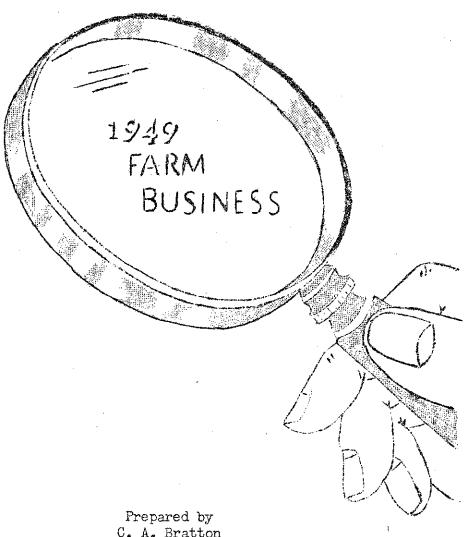
LEWIS COUNTY YOUNG FARMERS

LOOK THEIR



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LEWIS COUNTY YOUNG FARMERS LOOK AT THEIR 1949 FARM BUSINESS

To Account Cooperators:

During 1949 you kept a farm cash account book and a farm inventory book. At the end of the year you turned your records in for summarization. Your 1949 records have been checked and summarized. Your summary has been combined with those of the other Lewis County young farmers who kept accounts. The results are presented in this report.

Farming today is a "business." Successful businessmen in general keep records and study their operations. The present generation of successful young farmers are businessmen and records can help them to get ahead.

Farm account records are useful in filing income tax returns. They can be even more useful in studying your farm business. A careful analysis of your business is basic to improving your operations and the income you receive for your efforts.

Study your 1949 summary and compare it with the averages for the group. How does your business rate? Do you have weaknesses in your farm organization? Can you locate the leaks in your business?

Time spent carefully studying your business will pay you dividends.

Determine where your business is strong and where it is weak. Then in 1950 aim to strengthen the weak links in your farm operations.

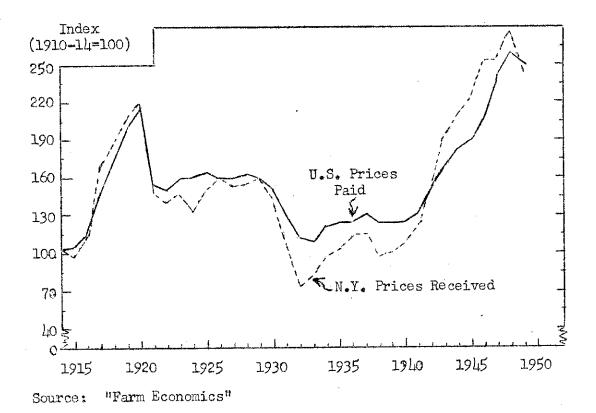
A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN STUDIES HIS BUSINESS!

Mrs. Frances Houchins, Miss Oneta Shipe, and Don Morehouse assisted with the statistical and stenographic work in this report.

FARM PRICES IN 1949

Prices top the list of factors affecting profits from farming. Young farmers in studying their business and comparing their returns with those of other years must look at the trends in farm prices. This is especially true for 1949.

PRICES RECEIVED BY N.Y. FARMERS, AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, U.S.



Prices received by New York farmers for the products they sold increased each year from 1939 to 1948. Prices paid by farmers for feeds, seeds, fertilizer and other things purchased also increased during this period but not as much as did the prices received (chart above). This price situation was a relatively favorable one for profits from farming.

In 1949 farm price trends changed. Prices received by New York farmers in 1949 for all farm products were 12 per cent less than the prices received in 1948. Milk prices for December 1949 were 20 per cent below those of December 1948 and egg prices were 15 per cent below. On the other hand, the prices paid by farmers decreased only 3 per cent in 1949. Some articles farmers buy were actually higher in price in 1949 than in 1948 (see table on next page).

This change in the trend of farm prices puts a "squeeze" on the farmer. His receipts decline while his costs remain high or in some cases even increase. The relatively favorable price relationship enjoyed from 1941 to 1948 disappeared in 1949. The parity index of farm prices dropped below 100 in the later part of 1949 for the first time in several years.

The 1949 net income for all farmers in the United States is estimated to be 17 per cent less than the net income for 1948 and 22 per cent less than the 1947 record high. This decrease in net incomes was the result of lower farm prices inasmuch as the volume of production in 1949 was about the same as in 1948.

Despite the decline in farm prices in 1949 it is well to remember that prices were still higher than in any year before 1946 (see chart).

