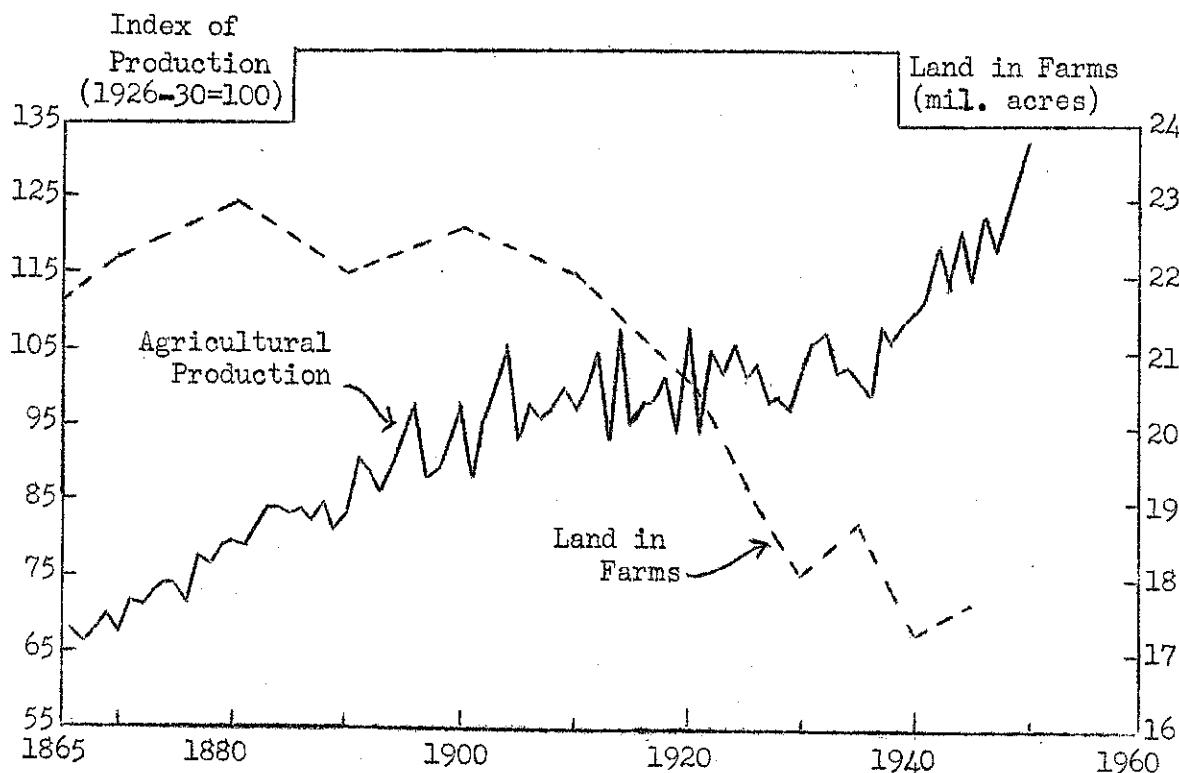


AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN NEW YORK

1866 TO 1950

Note: This is an attempt to bring up to date information on long-time trends in agricultural production pending the revisions that may occur when the United States 1950 Census of Agriculture becomes available. The tables and graphs presented here are revisions of those appearing in Exp. Sta. Bulletin No. 769 by T. E. LaMont.



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| Snap Beans for Processing | 9 |
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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN NEW YORK

The tables and graphs for "Agricultural Production in New York, 1866 to 1940", Bul. 769, by T. E. LaMont has been revised and brought up-to-date and is now awaiting the 1949 census data before revising the manuscript for reprinting. A few of the tables and most of the graphs are presented in this form to bring the trends of the past decade into the picture. Your suggestions regarding a revised bulletin on this subject after the recent U. S. Census of Agriculture becomes available will be appreciated.

M. C. Bond

Table 1. CHANGE IN LAND IN FARMS IN NEW YORK STATE

| Year | Farms | Land in Farms | Acres per Farm | Percentage of 1880 | |
|------|---------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | | | | No. of Farms | Land in Farms |
| | Number | Acres | Acres | % | % |
| 1850 | 170,621 | 19,119,084 | 112 | 71 | 83 |
| 1860 | 196,990 | 20,974,958 | 106 | 82 | 92 |
| 1870 | 216,253 | 22,190,810 | 103 | 90 | 97 |
| 1880 | 241,058 | 22,900,000* | 95 | 100 | 100 |
| 1890 | 226,223 | 21,961,562 | 97 | 94 | 96 |
| 1900 | 226,720 | 22,648,109 | 100 | 94 | 99 |
| 1910 | 215,597 | 22,030,367 | 102 | 89 | 96 |
| 1920 | 193,195 | 20,632,803 | 107 | 80 | 90 |
| 1925 | 188,754 | 19,269,926 | 102 | 78 | 84 |
| 1930 | 159,806 | 17,979,633 | 113 | 66 | 79 |
| 1935 | 177,025 | 18,685,741 | 106 | 73 | 82 |
| 1940 | 153,238 | 17,170,337 | 112 | 64 | 75 |
| 1945 | 149,490 | 17,568,471 | 118 | 62 | 77 |
| 1950 | | | | | |

*The 1880 census reported 23,780,754 acres of land in farms in New York State. This figure probably is between 750,000 and 1,000,000 acres too high because of the errors made in the enumeration of the census of 1880. See Twelfth Census of the United States, vol. 5, p. 19, 1900.

Table 2. TREND IN CROP YIELDS IN NEW YORK STATE

| Period | Index (1866-75 = 100) | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------|-----|------|--------|-----------|-------------------|-----|
| | Potatoes | Wheat | Rye | Oats | Barley | Buckwheat | Corn for Grain | Hay |
| 1866-75 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1876-85 | 87 | 109 | 101 | 98 | 102 | 90 | 95 | 100 |
| 1886-95 | 99 | 112 | 111 | 90 | 97 | 102 | 102 | 102 |
| 1896-1905 | 90 | 111 | 116 | 104 | 110 | 128 | 100 | 99 |
| 1906-15 | 108 | 125 | 128 | 104 | 119 | 125 | 111 | 100 |
| 1916-25 | 115 | 120 | 123 | 101 | 115 | 112 | 113 | 100 |
| 1926-35 | 128 | 119 | 124 | 97 | 113 | 116 | 106 | 106 |
| 1936-40 | 138 | 148 | 147 | 99 | 110 | 110 | 107 | 115 |
| 1936-45 | 151 | 148 | 144 | 98 | 110 | 115 | 111 | 121 |
| 1946-50 | 271 | 167 | 158 | 120 | 131 | 122 | 127 | 134 |

Table 3. TREND IN ACRES IN FARMS AND IN TOTAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION OF NEW YORK STATE

| Year | Acres in Farms (thousands) | Per cent Acreage is of 1900 | Index* of Crop and Livestock Production of the State (1895-1904=100) | Index* of Production of Crops and Livestock per Acre in Farms (1895-1904 = 100) |
|------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 1850 | 19,119 | 84 | --- | --- |
| 1860 | 20,975 | 93 | --- | --- |
| 1870 | 22,191 | 98 | 77 | 79 |
| 1880 | 22,900 | 101 | 83 | 82 |
| 1890 | 21,962 | 97 | 91 | 94 |
| 1900 | 22,648 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1910 | 22,030 | 97 | 104 | 107 |
| 1920 | 20,633 | 91 | 106 | 116 |
| 1925 | 19,270 | 85 | 110 | 129 |
| 1930 | 17,980 | 79 | 106 | 134 |
| 1935 | 18,686 | 83 | 108 | 130 |
| 1940 | 17,170 | 76 | 115 | 151 |
| 1945 | 17,568 | 78 | 125 | 160 |
| 1950 | | | 132 | |

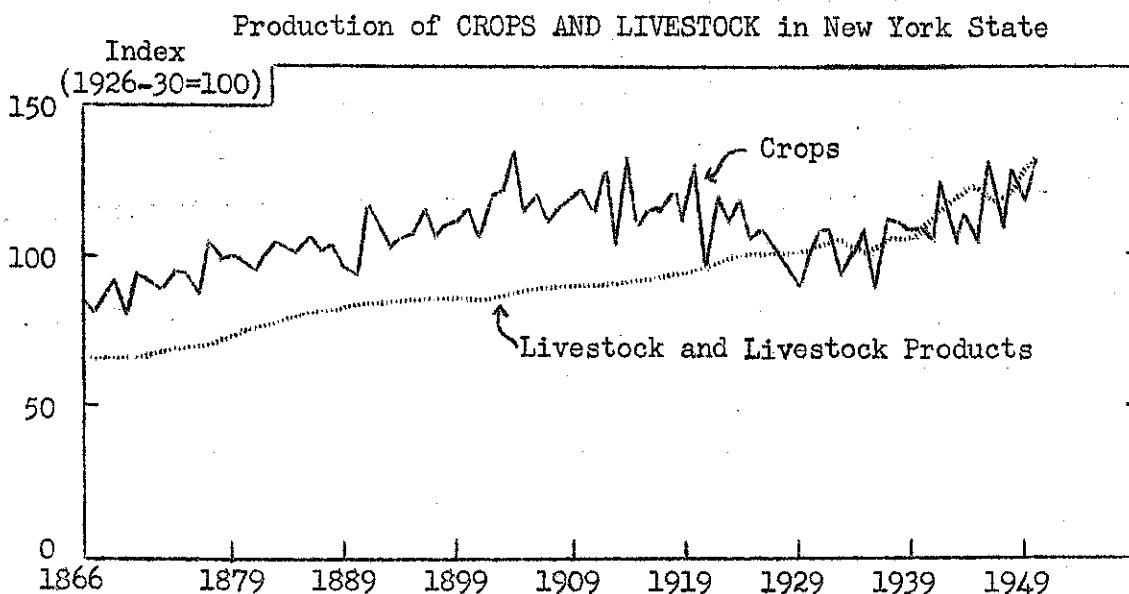
*Both the index of total production and the index of production per acre in farms are 10-years averages, with the census as the sixth year, except for 1925, 1930, and 1935, which are five-years averages, with the crop year preceding the census as the middle year.

⁴See footnote to table I.

Table 4. TOTAL PRODUCTION PER MAN ON NEW YORK FARMS

| Period | Number Engaged in Agriculture* | Index of Number of Workers (1900=100) | Index of Crop and Livestock Production of the State (1895-1904=100) | Index of Production per Man (1895-1904 = 100) |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1865-1874 | 374,323 | 100 | 73 | 73 |
| 1875-1884 | 377,460 | 100 | 82 | 82 |
| 1885-1894 | 397,541 | 106 | 91 | 86 |
| 1895-1904 | 375,990 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 1905-1914 | 378,657 | 101 | 103 | 102 |
| 1915-1924 | 314,774 | 84 | 101 | 120 |
| 1925-1934 | 267,373 | 71 | 101 | 142 |
| 1935-1944 | 210,434 | 56 | 111 | 198 |
| 1945-1954 | | | | |

*The number of gainful workers, 10 years old or older, engaged in agriculture, as reported by the federal census for the middle year of the period. As a check on the trend in number of workers in agriculture, these data were compared with the trend in number of farm operators plus the amount of hired labor. The equivalent number of years of hired labor was obtained by dividing the wages paid labor, as reported by the censuses since 1899, by the wages for that year. The trend in number of farm operators plus the number of hired men on a 12-months basis showed a slightly greater decrease since 1900 than did the trend in the number of workers in agriculture as given in the above table. On this basis, the index of production per man for 1926 to 1936 was 149.



The production of different crops and the production of livestock are combined on the basis of gross income and presented as index numbers in Table 5. Crops were weighted according to the amount sold plus that used in the operator's household. The proportion fed to livestock on the farm was not included since this appears in the total index as income from livestock. Since nearly 3/4 of the gross farm income for the state is from livestock and livestock products, the combined index of total agricultural production for New York follows rather closely the index of livestock production.

Crop production declined from the middle 1920's to the middle 1930's, but during the late '40's regained the high levels of the years before World War I. In contrast, livestock production has continued upward reaching an all-time high in 1950.

