the total feed cost for other dairy or other dual purpose cattle. The value of milk consumed by calves is not included in either the total returns or the feed cost of "all dairy" or "all dual purpose" cattle. The return over feed is not a net return, but rather the amount available from the gross income, after paying the feed bill, to cover the outlay for hired labor, power, equipment, taxes, insurance, interest and veterinary bills and to provide a return for the use of family labor and capital.

Table 8 Total Feed Costs and Returns From Your Livestock Enterprises, 1955

	Dairy or dual purpose cattle			Beef
	Cows	Other	All	breeding herd
Total returns				
Total feed cost				
Total return over feed				
	Feeder cattle	Hogs	Farm flock of sheep	Chickens
Total returns				
Total feed cost				
Total return over feed				

Feed is the largest single item of cost for all classes of livestock. The proportion of the total cost represented by feed varies between classes of livestock. Feed makes up approximately 45 per cent of the total costs of maintaining dairy cattle and poultry, 50 per cent in the case of a farm flock of sheep, and 75 to 90 per cent for hogs, feeder cattle and feeder lambs. It is necessary to secure a relatively higher return over feed from dairy cattle and poultry than from the other livestock enterprises to cover costs other than feed.

HOGS

Hogs and dairy were the major livestock enterprises in the area. Only those farmers producing 2000# of pork or more were included in the analysis. Also omitted from the averages were two cases where unusual circumstances caused abnormal results that would tend to distort the final averages.

The three factors in this area that tended most to influence hog profits in 1955 were:

1. Price received per 100# of pork (dependent very much on time marketed)
2. Feed consumed to produce 100# pork (feed conversion)
3. Pigs raised per litter

Table 9 Feed Costs and Returns from Hogs, 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of 33 farms	11 farms highest in returns above feed	11 farms lowest in returns above feed
Feed per cwt. hogs produced, lbs.:				
Corn	_____	315	294	371
Small grain	_____	83	59	104
Commercial feeds	_____	54	49	42
Total concentrates(less alfalfa hay)	_____	452	402	517
Alfalfa hay	_____	3	4	2
Skim milk and buttermilk	_____	27	-	21
Feed cost per cwt. hogs produced:				
Concentrates (and alfalfa hay)	\$_____	\$11.09	\$10.07	\$12.15
Skim milk and buttermilk	_____	.16	-	.25
Pasture	_____	.12	.11	.12
TOTAL FEED COSTS	\$_____	11.37	10.18	12.52
Net increase in val. per cwt. hogs prod.	\$_____	\$13.37	\$15.42	\$11.67
RETURNS ABOVE FEED COST PER CWT.				
HOGS PRODUCED	\$_____	\$ 2.26	\$ 5.34	\$ -.85
RETURNS FOR \$100 OF FEED	\$_____	\$117	\$150	\$93
Price received per cwt. hogs sold	\$_____	\$15.24	\$15.62	\$14.75
No. of spring litters raised	_____	15.9	17.3	15.7
No. of fall litters raised	_____	8.8	9.5	7.7
Total no. of litters raised	_____	24.7	26.8	23.4
No. of pigs born per litter	_____	8.6	9.0	8.1
No. of pigs weaned per litter	_____	6.9	7.5	5.7
Pounds of hogs produced	_____	38199	40150	30840

DAIRY AND DUAL PURPOSE CATTLE

Only producers who averaged two or more cows per year were included in this summary. One operator bred to a beef bull so all young cattle were classed as beef. No herds were classed as dual purpose. A total of 32 farms are included under "dairy cows" and 31 farms under other dairy cattle.

Production was generally high. The spread between the top one-third and the bottom one-third was quite narrow. Much of the difference was due to feed conditions. Poor pastures due to drouth resulted in much lower production in some herds.

Table 11 Feed costs and Returns from Other Dairy and Dual Purpose Cattle, 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of 31 farms	10 farms highest in butterfat per cow	10 farms lowest in butterfat per cow
Feeds per head, lbs.:				
Concentrates	_____	711	693	733
Hay and fodder	_____	2272	2490	2023
Silage	_____	2187	2153	2549
Skim milk	_____	42	-	65
Whole milk	_____	278	317	265
Feed cost per head:				
Concentrates	\$ _____	\$17.72	\$17.43	\$18.75
Roughages	_____	26.34	29.53	24.36
Milk	_____	9.51	9.46	9.52
Pasture	_____	4.60	4.60	3.78
TOTAL FEED COSTS PER HEAD	_____	58.17	61.02	56.41
Net inc. in value of other cattle	_____	73.01	74.23	79.54
RETURNS ABOVE FEED COST PER HEAD	_____	14.84	13.21	23.13
RETURNS FOR \$100 OF FEED	\$ _____	\$125	\$122	\$141
Number of head of other cattle	_____	21.0	27.3	18.2