The table on the next page gives the changes from 1948 to 1949 in the prices of some of the things farmers buy. Not all prices move together. Some prices are more "sticky" than others. In 1949 some prices paid continued to go up while others declined.

Table 1. INDEX OF PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, U.S. (19

(1910-14=100)

Item	1948 Index	1949 Index	Per cent change
Feed	250	206	- 18
Livestock	388	345	-11
Wages	442	428	<u> </u>
Building materials	308	304	⊷ ĺ
Fertilizer and lime	146	150	+ 3
Taxes	254	275	+ 8
Autos, trucks and tractors	291	320	+10
Farm machinery	240	270	+12

Source: Agricultural Prices, B.A.E., U.S.D.A.

Table 2. INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY NEW YORK FARMERS (1910-14-100)

Itom	1948	1949	Per cent
	Index	Index	change
Milk cows	421	398	- 5
Chickens	243	220	- 9
Hogs	311	251	-19
Lambs	374	377	+ 1
Milk	329	266	-19
Eggs	218	202	- 7
Wool	205	210	+ 2
Apples	214	281	+31
Potatoes	238	208	-13
Wheat	229	198	-14
Beans	255	191	-25
Corn	279	185	-34

Source: Farm Economics

FARM BUSINESS SUMMARY

LABOR INCOMES
11 Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949

Item	Your farm	Average of 11 farms
Capital Investment		\$ 23,990
Farm Recoipts	\$	\$ 10,919
Farm Expenses	er objemniste blike stigt untgesteller en symmistere filmse	7,987
Farm Income	\$	\$ 2,932
Interest on Capital at	5%	1,200
LABOR INCOME	3	\$ 1,732

Farmers are interested in the pay they receive for their labor during the year. "Labor income" is used to measure this pay. The labor income is the amount left after paying all farm operating expenses and deducting an interest charge for the use of the capital invested. In addition to his labor income, a farmer has a house to live in and farm products for family use.

Changes in inventories during the year are included in figuring labor incomes. Increases in inventories are considered as receipts and decreases as expenses. The estimated value of unpaid family labor is included as an expense. Interest payments and payments on debts were not included in the farm expenses. A five per cent interest charge on the average capital investment is deducted in determining labor incomes.

Labor income or the pay the farm operator receives for his time is the measure used most often in studying or comparing farm businesses.

COMPARISON OF LABOR INCOMES

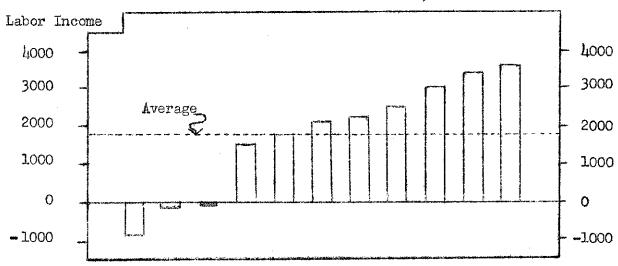
Labor Incomes of 28 Livingston and Yates County Young Farmers and 17 Jefferson and Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949

Item	Average of 28 Livingston and Yates County farms	Average of 17 Jefferson and Lewis County farms
Capital Investment Farm Receipts Farm Expenses Farm Income Interest on Capital at 5% LABOR INCOME	\$ 21,152 \$ 12,155 <u>8,913</u> \$ 3,242 <u>1,057</u> \$ 2,185	\$ 23,167 \$ 10,242 \frac{7,329}{2,913} \frac{1,158}{1,755}

Labor incomes for the Livingston and Yates County farms averaged \$2185. The Jefferson and Lewis County young farmers! labor incomes averaged \$1755 or \$430 less than the average for Livingston and Yates Counties. Livingston and Yates Counties were dairy, poultry and cash crop farms, whereas Jefferson and Lewis Counties were primarily straight dairy farms.

The labor incomes on the Lewis County farms ranged from a minus \$860 to \$3555 as shown in the chart below.

RANGE IN LABOR INCOMES
11 Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949



WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM

FARM RECEIPTS
L1 Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949

Item	Your farm	Average of 11 farms	Per cent of total
Milk sales	\$	\$ 8,696	85
Livestock sold		1,052	1.0
Crop sales	all-resident plants of resident shifter the resident see.	118	1
Egg sales	**	101	1
Miscellaneous	ann de sente sente sente de la companya politica de	21,0	3
Total cash receipts	\$	\$ 10,207	100
Increase in inventory	manth or place is a many vision or the relative	712	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$	\$ 10,919	•

Total cash receipts in 1949 averaged \$10,207 on these 11 farms. Milk sales made up 85 per cent of the total cash receipts. Livestock sold was the second largest source of farm receipts. Miscellaneous receipts included the sale of old machinery, refunds and work off the farm. A few farms sold maple syrup, which accounts for the crop sales.