Table 5. INDICES OF THE TOTAL PRODUCTION ALL CROPS AND LIVESTOCK
IN NEW YORK STATE (1926=100)

| Year | All Crops | All Livestock | All Crops and Livestock | Year | All Crops | All Livestock | All Crops and Livestock |
|------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1866 | 87 | 65 | 68 | 1910 | 122 | 88 | 97 |
| 1867 | 81 | 65 | 66 | 1911 | 114 | 89 | 99 |
| 1868 | 87 | 65 | 69 | 1912 | 128 | 90 | 105 |
| 1869 | 91 | 65 | 70 | 1913 | 103 | 91 | 93 |
| | | | | 1914 | 133 | 91 | 108 |
| 1870 | 80 | 65 | 67 | | | | |
| 1871 | 94 | 66 | 72 | 1915 | 109 | 91 | 95 |
| 1872 | 91 | 67 | 71 | 1916 | 115 | 92 | 98 |
| 1873 | 88 | 68 | 73 | 1917 | 115 | 92 | 98 |
| 1874 | 96 | 68 | 74 | 1918 | 120 | 93 | 102 |
| | | | | 1919 | 110 | 94 | 94 |
| 1875 | 94 | 68 | 74 | | | | |
| 1876 | 87 | 69 | 71 | 1920 | 132 | 94 | 108 |
| 1877 | 106 | 70 | 78 | 1921 | 94 | 95 | 94 |
| 1878 | 98 | 72 | 76 | 1922 | 120 | 97 | 105 |
| 1879 | 101 | 73 | 79 | 1923 | 111 | 99 | 102 |
| | | | | 1924 | 119 | 101 | 107 |
| 1880 | 99 | 75 | 80 | | | | |
| 1881 | 95 | 76 | 79 | 1925 | 106 | 100 | 101 |
| 1882 | 102 | 77 | 81 | 1926 | 108 | 99 | 103 |
| 1883 | 105 | 78 | 84 | 1927 | 103 | 99 | 98 |
| 1884 | 102 | 79 | 84 | 1928 | 99 | 100 | 99 |
| | | | | 1929 | 91 | 100 | 97 |
| 1885 | 101 | 80 | 83 | | | | |
| 1886 | 107 | 80 | 84 | 1930 | 100 | 101 | 103 |
| 1887 | 101 | 80 | 82 | 1931 | 108 | 104 | 106 |
| 1888 | 104 | 81 | 85 | 1932 | 108 | 104 | 107 |
| 1889 | 96 | 83 | 81 | 1933 | 93 | 104 | 102 |
| | | | | 1934 | 102 | 101 | 103 |
| 1890 | 94 | 83 | 83 | | | | |
| 1891 | 116 | 84 | 92 | 1935 | 109 | 99 | 101 |
| 1892 | 111 | 84 | 89 | 1936 | 89 | 103 | 99 |
| 1893 | 103 | 84 | 86 | 1937 | 112 | 106 | 108 |
| 1894 | 106 | 84 | 90 | 1938 | 112 | 104 | 106 |
| | | | | 1939 | 107 | 106 | 109 |
| 1895 | 107 | 84 | 93 | | | | |
| 1896 | 115 | 85 | 98 | 1940 | 109 | 111 | 110 |
| 1897 | 106 | 85 | 88 | 1941 | 105 | 113 | 112 |
| 1898 | 110 | 85 | 89 | 1942 | 124 | 116 | 119 |
| 1899 | 111 | 84 | 92 | 1943 | 103 | 118 | 113 |
| | | | | 1944 | 112 | 122 | 121 |
| 1900 | 116 | 84 | 98 | | | | |
| 1901 | 105 | 84 | 88 | 1945 | 103 | 122 | 114 |
| 1902 | 119 | 85 | 95 | 1946 | 130 | 118 | 123 |
| 1903 | 122 | 86 | 100 | 1947 | 109 | 120 | 118 |
| 1904 | 134 | 87 | 105 | 1948 | 128 | 120 | 123 |
| | | | | 1949 | 116 | 127 | 127 |
| 1905 | 113 | 87 | 93 | | | | |
| 1906 | 120 | 88 | 98 | 1950 | 130 | 132 | 133 |
| 1907 | 111 | 89 | 96 | 1951 | | | |
| 1908 | 116 | 89 | 97 | 1952 | | | |
| 1909 | 118 | 89 | 100 | 1953 | | | |

Table 6. FRUITS AND VEGETABLES - NEW YORK

| Commodity | Index of Production (1926-30=100) | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | 10-Year Average 1940-49 | | 1950 |
| <u>Fruits:</u> | | | |
| Apples | 72 | | 90 |
| Cherries | 123 | | 203 |
| Grapes | 68 | | 94 |
| Peaches | 84 | | 67 |
| Pears | 62 | | 77 |
| | For Market | For Processing | For Market |
| <u>Vegetables:</u> | | | |
| Lima Beans | 741 | | 885 |
| Snap Beans | 1,015 | 236 | 943 |
| Beets | | 447 | 471 |
| Cabbage | 101* | 137 | 136* |
| Cantaloupes | 123 | | 78 |
| Carrots | 177 | | 179 |
| Cauliflower | 262 | | 427 |
| Celery | 94 | | 79 |
| Sweet Corn | 178 | 151 | 214 |
| Cucumbers | 105 | 173 | 119 |
| Lettuce | 72 | | 84 |
| Onions | 204 | | 255 |
| Green Peas | 70 | 114 | 33 |
| Spinach | 126 | | 110 |
| Strawberries | 104 | | 117 |
| Tomatoes | 357 | 218 | 339 |
| Total (excl. potatoes) | | 141* | 257 |
| | | | 167* |
| Potatoes | 125 | | 134 |

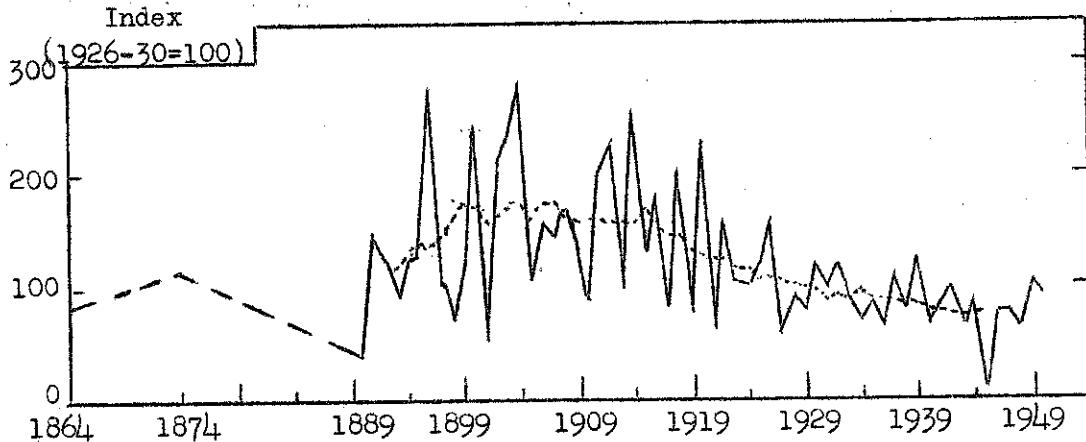
*Includes both market and processing.

/ 1929-30=100.

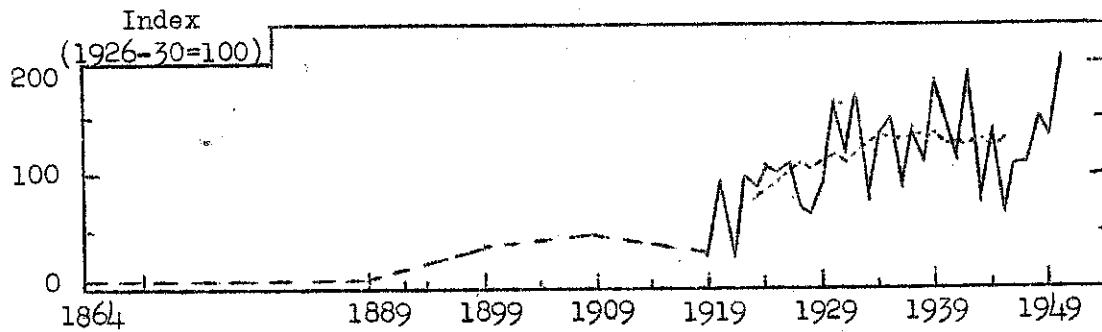
The long-time trend of vegetable production is shown in graphs on the following pages. The level of production in 1950 and for the previous ten years is shown by the index numbers in the table above. Snap beans showed the greatest increase over the base period (1929-30=100), lima beans, tomatoes, cauliflower, onions, sweet corn and carrots show substantial increase. Peas for market and processing show the greatest decrease in production.

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF FRUITS
1866 - 1950 -- New York

Production of Apples in New York State



Production of Cherries in New York State



— — Yearly Production
- - - - - Ten Year Moving Average

The production of fruit shows wide variations from year to year. Except for cherries, the trend of production for tree fruits in New York has been downward for two decades or more.

For the most recent ten year period (1940-49), New York apple production was 25 per cent below production in the base period (1926-30). Peach production was off 18 per cent; pears down 39 per cent; grapes down 30 per cent. Cherry production in the last ten years was 29 per cent above the production of the late 1920's.

New York apple production has been gradually declining since about the turn of the century. Cherry production has increased more than any other tree fruit with prospects of still more expansion. The production of pears has shown the greatest decline but pears, peaches, and grapes have trended downward since the 1920's.

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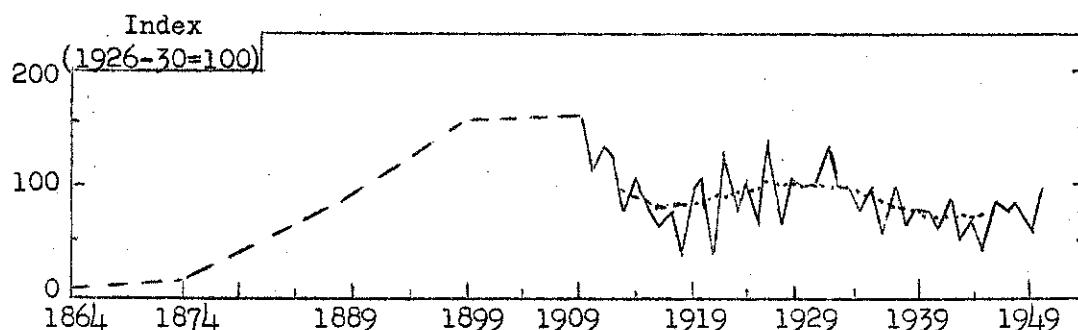
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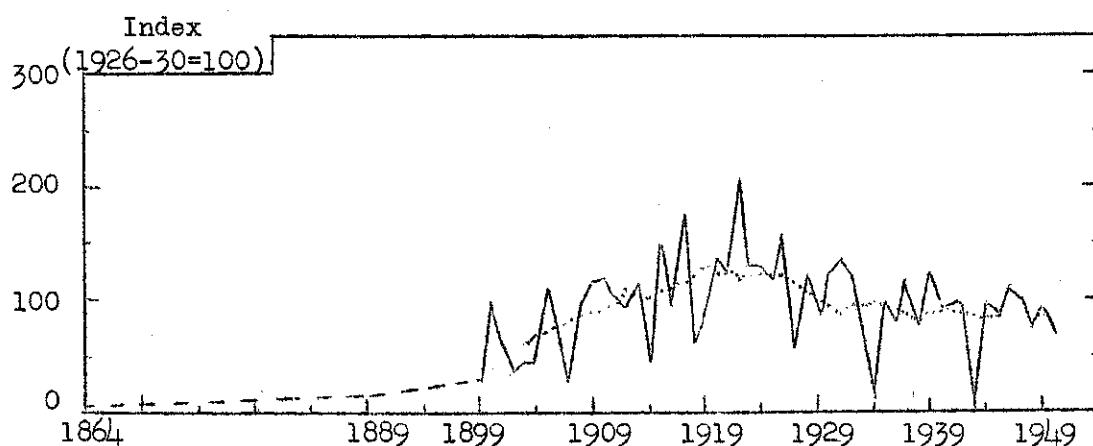
TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF FRUITS (cont.)
1866 - 1950 -- New York

