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Negroes
Income
Budget

Economics

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Approved
H. S. Patton

SOURCES AND UTILIZATION OF CASH INCOME OF NEGRO
FARM FAMILIES, VANCE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,
1936.

SOURCES AND UTILIZATION OF CASH INCOME OF NEGRO
FARM FAMILIES, VANCE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,
1936.

A Thesis

Respectfully submitted to the Faculty of the
Michigan State College in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts

Michigan State College

By

Fred Allen Williams

1937

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to make grateful acknowledgment to the 88 farmers of Vance County, North Carolina who so willingly furnished detailed information on their cash receipts and expenditures for farm, family and other living expenses.

The writer is indebted to Messrs. E. L. Payton and L. E. Spencer, county agricultural advisors, for their aid in collecting most of the data on which this study is based.

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INTRODUCTION

In recent years much has been written and said concerning the economic status of Negroes in the South Atlantic States. The conclusions of such discussions have often been conflicting and based upon insufficient information. This study represents an attempt to obtain detailed factual information as to the amount, sources and utilization of cash income of Negro families in a selected county in North Carolina, as a basis for analyzing the economic status and needs of Negro farm owners and tenants in this region, and suggesting adjustments which may be made in the interests of improved living standards.

The county selected for the survey, Vance County, is one in which the writer lived for a period of five years, serving as a teacher of vocational agriculture at Henderson Institute, the local county school for Negroes. It was during this period that the writer became interested in the economic welfare of Negroes in this area, which prompted him to attempt this study.

The primary data for this study were obtained by the use of questionnaires*, which were taken directly at the farm homes, in order to procure the desired information. Data for twenty of the 88 farms in the study were secured by the writer, while data for the remaining 68 were secured by two agricultural workers in the county, who were practically as familiar with the county as the writer. The data collected on these questionnaires were procured from such sources as farm records, ledgers, commercial accounts, receipts, daily record sheets, bills, and by estimates. Errors have been greatly minimized due to the care of the two field assistants.

*Appendix.

The secondary data were secured from the following sources:

1. Bureau of Census, Washington, D. C.
2. Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.
3. North Carolina Township Farm Census, 1936.
4. Studies of Southern Agricultural Experiment Stations.*
5. County Agricultural Extension Program-Reports.**
6. Booklet, Buck, John E., "Vance County, 1881-1931."

Purpose and Scope of Study. The primary purposes of this study are to determine the sources and utilization of cash income of Negro farmers in Vance County, North Carolina, and to arouse interest in the keeping of better farm and household records.

The scope of the study includes:

1. A description of the county and farms studied.
2. Cash income from farm and non-farm sources.
3. Utilization of cash income and saving practices.
4. Analysis of cash income and expenditures on the basis of tenure.
5. The effects of size of farms, education, composition of family, and number of adult workers on cash income and expenditures.

Terminology. In order to avoid possible misunderstanding, some of the terms employed in this study are defined as follows:

1. Gross cash income includes cash receipts obtained from both farm and non-farm sources.

*Includes studies from Kentucky, Alabama, Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

**Includes program-reports from the files of H. E. Webb, County Agent, Vance County, North Carolina, 1936.

2. Net cash income includes that money which remains after subtracting from gross income farm expenses incurred in producing the income, and represents what is available for family living, improvements and savings.
3. Farm expenses includes expenditures incurred in crops, livestock, feed, labor, taxes, cash rent, crop rent, interest, machinery and farm improvements.
4. Family expenditures includes cash spent for home repairs, food, clothing, fuel and general living costs.
5. Investments includes money used for building new homes, personal insurance and taxes on other property.
6. Apparent savings includes the cash which remains after subtracting farm, family and investment expenditures from the gross cash income. This sum also includes money held in saving accounts.
7. Personal taxes includes poll taxes.
8. Personal insurance includes sick benefits, life and endowment policies.
9. Farm-Owner Operator means a landlord who operates his own land whether it is mortgaged or not.
10. Cash-Renter Operator is a tenant who pays a specific cash amount for the lands he cultivates.
11. Cropper-Operator is a tenant who farms on two-thirds cash share basis.
12. Tenants include both straight-croppers and cash renters.