Young farmers usually are building up their businesses. This is reflected on these farms by the increase in inventory during the year.

The decline in prices received for farm products shown on page 2 was a factor which affected total receipts for 1949.

WERE YOUR RECEIPTS ABOVE OR BELOW THE AVERAGE?

WHERE THE MONEY WENT

FARM EXPENSES
11 Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949

Item	Your farm	Average of 11 farms	Per cent of total
Feed bought	\$	\$ 2,924	37
New machinery & repairs	descriptions to the property of the state o	1,482	19
Labor	- director de constante	991	12
Dairy expense	The state of the s	459	6
Truck & tractor expense	400 (200 to 40 (200 to 100	441	5
Grop expense	**************************************	431	5
Building & fence expense		379	5
Livestock bought	anaginaphanyanananananahida	318	14
Auto expense (farm share)		119	1
Decrease in inventory			Res
Miscellaneous	·	<u>443</u> *	_6
TOTAL	\$	\$ 7,987	100

^{*} Taxes \$202, insurance \$36, electricity and telephone \$156, other \$49.

Total farm operating expenses in 1949 on these farms averaged \$7987. The expenses on individual farms ranged from \$3000 to \$14,000. Expenses are large on present day farms.

Purchased feed was the largest farm expense item on these farms. It accounted for about one-third of the total expenses. Therefore, it is logical to study the feed situation when trying to find ways to reduce the farm costs. Each young farmer might ask himself these questions: (1) Am I making the best use of my feed? (2) Could I produce more and better feed on the farm? (3) Would it be possible to buy in quantity or from other sources at a saving?

New machinery and repairs was the second largest expense item on these farms. There were other machinery expenses, however, in the form of gas and oil, truck and tractor expenses, depreciation, and hired machine work. These are given in the table below.

MACHINERY COSTS*
11 Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949

Item	Your farm	Average of 11 farms
eginning inventory	\$	\$ 3,925
ew machinery & repairs	derentan erandennasser ert för ett för seck en derettlerent d	1,482
Total	\$	\$ 5,407
End inventory	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4,692
Depreciation	*	\$ 715
Gas and oil		287
Truck and tractor expense		188
Machine work hired	kingkilan ya pingunga akiliki mangalaya di pingulan ya Kirakilan di	50
Total machinery cost	\$	\$ 1,240

^{*} Does not include interest and insurance costs.

Machinery costs are a sizeable item on most farms today. Total machinery costs (excluding insurance and interest) accounted for 15 per cent or one-seventh of the total farm expenses. This suggests that a study of machinery costs might be helpful in finding ways to reduce costs.

Labor was also a large expense item. This does not include the value of the operators: time. A careful study of "labor saving" methods might help in reducing the labor costs.

WITH LOWER FARM PRICES, FARMERS MUST LOOK FOR WAYS TO REDUCE COSTS!

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

FARM INVENTORY VALUES, JANUARY 1, 1950 11 Lewis County Young Farmers

Your farm	Average of 11 farms	Per cent of total
\$	\$ 10,262	42
n danifel que de la gradie de 	7,750	32
-	4,692	19
4-450-1116	238	1
Analikupunka marujaka dikanagaa muunjaka ja	1,404	6
\$	\$ 24,346	100
	farm	farm 11 farms \$ 10,262 7,750 4,692 238 1,404

The average capital investment on January 1, 1950 for these 11 farms was a little over \$24,000. The average investment on these farms increased by \$700 during the year. This increase was due, for the most part, to the expansion of the businesses.

The investment in land and buildings accounted for 42 per cent of the total investment. Cattle was the second largest item with the investment in machinery and equipment being third.

Most young farmers find it necessary to borrow money to finance their capital investment. The amount borrowed (credit) is frequently large. It is, therefore, important that this credit be of the right kind.

Lower labor incomes make it more difficult to pay off borrowed money. Young farmers who have their credit on a long-term basis are usually in a better position to meet their payments when incomes are down.

IS YOUR CREDIT ON A LONG-TERM BASIS?