GRAPES
PEACHES
PEARS

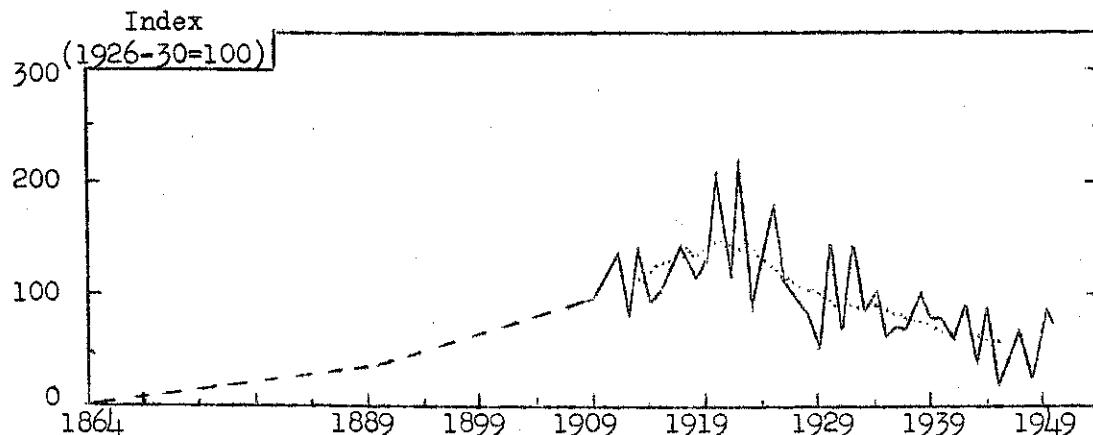
Production of Grapes in New York State



Production of Peaches in New York State



Production of Pears in New York State



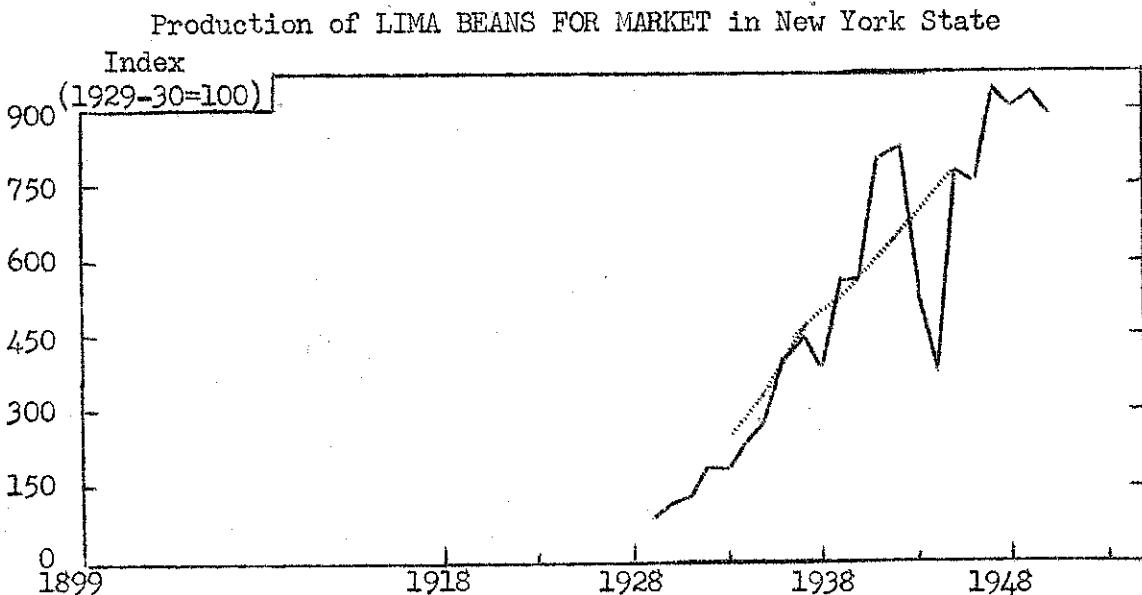
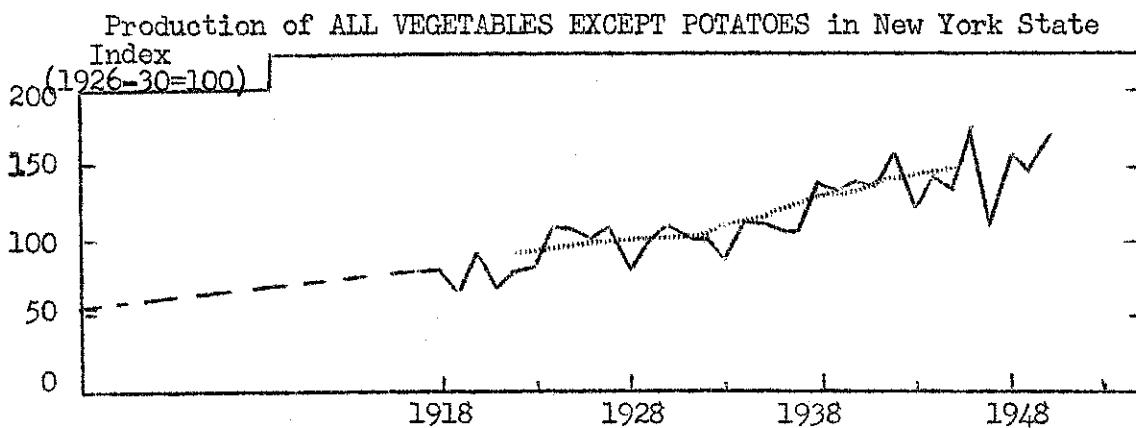
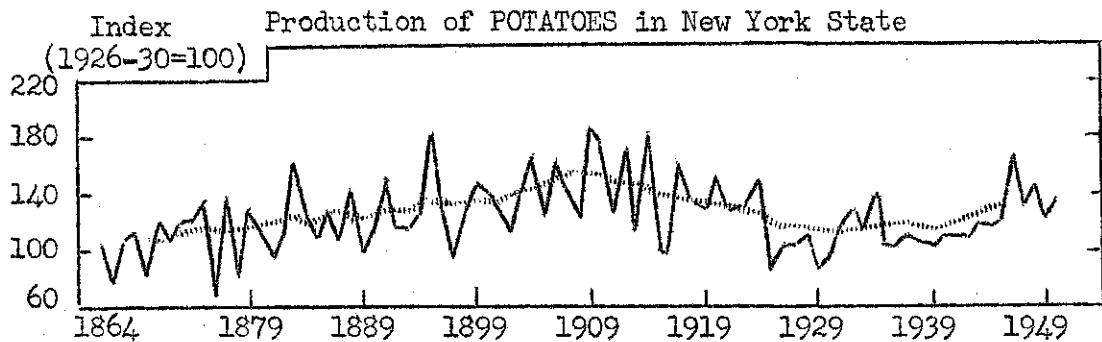
- Yearly Production
- - - - - Ten Year Moving Average

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TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES
1864 - 1950 -- New York

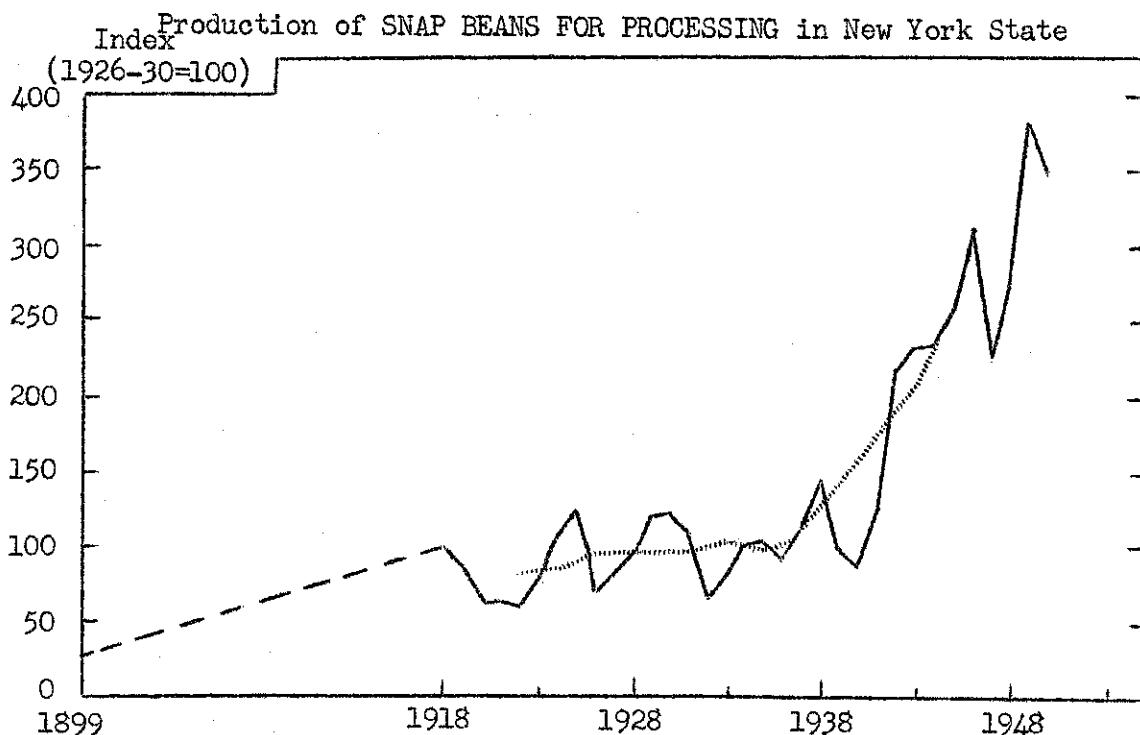
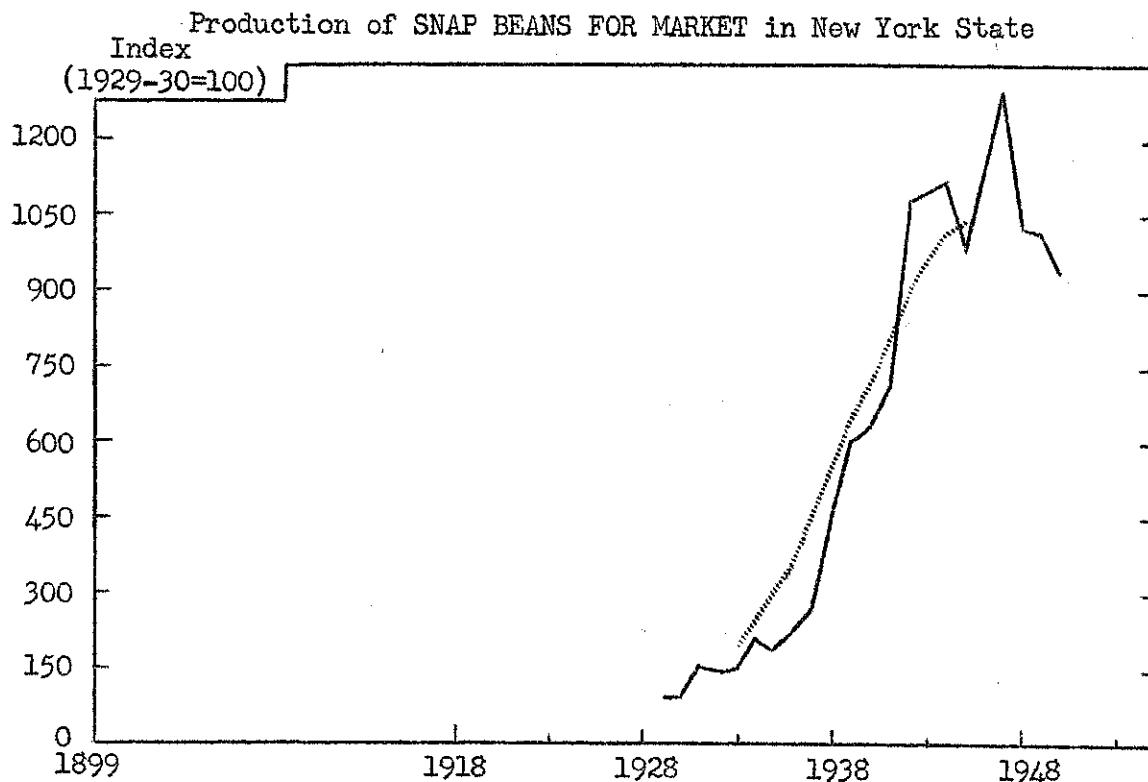
POTATOES
OTHER VEGETABLES
LIMA BEANS



— Yearly Production
---- Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 -- New York