Review of Similar Studies. The following studies have been reviewed in the preparation of this study:

1. A study of Organization and Management of Farms in Grayson County, Virginia, 1931.
2. An Economic Study of Sumter County, South Carolina, 1933.
3. Economic Status of Tenure Groups in Tallapoosa and Chambers Counties in Alabama, 1935.
4. Cost of Living and Population Trends in Laurel County, Kentucky, 1930.
5. Living Conditions Among White Land-Owners in Wake County, North Carolina, 1926.
6. Farm Income and Taxation in North Carolina, 1929.

The studies listed above cover different size samples in the particular counties named in the various states with the exception of the study conducted by the State Tax Commission of North Carolina which included a selected group of 25 counties in the state. The procedure used in collecting the data in these studies was somewhat similar to that used in this study. None of the studies reviewed attempted to analyze the sources of all cash income and the classified expenditures for both farm and family living. Another factor which may be mentioned is that only one of these studies made an attempt to include Negroes, that one being, the Alabama study.

I. DESCRIPTION OF VANCE COUNTY

History. Vance County was created by the General Assembly of North Carolina* on March 5, 1881, and was named for Zebulon B. Vance, who was Governor at that time.

Considerable opposition was incurred during the struggle for the new county, largely due to the fact that the county was to be comprised of certain portions of the three adjoining counties, Granville, Franklin and Warren (Figure 1). The county as organized at that time was designed to be Republican as a result of existing conflicts between a large number of Republicans living near Henderson, and Democrats, who were living in other sections of the three counties. Both White and Negro Republicans fought desperately for the creation of this new county. The favorable relations existing between the races is shown by the fact that the late Dr. Plummer Cheatham, a Negro, was Register of Deeds in Vance County for more than twenty years.

Location and Topography. Vance County is a northern border county of North Carolina (Figure 2). It is bounded on the north by the state of Virginia, on the south by Franklin County, on the east by Warren County and on the west by Granville County. The county lies in the Piedmont Region which extends between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Coastal Plain Region.

The topography of the land ranges from nearly level to rolling, hilly and broken, with many isolated ranges of hills in the vicinity of its lower

*A more detailed historical description of the county is given in a booklet, The History of Vance County from 1881 to 1931, by John E. Buck, Henderson, North Carolina.