ANALYSIS OF FARM BUSINESS

FARM BUSINESS FACTORS
11 Lewis County Young Farmers, 1949

Item	Your farm	Average of 11 farms
Size of Business:	tangka (tangka guna da papa da papa tangka da guna tangka da guna buna guna da pangka da pangka da pangka da pa	
Total work units*		479
Man equivalent		1.7
Acres of crops	100 May	74
Number of cows	. 10 to the second control of the second sec	25
Cwt. of milk sold**	manage of the control	2062
Rates of Animal Production:		
Lbs. milk sold per cow**		7958
med, maari boass por oow	The Public Control of the Control of	1220
Crop Yields:		
Tons hay per acre		1.6
Tons silage per acre		12
Bu. oats per acre		21
Labor Efficiency (work per man):		
Work units per man		295
Acres of crops per man		44
Cows per man	the state of the s	16
Cwt. milk sold per man**	and the state of t	1291

^{*} A "work unit" is the amount of productive work accomplished by an average man in a 10-hour day working under normal conditions.

These factors are some of the measures of a successful farm business.

They help you in analyzing your business. A study of each factor will help
you to discover the weak points in your farm business. Finding the weak points
is the first step toward improving your operations.

WHICH FACTORS ARE LIMITING YOUR INCOME?

^{**} Milk converted to 3.7% B.F. equivalent.

FARM MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

Size of Business:

SIZE OF BUSINESS AND LABOR INCOME
Oneida Co., 1942-43; Montgomery Co., 1944-45; and Madison Co., 1945-46

Size of farm business	Number of farms	Number of cows	Lbs. milk produced per cow	Labor income
One-man farms	48	10	6582	\$ 547
Man-and-a-half f <i>ar</i> ms	96	16	6639	1071
Two-man farms	117	25	6834	2001
Three-man farms	56	35	7529	3 049

Size of farm business and labor income go together. In general, the larger farm businesses have the higher labor incomes. This principle has been demonstrated time and again in farm management studies.

Size of business is an important factor affecting labor incomes.

SIZE OF BUSINESS AND LABOR INCOME 45 New York Young Farmers*, 1949

Your farm	Size of farm business**	Average work units	Average labor income
Wagness and the state of the st	High 15 farms	726	\$ 2863
	Middle 15 farms	424	2296
The formula of the control of the co	Low 15 farms	244;	907

^{*} Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston and Yates Counties

IS SIZE OF BUSINESS LIMITING YOUR INCOME?

^{**} Size as measured by total productive man work units.

Rates of Animal Production:

MILK PRODUCTION PER COW AND LABOR INCOME
Oneida Co., 1942-43; Montgomery Co., 1944-45; Madison Co., 1945-46

			Average	
Lbs. milk produced per cow	Number of farms	Lbs. milk produced per cow	Number of cows	Labor income
Lowest fourth	76	5071	21	\$ 612
Next fourth	77	6315	23	1476
Next fourth	78	7241	22	1774
Highest fourth	79	8941	22	281 8

Pounds of milk sold per cow or eggs sold per hen as measures of rates of animal production are factors affecting labor incomes. The farmers with the higher rates of production tend to have the larger labor incomes. Rate of animal production is an important farm management factor on livestock farms.

MILK PRODUCTION PER COW AND LABOR INCOME
34 New York Young Farmers*, 1949

Your farm	Rates of milk production	Average lbs. milk sold per cow	Average labor income
Name on the part of the order of humanite and design apply to	High ll farms	9954	\$ 2700
	Middle 12 farms	835 3	2114
And the Comment of th	Low 11 farms	6232	1129

^{*} Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston and Yates Counties

ARE RATES OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION LIMITING YOUR INCOME?

Crop Yields:

CROP YIELDS AND LABOR INCOME
Oneida Co., 1942-43; Montgomery Co., 1944-45; Madison Co., 1945-46

Crop index	Number of farms	Tons of hay per acre	Lbs. milk produced per cow	Number of cows	Labor income
Lowest fourth	76	1.4	6550	19	\$ 945
Next fourth	77	1.9	6887	22	1671
Next fourth	78	2.1	7122	22	1999
Highest fourth	79	2.5	7142	24	2085

Crop yields on dairy farms where most of the crops are raised for feed have an indirect effect on incomes. On poultry farms where much of the feed is purchased, crop yields have less effect than on dairy farms. On cash crop farms, crop yields are very important.

Good hay and good pastures from high yielding fields are sources of cheap nutrients for the dairy farmer. High hay and pasture yields on a dairy farm will give greater production per cow and lower expenses for purchased feed. These, in turn, make for higher labor incomes.