Table 12 Feed Costs and Returns from All Dairy and Dual Purpose Cattle, 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of 31 farms	10 farms highest in butterfat per cow	10 farms lowest in butterfat per cow
Feeds per animal unit, lbs.:				
Concentrates	_____	2102	2360	1944
Hay and fodder	_____	4358	4462	4120
Silage	_____	6136	6517	6219
TOTAL FEED COSTS PER ANIMAL UNIT	\$ _____	\$118.88	\$132.21	\$107.18
Value of produce per animal unit:				
Dairy products	\$ _____	\$167.85	\$215.89	\$135.98
Net increase in val.of dairy cattle	_____	42.64	41.44	50.47
TOTAL VALUE PRODUCED	_____	210.43	257.16	186.44
RETURNS ABOVE FEED PER ANIMAL UNIT	_____	\$ 92.55	\$124.95	\$ 79.26
RETURNS PER \$100 OF FEED	\$ _____	\$177	\$194	\$173
Animal units of cattle	_____	34.1	42.0	28.1

Table 13 Feed Costs and Returns from Beef Cattle, 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of all farms
Beef breeding herd: No. of farms:		5
Feeds per animal unit, lbs.:		
Concentrates		1666
Legume		4577
Other hay		-
Fodder and stover		-
Silage		3331
Feed cost per animal unit:		
Concentrates	\$	\$24.19
Roughages		48.14
Pasture		21.98
TOTAL FEED COSTS		94.31
Value of produce per animal unit:		
Dairy products	\$	\$ -
Net increase in value of animals		109.66
TOTAL VALUE PRODUCED		109.66
RETURNS ABOVE FEED COST PER ANIMAL UNITS	\$	15.35
RETURNS FOR \$100 OF FEED	\$	\$118
Number of cows and herd bulls		24.0
Number of animal units in the herd		39.4
Lbs. beef produced		44154
Feeding Cattle: No. of farms		7
Feeds per cwt. beef produced, lbs.:		
Corn		1073
Small grain		32
Commercial feeds		75
Legume hay		838
Other hay and fodder		34
Total concentrates		1180
Total hay and fodder		871
Silage		2813
Feed cost per cwt. beef produced:		
Concentrates	\$	\$12.57
Roughages		4.01
Pasture		.22
TOTAL FEED COSTS		16.80
Net increase in value of feeders		19.04
RETURNS ABOVE FEED COST PER CWT. BEEF PROD.		2.85
RETURNS FOR \$100 OF FEED	\$	\$113
Price paid per cwt. beef bought	\$	\$17.48
Price rec'd. for feeder cattle sold		18.04
Number of animal units		38.1
Pounds of beef produced		22116

SHEEP

Farm flocks in this area are small and the feed consumption is high because of feed availability. Efforts were made to have cooperators charge the flock for all feed consumed. By attempting to avoid the tendency to overlook feed that the sheep stole (?) from other animals, cooperators may have over charged the farm flocks.

Table 14 Feed Costs and Returns from a Farm Flock of Sheep, 1955

Items	Your farm	Average of 5 farms
Feeds per head,* lbs.		
Concentrates	_____	146
Legume hay	_____	384
Other hay	_____	-
Silage	_____	136
Feed cost per head:		
Concentrates	\$ _____	\$ 3.28
Roughages	_____	3.52
Pasture	_____	1.36
TOTAL FEED COSTS	\$ _____	8.17
Value of produce per head:		
Wool	\$ _____	\$ 2.97
Net increase in value of sheep	_____	13.14
TOTAL VALUE PRODUCED	\$ _____	16.92
RETURNS ABOVE FEED COST PER HEAD	\$ _____	\$ 7.76
RETURNS FOR \$100 OF FEED	\$ _____	\$218
Price per cwt. of lambs sold	\$ _____	\$17.14
Price per lb. wool sold (cts.)	_____	43.0
Pounds of wool per sheep sheared	_____	10.3
Number of ewes kept for lambing	_____	30
Per cent lamb crop**	_____	108
Per cent death loss**	_____	7.4
Pounds of sheep produced	_____	2410
No. of head of sheep*	_____	41.4

* Two lambs under six months of age considered as one head.