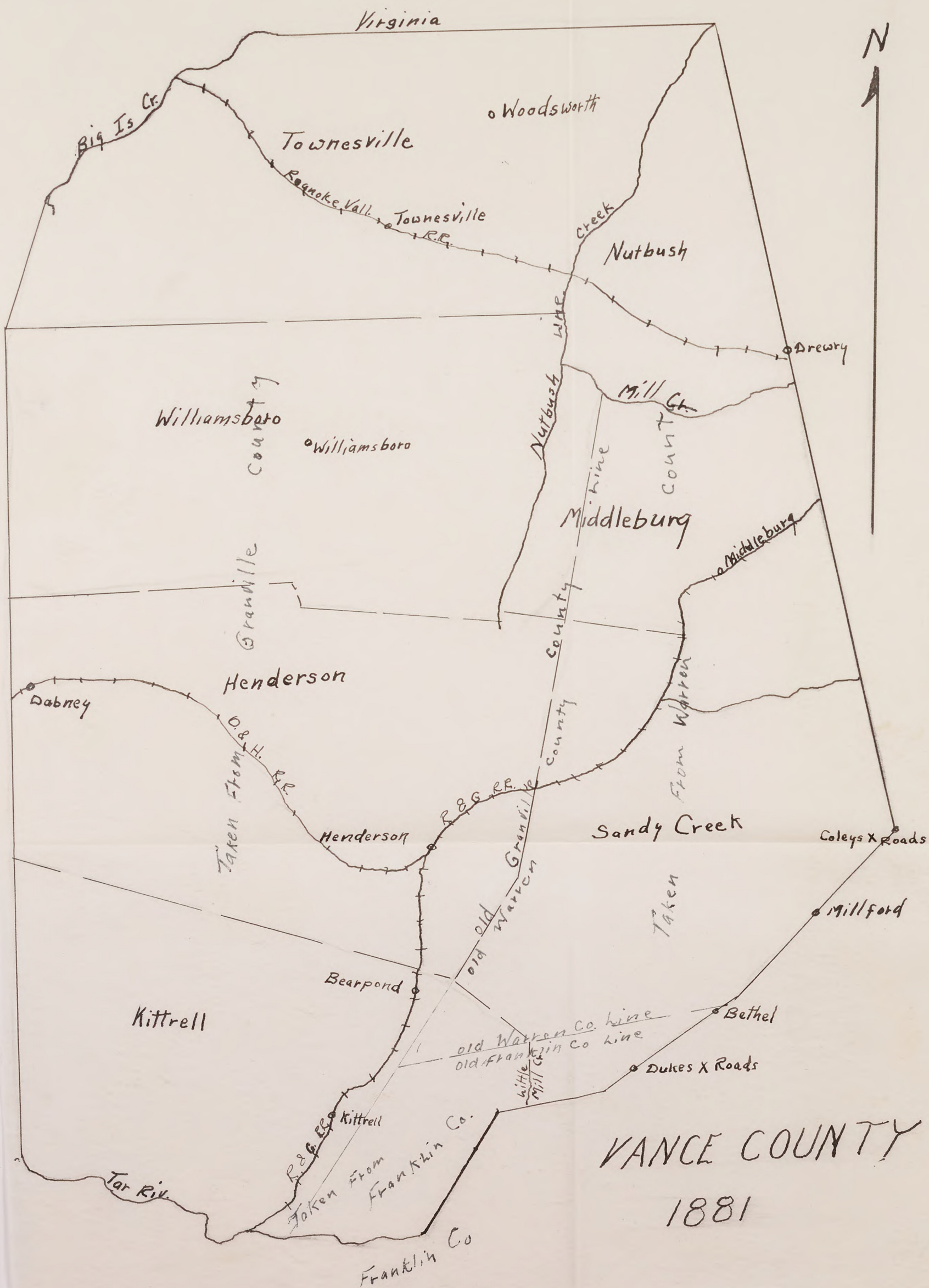
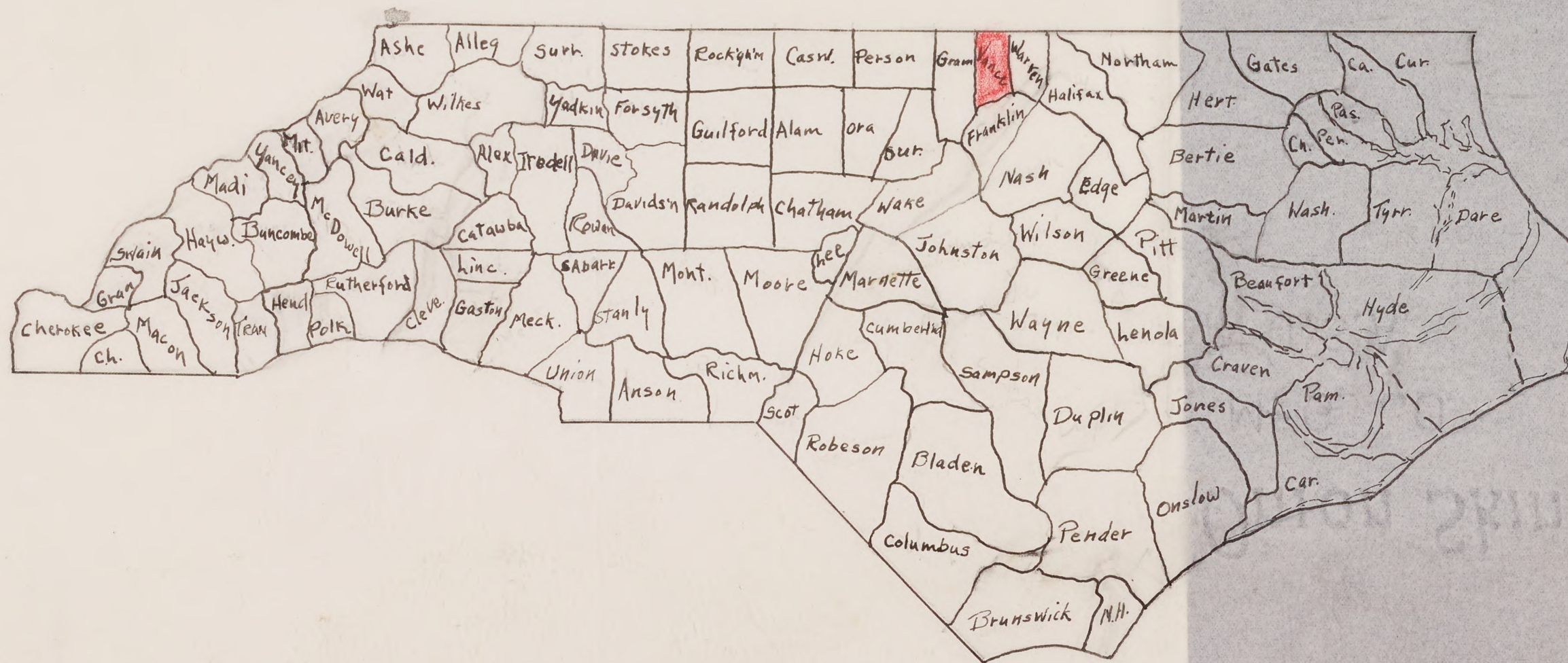