ARE CROP YIELDS LIMITING YOUR INCOME?

AMOUNT OF MILK PRODUCED PER MAN AND LABOR INCOME
Oneida Co., 1942-43; Montgomery Co., 1944-45; Madison Co., 1945-46

0 131		Average								
Cans milk produced per day per man	Number of farms	Cans milk produced per day per man	Number of cows	Lbs. milk produced per cow	Labor income					
Lowest fourth	76	1.4	114	5656	\$ 489					
Next fourth	77	2.1	20	6539	115					
Next fourth	78	2.7	24	7028	2039					
Highest fourth	79	3.8	29	7814	2990					

Labor efficiency and labor income go together. The greater the amount of work accomplished per man the greater the labor income. This is especially important when farm wages are high.

WORK UNITS PER MAN AND LABOR INCOME 45 New York Young Farmers*, 1949

Your farm	Work units per man	Average work units per man	Average labor income
	High 15 farms	392	\$ 2907
	Middle 15 farms	28 3	2034
	Low 15 farms	186	1125

^{*} Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston and Yates Counties

Efficient use of labor depends on a reasonable size of business, good rates of production, use of adapted machinery, proper planning of work, and the use of good methods of doing things.

ARE YOU USING YOUR LABOR EFFICIENTLY?

Maintaining soil fertility:

Maintaining the fertility of the soil is a part of good farm management. It is basic for getting high crop yields over a period of years.

For some farmers getting started there is the additional problem of building up or improving the fertility.

Expenditures for fertilizer and lime in 1949 on these farms averaged \$269 per farm. This amounted to an average of \$3.65 per acre of crops. The amount spent on fertilizer and lime per acre of crops varied from a high of \$10.70 to a low of \$.63. Your expenditure per crop acre was

Manure is also an important factor in maintaining soil fertility. All farms in this group had dairies. This made manure available for the fields. Manure is a valuable soil builder so it is good management to make the best possible use of it.

Fertilizer prices have increased the least of any of the common cost items on New York farms (see table on page 14). It is probably one of the cheapest and best things a farmer can buy. It is especially important for young farmers to build their farms up to a high state of fertility.

It is good business to use the recommended rates of fertilizer and lime on your crops.

HOW IS YOUR SOIL FERTILITY PROGRAM?

TOTAL ACRES IN THE FARM

ACRES OF TILLABLE LAND

Success in farming is the result of many lactors. Farm business studies show that the most important factors under the farmer's control are size of business, production rates of crops and animals, labor efficiency and selection and combination of enterprises.

The chart below shows the range of the experience of **business** farmers in New York with respect to size of business, production rates and labor efficiency.

The figure at the top of each column is the average for the best ten per cent of the farms in that factor. For example, the figure 2.8 at the top of the column headed "Tons of Hay" is the average of the ten per cent of the farms with the highest yield of hay. The other figures in the column are the averages for "the next best 10 per cent", "the 10 per cent below that", and so forth. The figure 0.8 at the bottom of the column is the average of the ten per cent of the farms with the lowest yield of hay.

Each of the columns is independent of the others. The figure 16 at the top of the column headed "Tons of Corn Silage" is the average of the ten per cent of the farms with the highest yield of corn silage.

H	Hay, Silage and Grain Yields per Acre Vegetable Crop Yields per Acre								Frui	it Yield	ls.per	Acre						
Tons of Hay	Tons of Corn Sil- age	Bu. of Oats	Bu. of Bar- ley	Bu. of Oats & Bar- ley	Bu.	Bu. of Shell'd Com	Bu. of Buck- wheat	Bu. of Dry Beans	Bu. of Pota- toes	Tons of Cab- bage	Lbs. of Peas	Tons of Toma- toes	Tons of Sweet Corn	Tons of Snap Beans	Bu. of Ap- ples	Bu. of peach- es	Tons of grapes	Tons of Cher- ries
2.8	16	62	45	55	40	72	30	30	400	18	3000	15	4.0	3.5	310	280	4.0	6.5
2.2	14	50	39	47	35	58	26	25	340	15	2300	12	3.2	2.7	250	210	3.1	4.2
2.0	13	43	34	41	32	51	24	21	300	13	1900	11	2.7	2.2	215	170	2.6	3.0
1.8	12	38	31	36	29	46	22	18	270	11	1600	10	2.4	1.9	190	150	2.2	2.3
1.6	11	35	28	32	27	42	20	16	250	10	1400	9	2.2	1.7	170	135	1.9	2.0
1.4	10	32	26	29	25	38	18	14	235	9	1300	8	2.1	1.6	155	120	1.7	1.9
1.3	9	28	23	26	23	33	16	12	215	8	1100	7	1.9	1.4	140	100	1.5	1.6
1.2	8	24	20	22	21	27	13	10	185	7	900	6	1.7	1.2	120	80	1.3	1.3
1.0	7	19	16	17	18	20	10	8	150	5	700	5	1.3	1.0	95	55	1.0	0.9
0.8	5	13	10	11	12	12	4	5	105	2	300	3	0.8	0.6	60	25	0.5	0.4