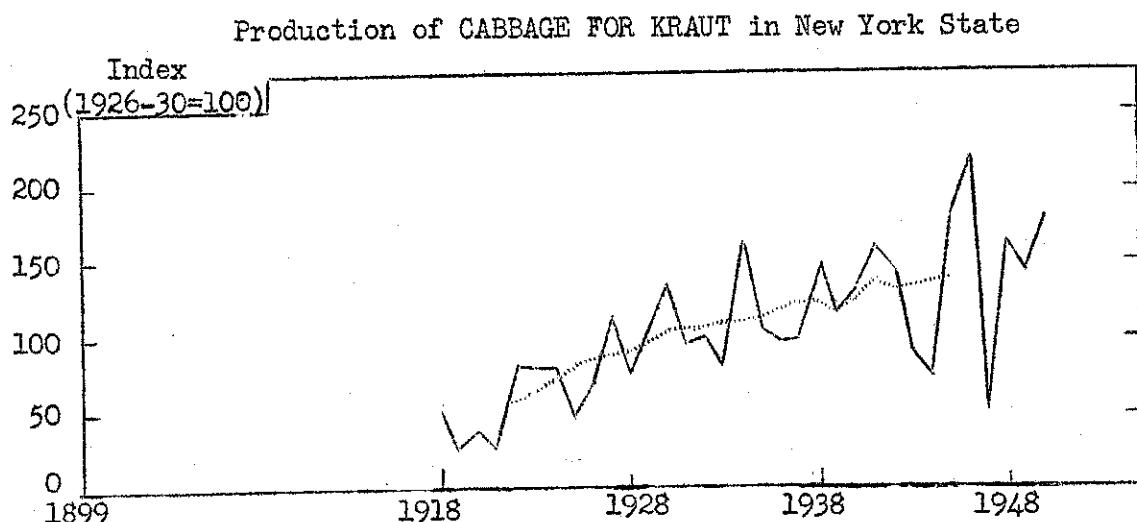
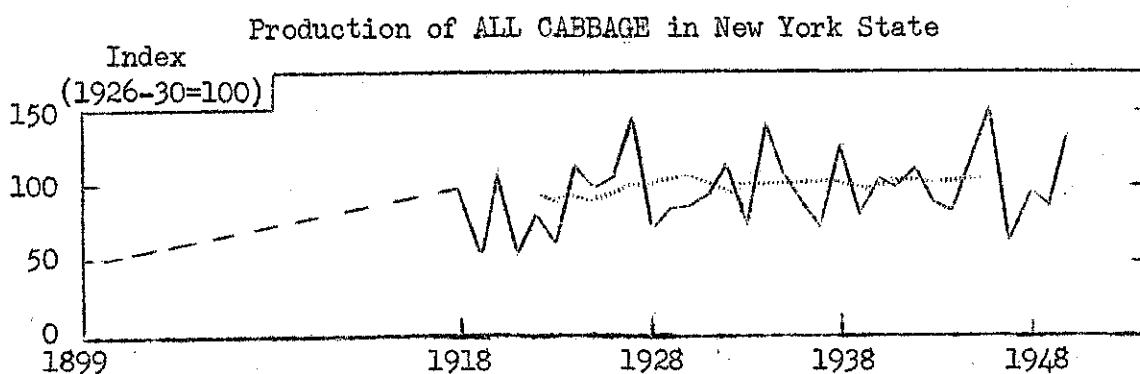
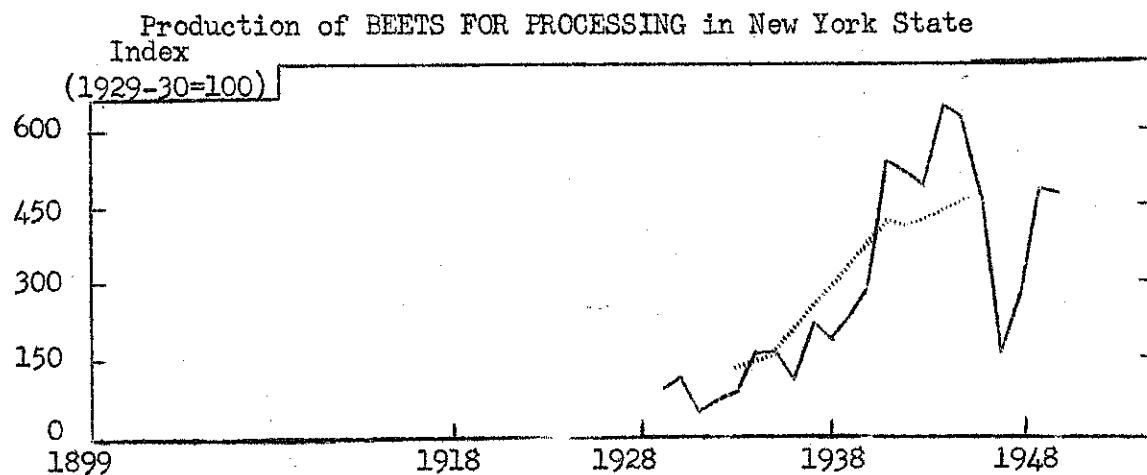
SNAP BEANS



— Yearly Production

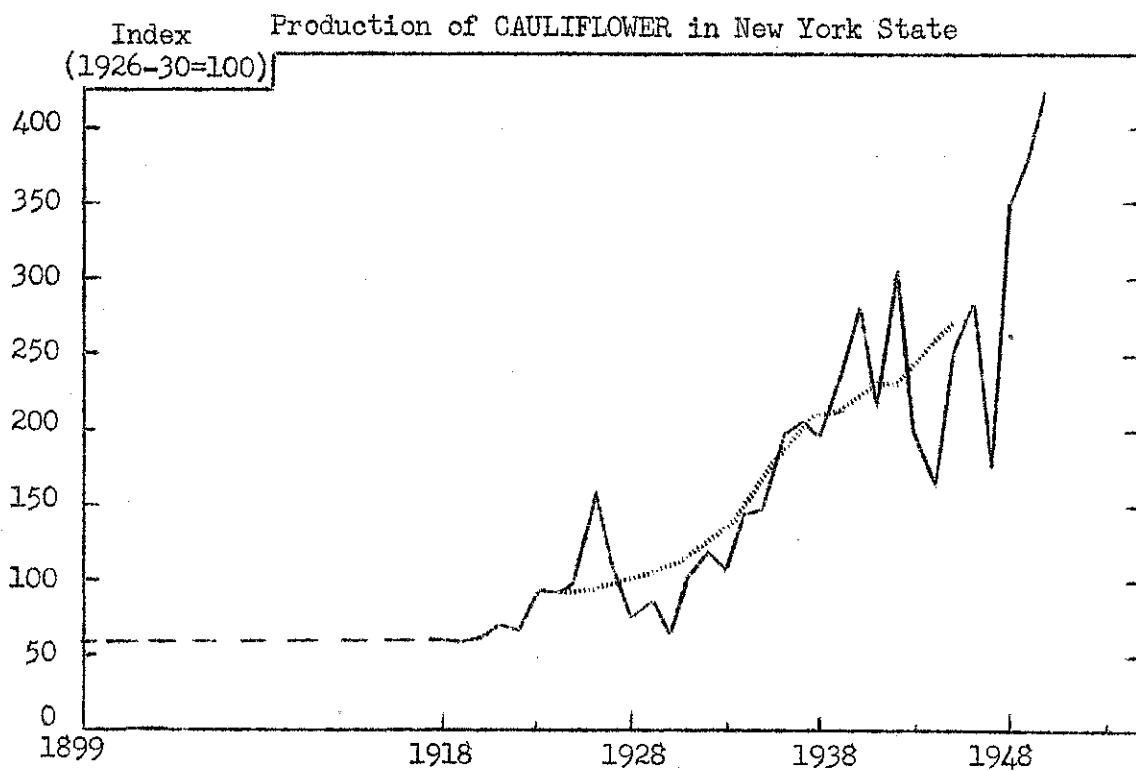
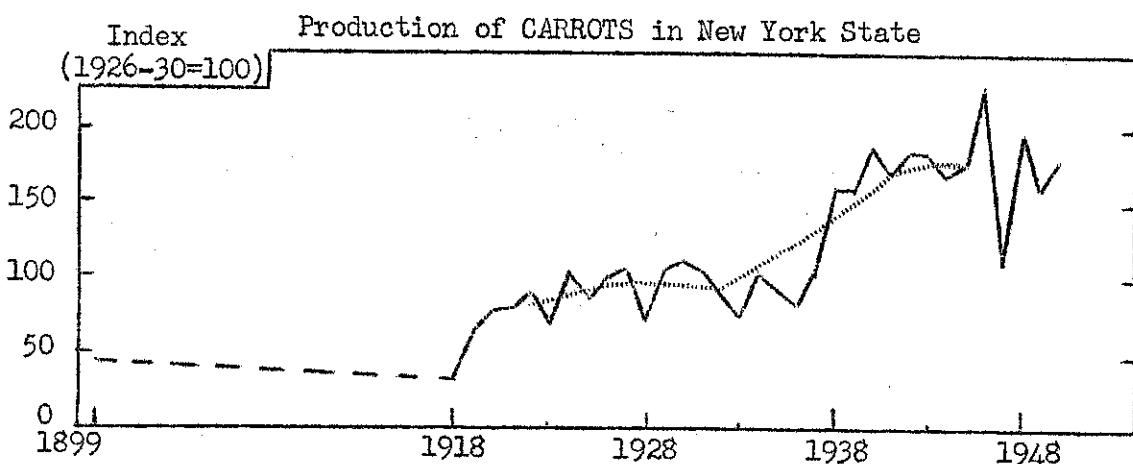
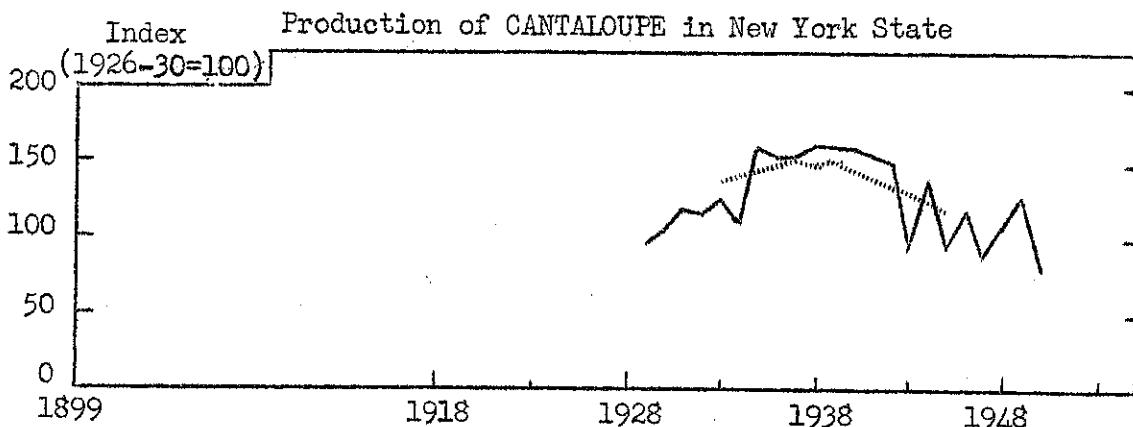
····· Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 --- New York