Figure 1.---Counties forming Vance County.





NORTH CAROLINA

Figure 2.---Location of Vance County.



streams. The northern portion of the county is drained by numerous small creeks flowing into the Roanoke River, while the southern portion is drained by the Tar River.

Climate. The area has a mild climate. The average date of the last killing frost is usually about the tenth of April and the first killing frost about the twenty-fifth of October*. This gives the county approximately 200 growing days, which makes it suitable for a diversified agricultural production. The average annual rainfall of about 48.5 inches is usually well distributed throughout the entire year. This heavy rainfall has caused considerable soil erosion and consequently affected the cash income of farmers as a portion of the land previously cultivated has become unfit for crop use.

Soils. Since Vance County lies within the Piedmont Region of the state, its upland soils were formed from weathering and the decomposition of underlying rocks. According to a soil survey** these rocks varied widely in chemical and physical composition. The resulting soils (Figure 3) which vary considerably in texture, color, and structure, are grouped into the following series: (1) Cecil, (2) Durham, (3) Appling, (4) Davidson, (5) Iredell, (6) Wilkes, (7) Georgeville and (8) Alamance. In addition to these upland soils, there are three types of lowland or alluvial soils known as, Roanoke, Congaree, and Meadow.

These soil types make Vance County a suitable area for production of the food, feed, and cash crops commonly produced in the county.***

*Beattie, J. H., "The Farm Garden", U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farmers' Bulletin 1673, pp. 13-18.

**For a more detailed study of soils in Vance County, see "Soil Types in N. C." prepared by Dr. Carl Williams, Soils Department, N. C. State College, Raleigh, North Carolina.

***Agricultural Extension Staff, "Agricultural Program For N. C.", Extension Circular, No. 208, February 1936, pp. 71-72.