** Lambs which die during month of birth are not included.

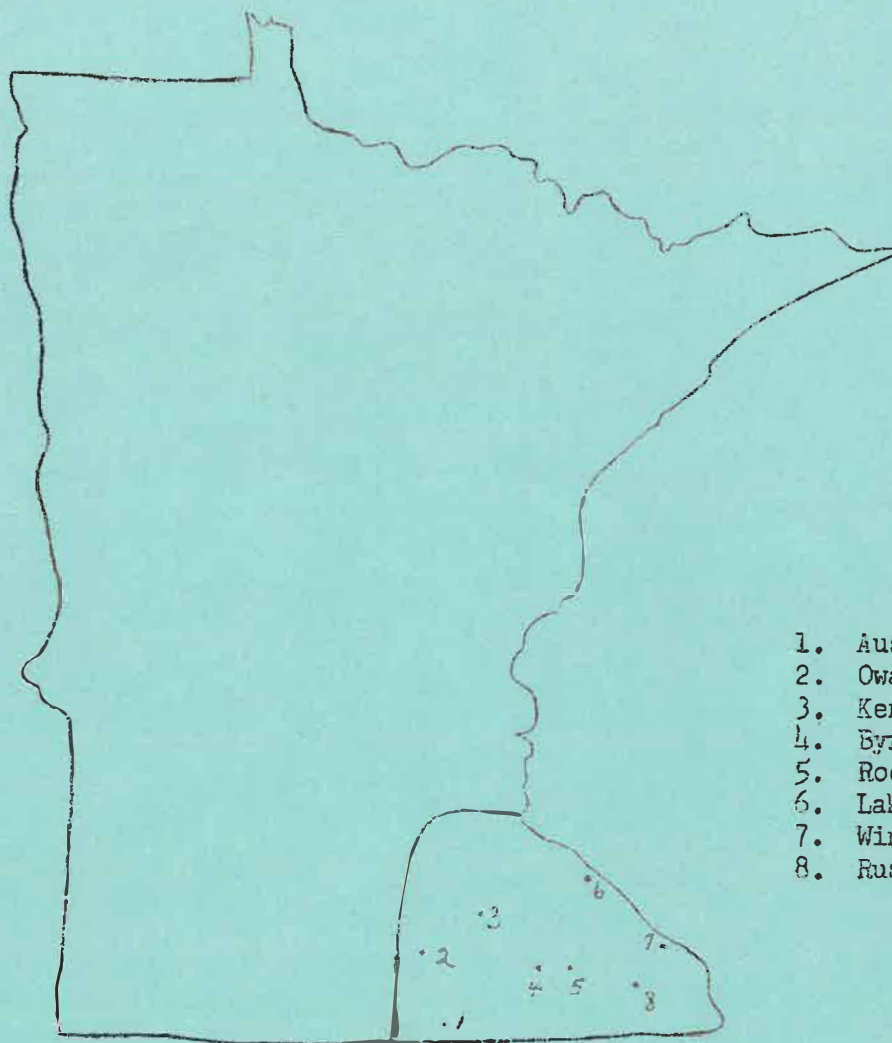
CHICKENS

Flocks from 23 farms are included in this report. Only those flocks averaging 50 or more hens, and having a full years production are included in the averages. Seven farmers either went out of poultry during the year or started up during the year and had production only the last half of the year. None of these were included in the averages.

Table 15 Feed Costs and Returns from Chickens, 1955*

Items	Your farm	Average of 23 farms	8 farms highest in return above feed	5 farms lowest in return above feed
Feed per hen, lbs.:				
Grain	_____	94	68	100
Commercial feeds	_____	53	66	47
Total concentrates	_____	147	134	147
Skim milk and buttermilk	_____	-	-	-
TOTAL FEED COST PER HEN	\$_____	\$4.29	\$4.19	\$4.61
Value of produce per hen:				
Eggs sold and used in house	\$_____	\$4.93	\$6.39	\$4.05
Net increase in value of chickens	_____	.34	.59	-
TOTAL VALUE PRODUCED	\$_____	\$5.30	\$6.97	\$4.05
RETURNS ABOVE FEED COST PER HEN	\$_____	\$1.36	\$2.79	-.56
RETURNS FOR \$100 OF FEED	\$_____	\$126	\$170	\$89
Price rec'd. per doz. eggs sold (cts.)	_____	33.4	33.5	34.0
Eggs laid per hen	_____	180	230	145
Ave. no. hens on farm during year	_____	313	442	222
Per cent death loss of hens	_____	9.9	7.0	14.0

* Includes feeds and returns from laying flock and rearing flock.



1. Austin
2. Owatonna
3. Kenyon
4. Byron
5. Rochester
6. Lake City
7. Winona
8. Rushford