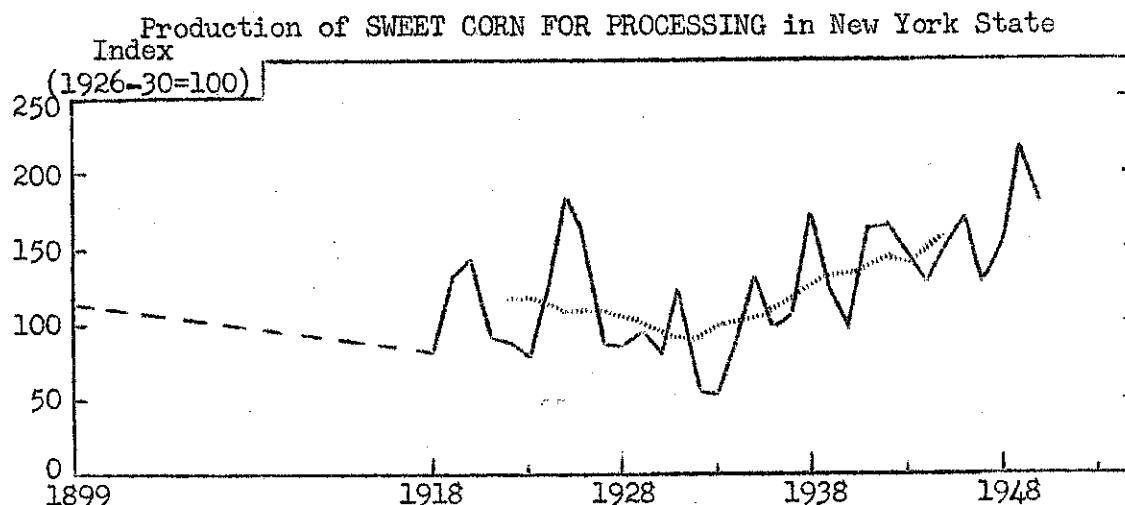
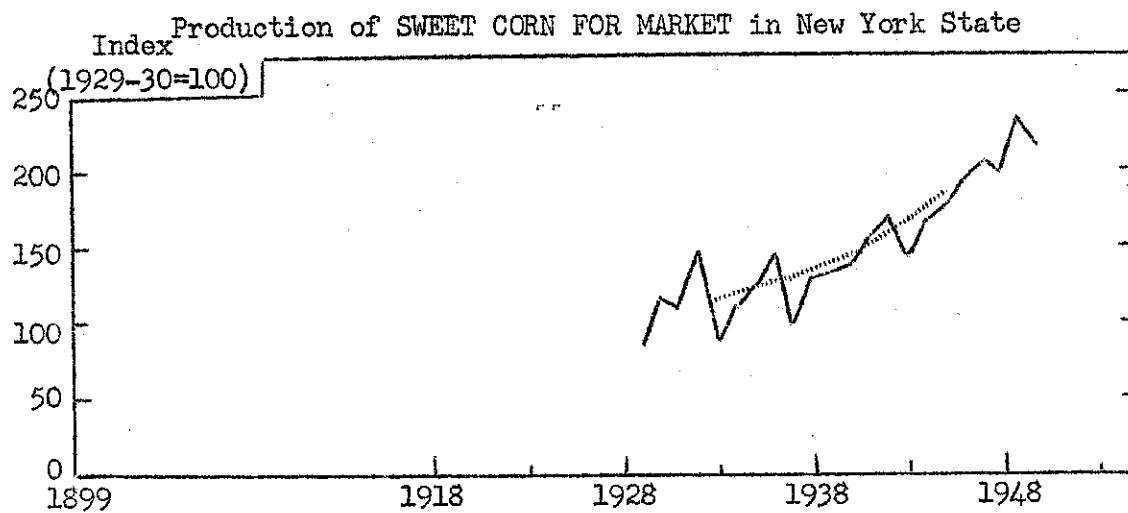
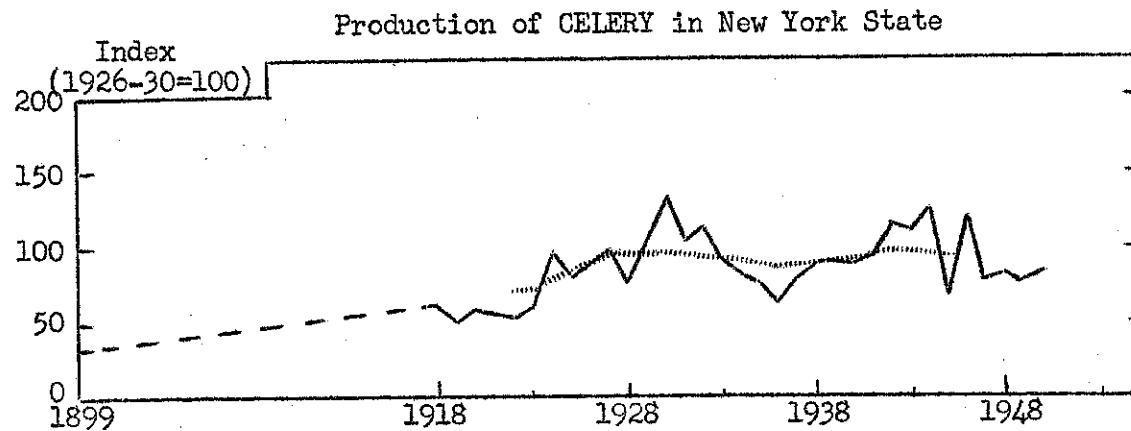
— Yearly Production

..... Ten Year Moving Average



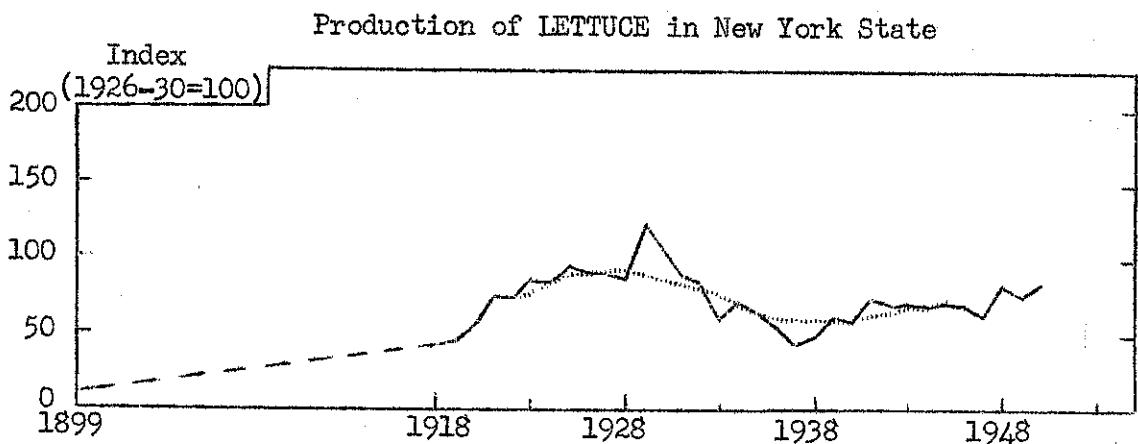
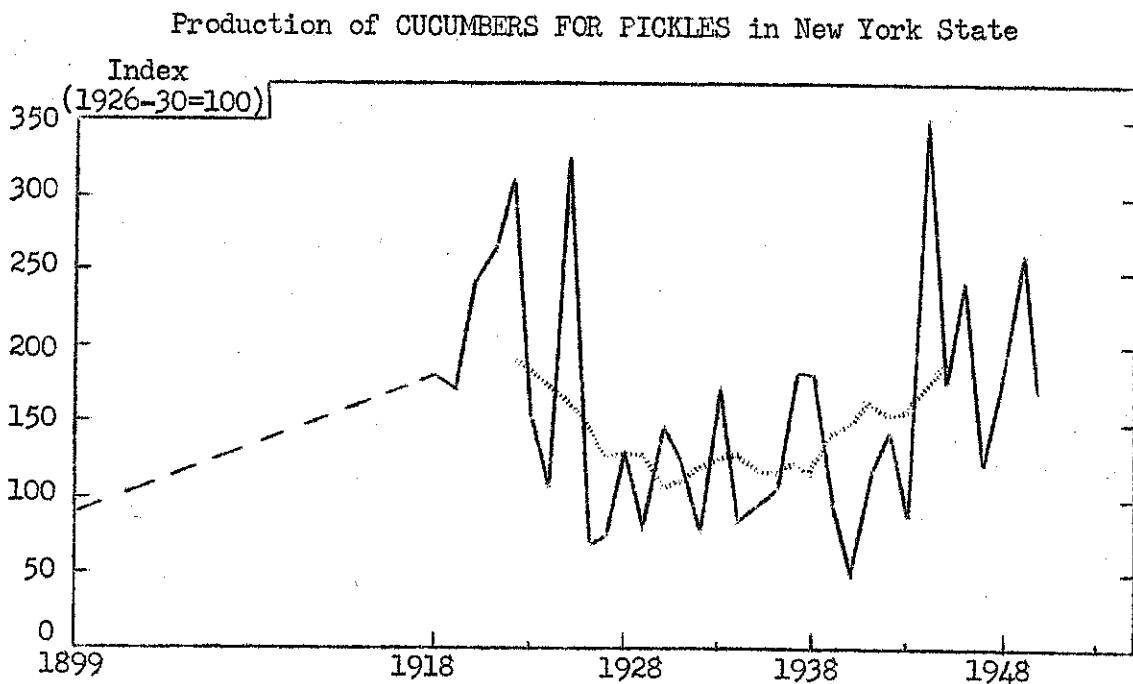
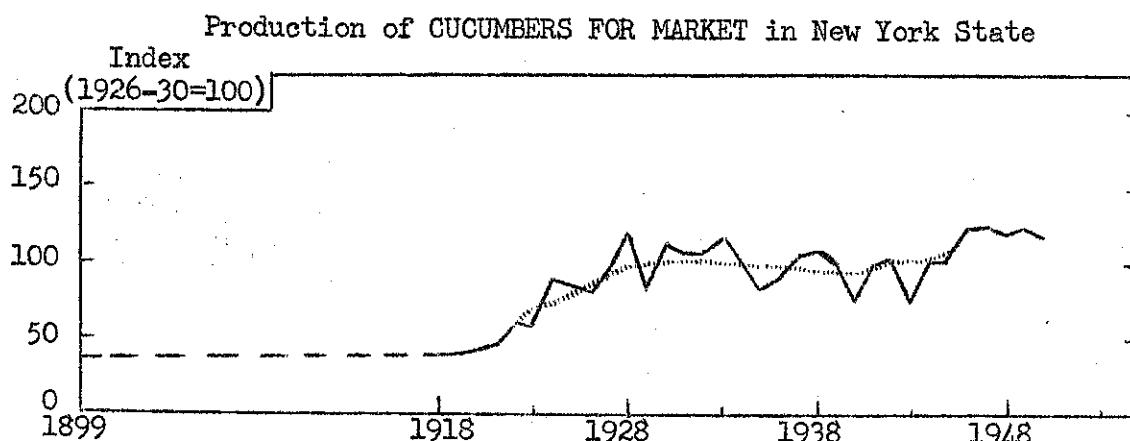
— Yearly Production
- - - - - Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 — New York