Anir	Animal Production			ıltry tality	Size of Business					Labor	Efficienc	У
Pounds Fat Sold per Cow	Pounds Milk Sold per Cow	No. of Eggs per Hen	Hens Per Cent of Ave. No.	Chicks Per Cent of No. Started	Total Work Units	Man Equiv- alent	Number of Cows	Number of Hens	Work Units per Man	Cows per Man	Hens per Man	Hundred- weight of Milk Sold per Man
337	9100	200	9	4	1170	4.1	42	3000	390	18	1350	1300
292	7900	190	12	6	830	3.1	32	2300	320	15	1100	1050
270	7300	180	15	8	660	2.6	27	1800	290	13	850	900
252	6800	170	18	10	560	2.3	.23	1500	270	12	700	780
237	6400	163	21	· 12	490	2.0	20	1200	250	11	620	700
222	6000	157	23	14	440	. 1.9	18	900	240	10	580	660
207	5600	150	27	17	400	1.7	16:	800	220	9	530	610
189	5100	140	32	22	360	1.5	14	700	200	8	470	550
170 -	4600	130	38	28	300	.1.3	12	550	180	7	400	480
137 .	3700	120	45	35	230	1.0	10	400	150	6	300	360

HOW TO USE THIS CHART

You can draw lines in each column to show the rank of the farm business being studied. For example, if the farm produced 40 bushels of oats per acre draw a line in the "oats" column between the 38 and 43.

Draw heavy lines so that you can see them easily.

Do not draw lines for factors which are of only minor importance on the farm being studied.

The columns headed "Number of Hens" and "Hens per man" should be used only for commercial poultry farms.

Note that the cow production is in terms of the amount sold, not the total production.

BUSINESS ANALYSIS FOR FARM OF_____

WORK UNITS FOR LIVESTOCK AND CROPS

Cows Heifers Bulls Hens Pullets raised Broilers raised Brood sows Hogs raised Ewes and rams	Number or amount on this farm X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	Work units per head 14 = 2 = 5 = 0.2 = 0.05 = 0.02 = 2 = 1 = 0.5	Total work units	MAN EQUIVALENT Workers Full-Time Months Operator Hired men Sons Other Total Man equivalent (Total → 12)
CROPS Hay 2nd and 3rd cuttings Corn Silage Corn for grain Oats Barley Oats and Barley Wheat Buckwheat	X X X X X X	Work units per acre 1		Yield per acre Total Crop tons tons bu. bu. bu. bu. bu. bu. bu.
Dry beans Potatoes Cabbage Peas for canning Sweet corn for canning Tomatoes for canning Apples, commercial Home orchard Fruit not of bearing age	X X X X X X X	3		bu. bu. tons tons tons tons bu.
MISCELLANEOUS Work off farm, per day	×	1 = -		WORK UNITS PER MAN (Total work units - man equivalent)
		work units	-	
*One w Total pounds of fat sold Total pounds of milk sold Total dozen of eggs produce Number of hens that died Number of chicks that died Number of cows Number of hens Hundredweight of milk sold		 no. of cows no. of cows no. of hens ns of eggs per hen av. no. of hen no. of chicks man equivale man equivale 	×12 — — s for the yestarted ent	pounds of fat sold per cow pounds of milk sold per cow dozens of eggs produced per he eggs produced per hen ear

Study your business

A farmer faces a real challenge when he tries to combine the factors of land, labor, and capital so as to get a reasonable financial return.

It calls for a thorough knowledge of the farm business and careful planning.

The "Farm Business Chart" on the opposite page is for the purpose of helping you analyze your 1949 business. Locate your strong and weak points, then make plans to correct the weaknesses.

LIST YOUR POINTS BELOW:

Strong points

Weak points

Plans for correcting weaknesses