— Yearly Production
— Ten Year Moving Average

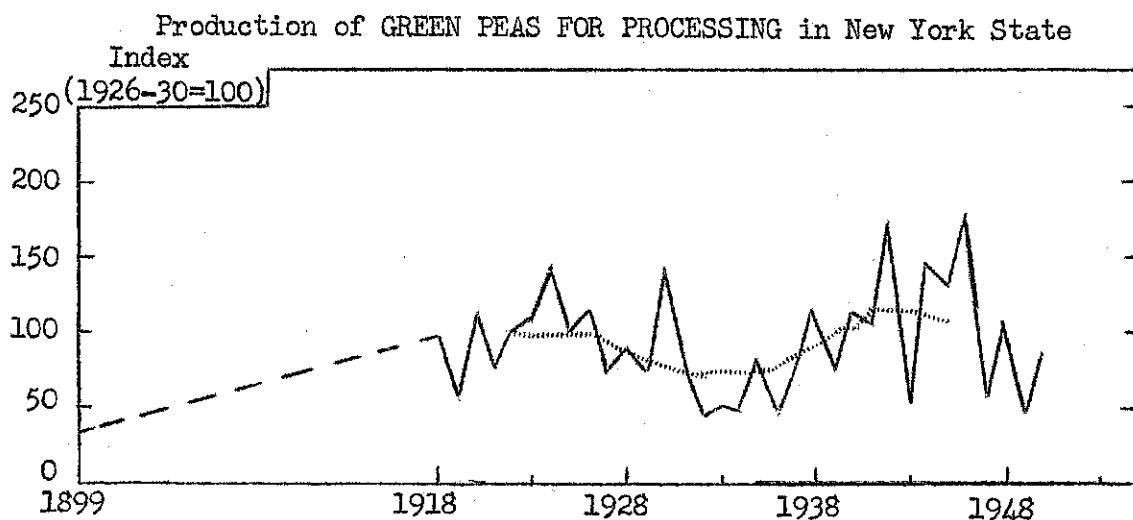
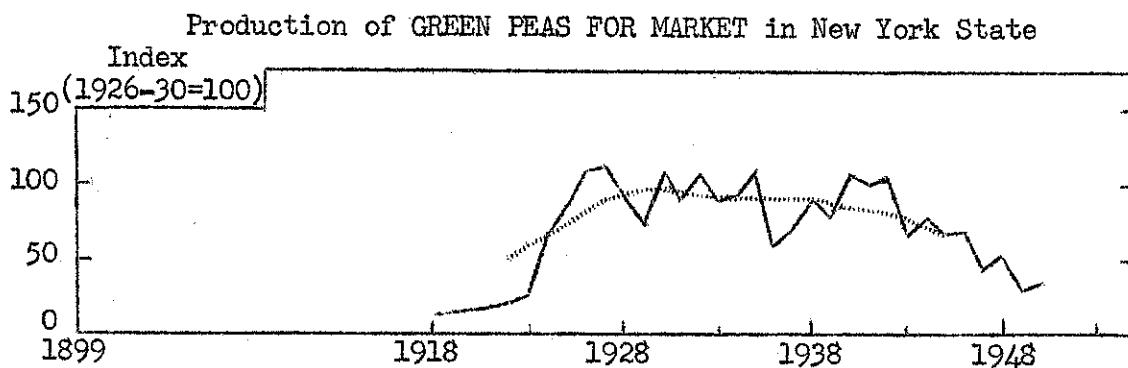
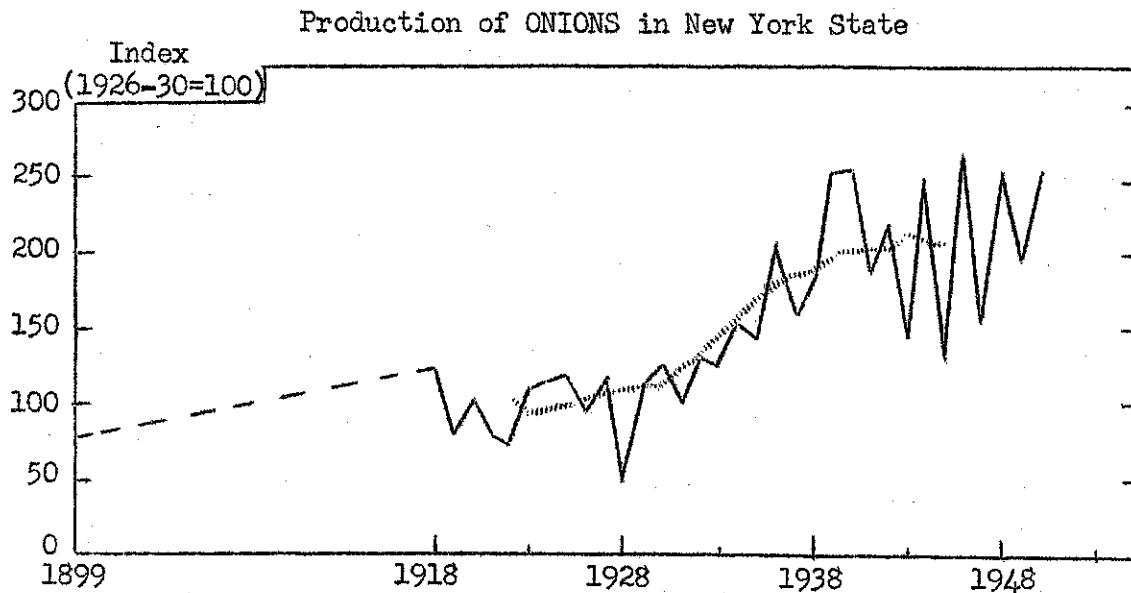
TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 -- New York



— Yearly Production

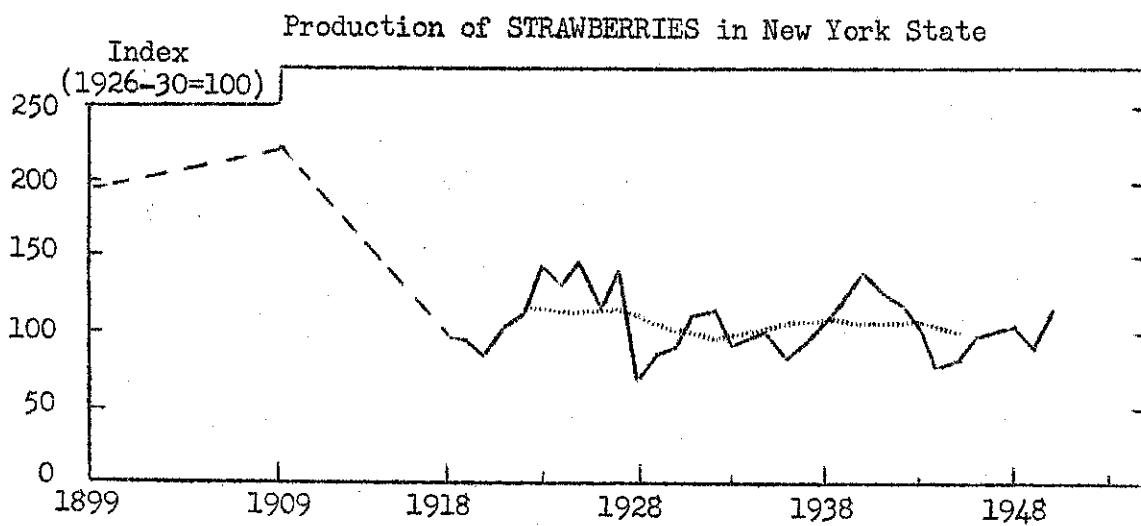
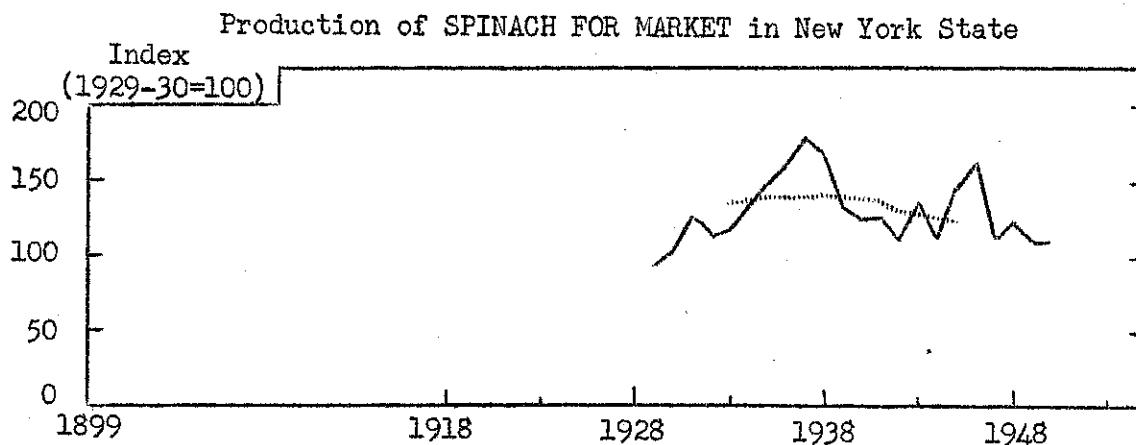
— Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 -- New York



— Yearly Production
- - - - Ten Year Moving Average

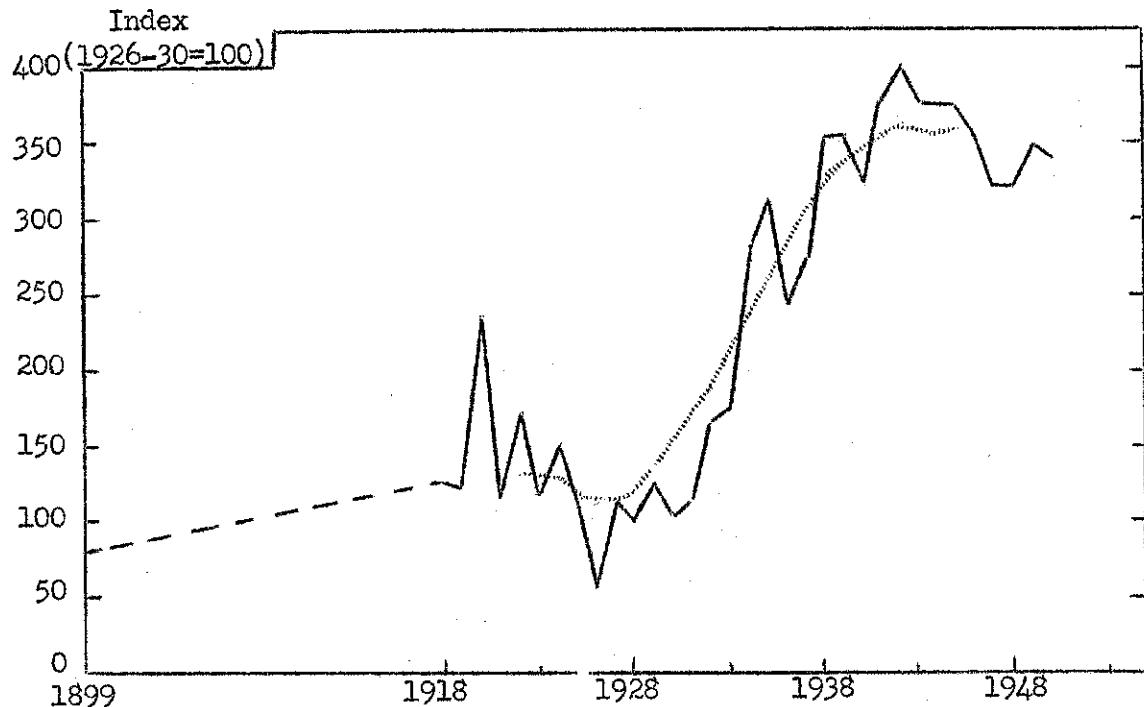
TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 -- New York



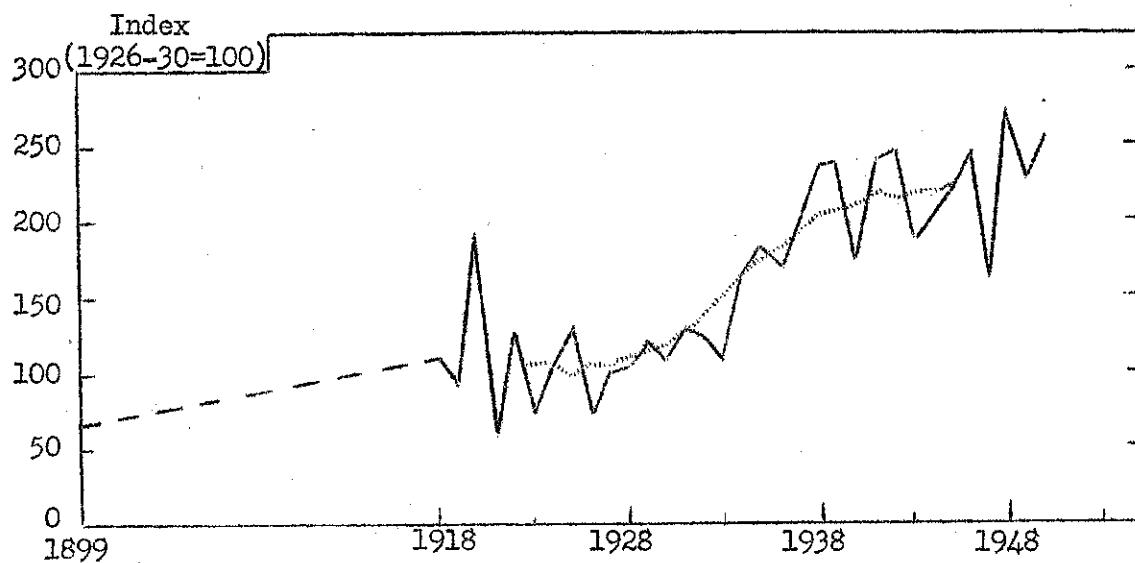
— Yearly Production
---- Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES (Cont.)
1899 - 1950 -- New York

Production of TOMATOES FOR MARKET in New York State



Production of TOMATOES FOR PROCESSING in New York State



— Yearly Production
- - - Ten Year Moving Average

Table 7. FIELD CROPS - NEW YORK

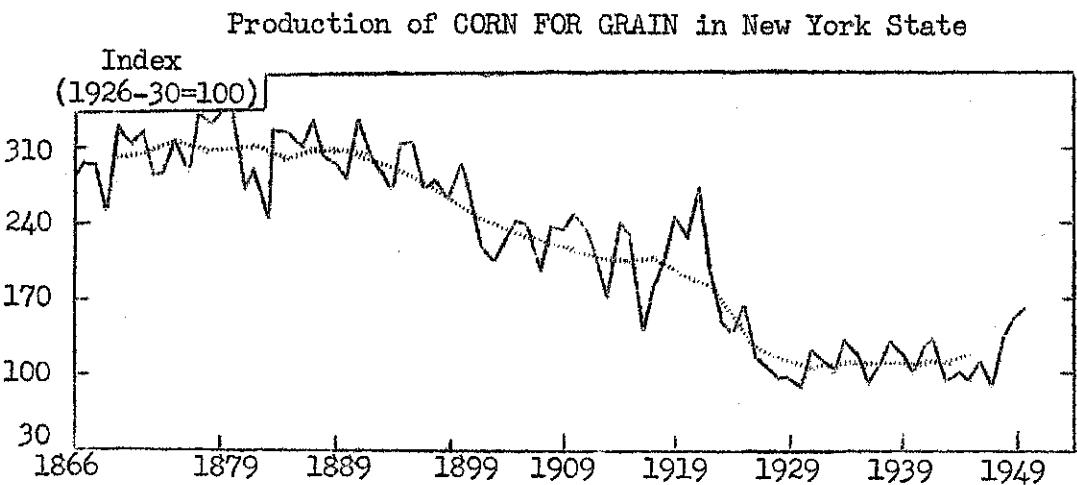
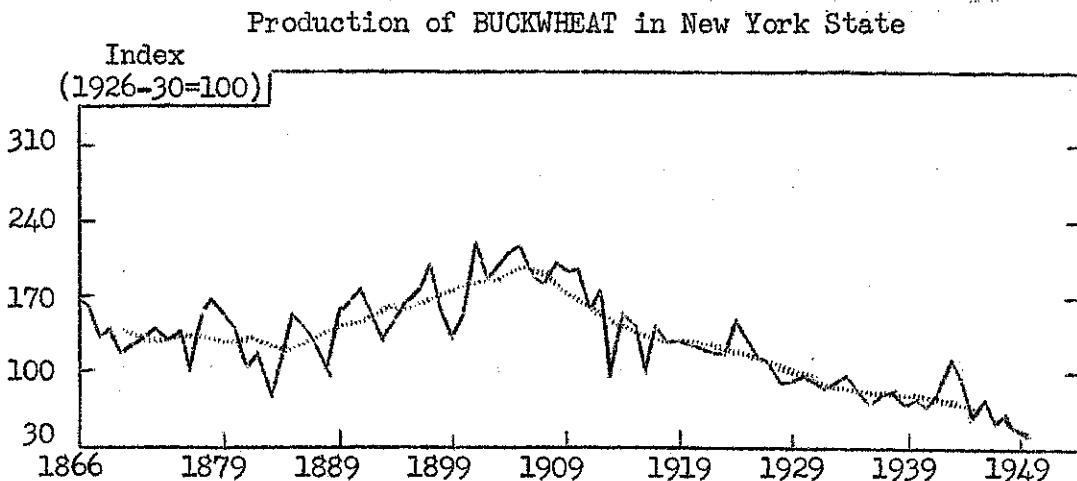
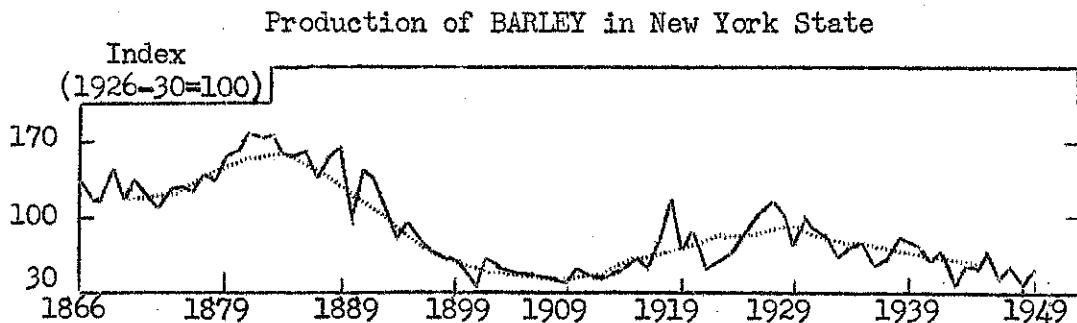
| Crop | Index of Production (1926-30=100) | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| | 10-Year Average 1940-49 | 1950 |
| <u>Grains:</u> | | |
| Barley | 54 | 50 |
| Buckwheat | 70 | 43 |
| Corn for Grain | 113 | 162 |
| Oats | 88 | 125 |
| Rye | 88 | 114 |
| Wheat | 177 | 267 |
| Dry Beans | 215 | 216 |
| Tobacco | 94 | 61 |
| <u>Forage Crops:</u> | | |
| Corn Silage | 137 | 152 |
| Tame Hay | 110 | 114 |

Grains - During the 1940's the production of wheat was 77% above the 1926-30 level. Corn for grain was up 13%, the production of oats and rye was 12% below the late '20's. Buckwheat was down 30% and barley, 46%.

Dry Bean production in 1940's was double that of the 1920's, but tobacco production was declining.

Forage crops - In the 1940's hay production averaged about 10% above the base period. Corn silage showed a much larger increase, 37%.

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF GRAINS
1866 - 1950 -- New York

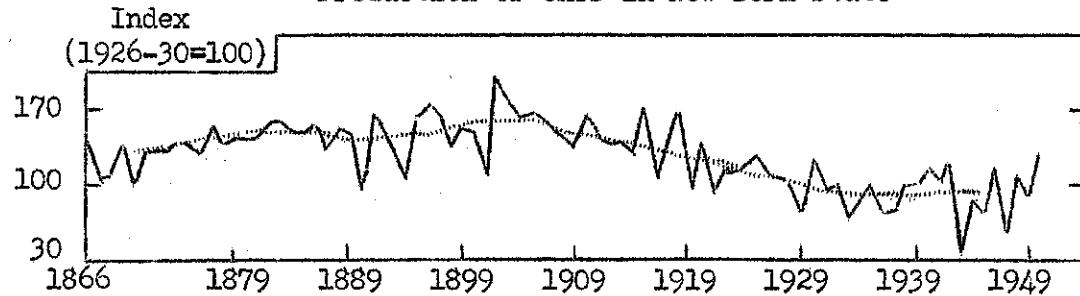


— Yearly Production
~~~~~ Ten Year Moving Average

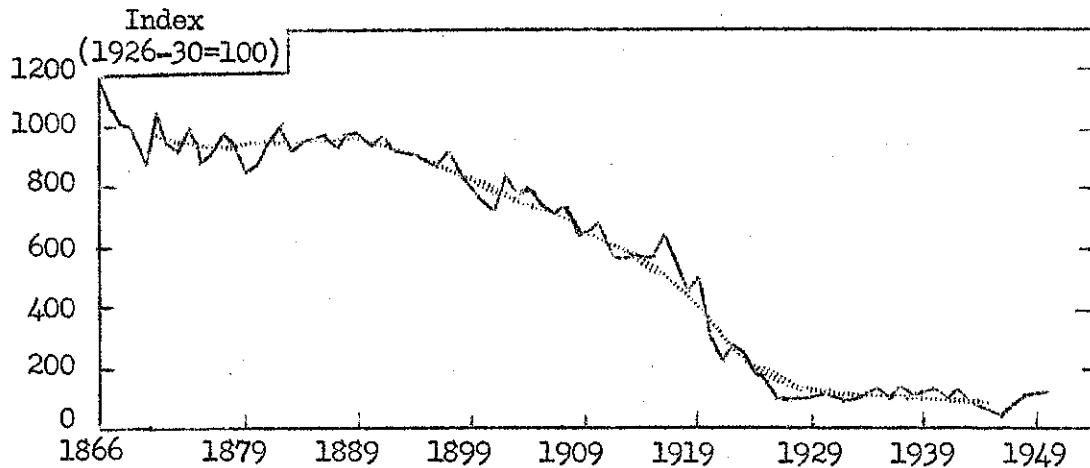
TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF GRAINS (Cont.)  
1866 - 1950 --- New York

OATS  
RYE  
WHEAT

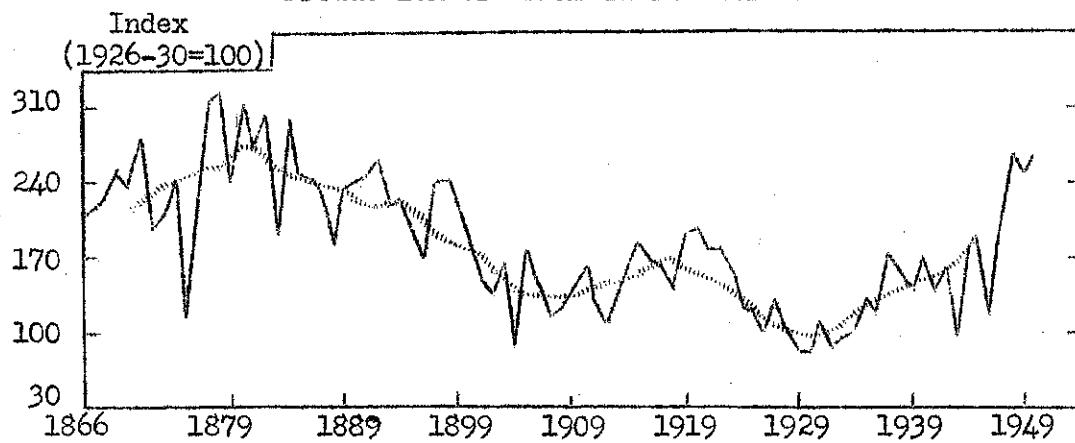
Production of OATS in New York State



Production of RYE in New York State



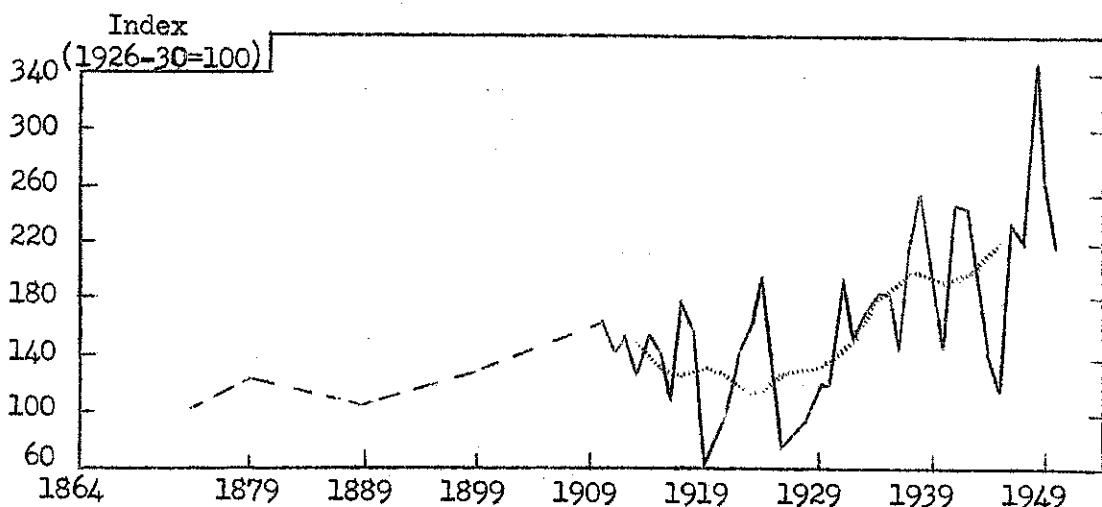
Production of WHEAT in New York State



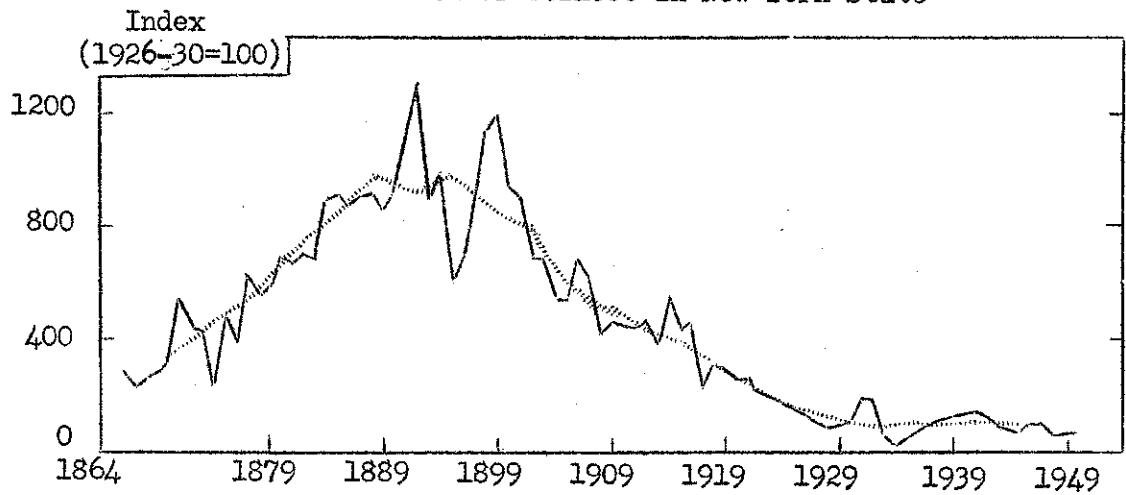
— Yearly Production  
~~~~~ Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF DRY BEANS AND TOBACCO
1864 - 1950 -- New York

Production of DRY BEANS in New York State



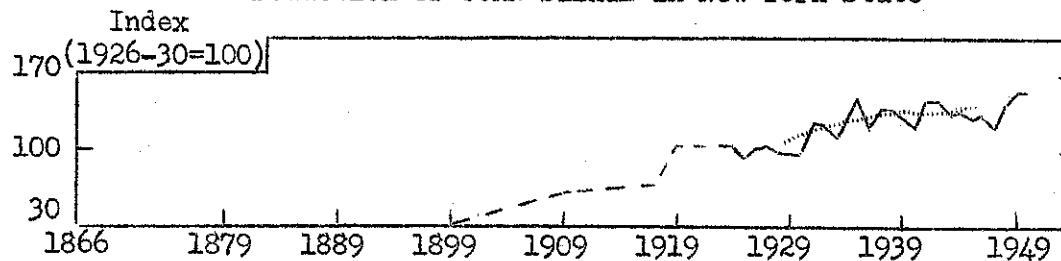
Production of TOBACCO in New York State



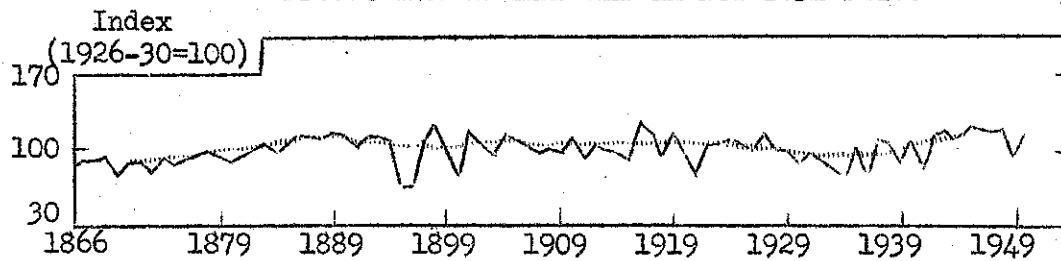
— Yearly Production
- - - - - Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF FORAGE CROPS
1866 - 1950 -- New York

Production of CORN SILAGE in New York State



Production of TAME HAY in New York State



— Yearly Production
---- Ten Year Moving Average

Table 8. LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS - NEW YORK

| Item | Index (1926-30=100) | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| | 10-Year Average 1940-49 | 1950 |
| <u>Number on Hand, Jan. 1:</u> | | |
| Cattle and Calves | 115 | 119 |
| Hogs | 101 | 76 |
| Sheep | 54 | 34 |
| Chickens | 114 | 126 |
| <u>Production:</u> | | |
| Milk | 115 | 129 |
| Eggs | 147 | 175 |
| Wool | 52 | 35 |

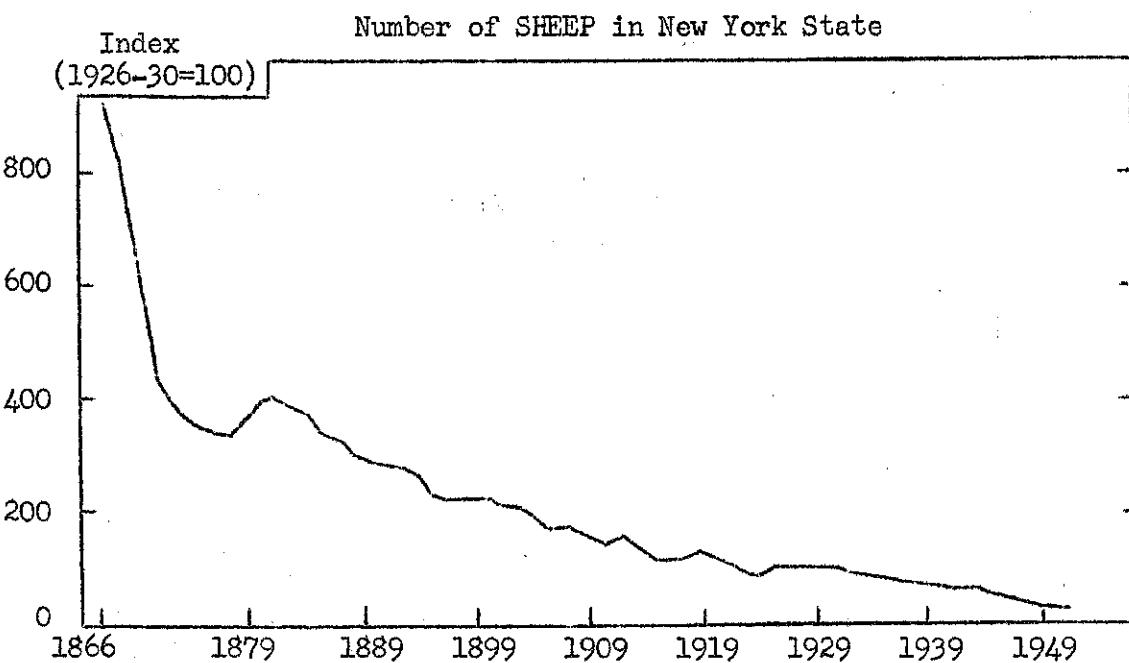
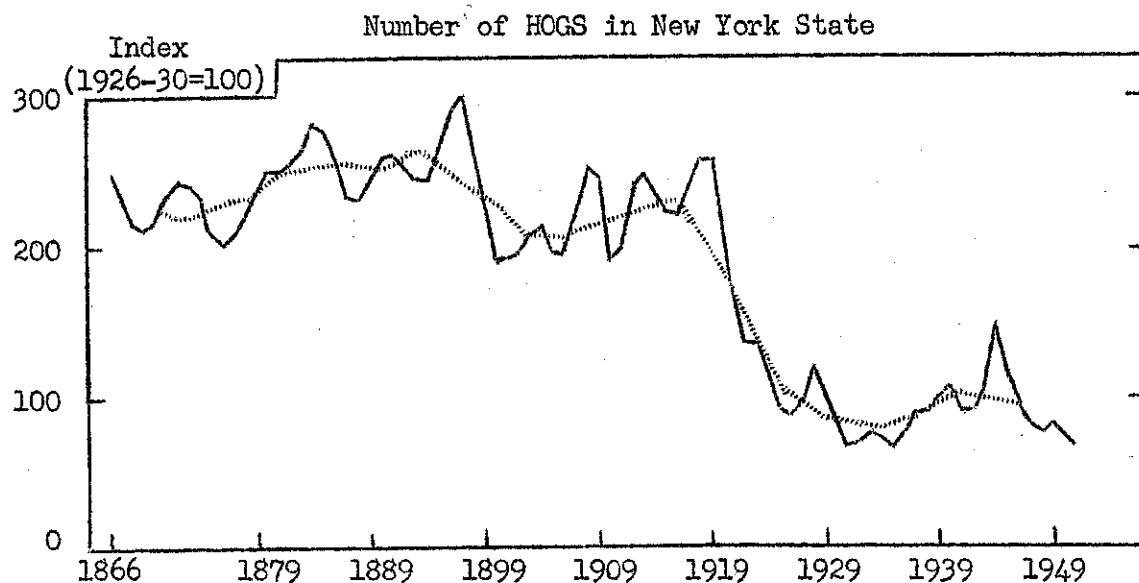
Livestock and Livestock Products - In the 1940's the number of cattle and chickens was about 15% larger than in the 1920's. The number of sheep had declined nearly one-half.

The number of cattle in New York shows both a long-time trend and a cyclical variation around this trend.

Production - Milk production in the 1940's was about 15% larger than in the late '20's and even higher in 1950. The production of eggs has shown even more increase. In the 1940's it was 47% above the base period and in 1950, 75%, an all-time high.

Wool production has continued to decline with the disappearance of sheep from New York farms. Production in the 1940's was about one-half of that in the 1920's and had dropped to nearly one-third by 1950.

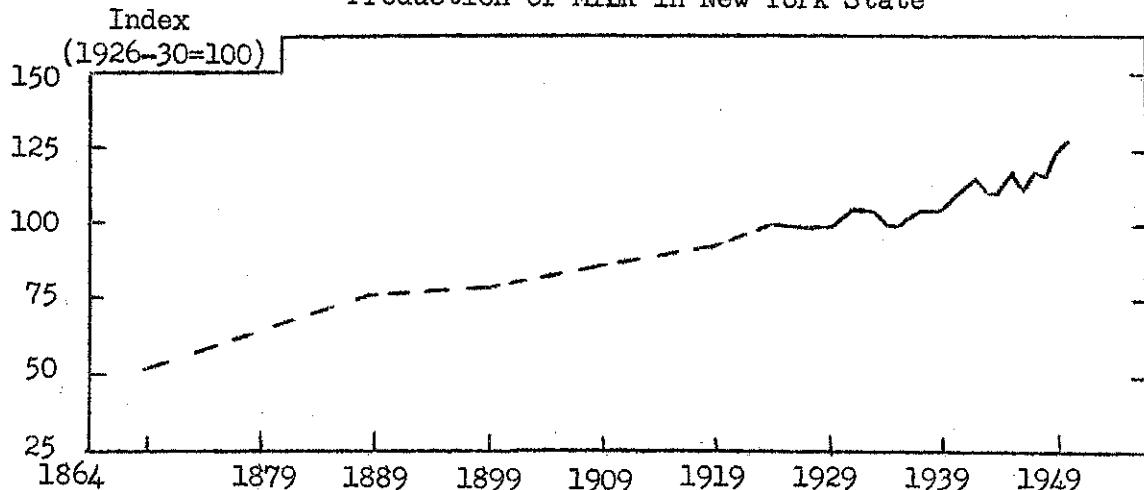
TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS
1866 - 1950 --- New York



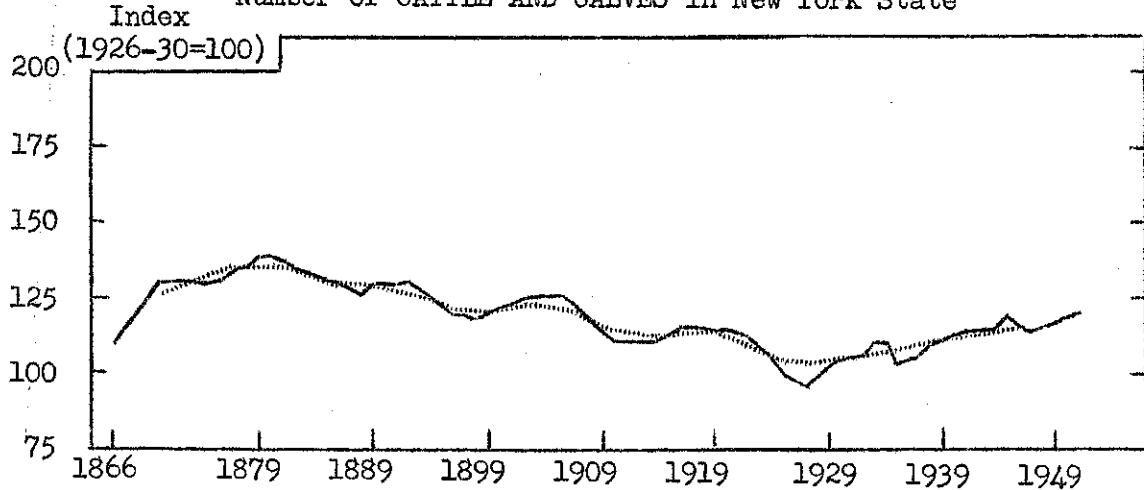
— Yearly Production
····· Ten Year Moving Average

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS (Cont.)
1866 - 1950 -- New York

Production of MILK in New York State



Number of CATTLE AND CALVES in New York State



— Yearly Production
····· Ten Year Moving Average

The term cattle includes dairy cows, heifers, calves, and beef cattle. The number of cattle in New York shows both a long-time trend and a cyclical variation around this trend. From 1879 to 1927 the long-time trend was downward, but since 1927 it has been upward.

TRENDS IN PRODUCTION OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS (Cont.)
1866 - 1950 -- New York