The Cecil loams and clays are adapted for general farming, the Alamanace

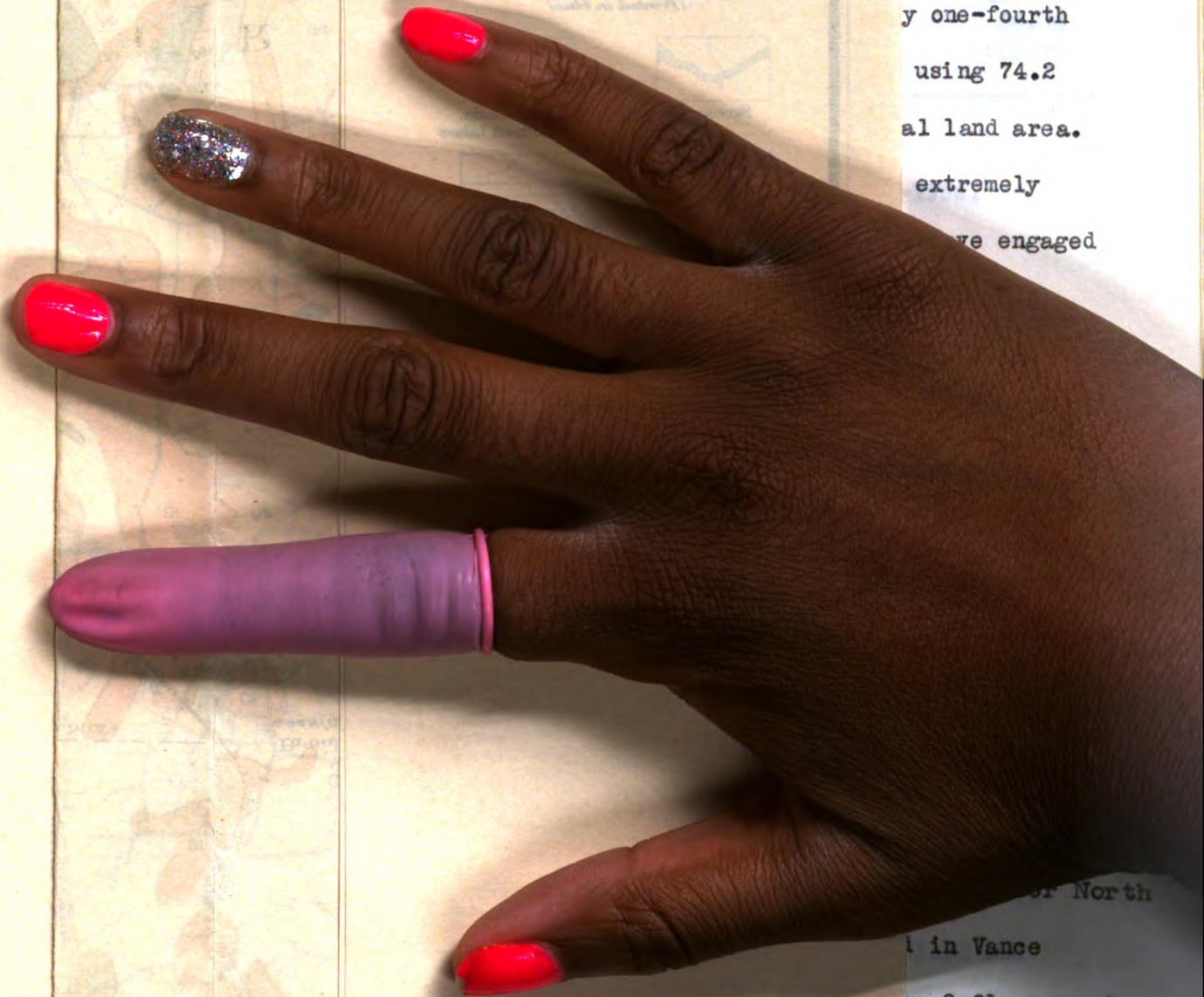
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extremely

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of North
in Vance
; 9.81 percent,
percent, dairy;
classified.



The Cecil loams and clays are adapted for general farming, the Alamanace series for tobacco and truck crops, and the heavier loams and clays such as Wilkes, Durham, Iredell, and Davidson are best adapted for grain, cotton, and hay crops.

Crops and Livestock Production. The most commonly grown cash crops are tobacco and cotton, while the most important crops for home supplies are corn, oats, wheat, hay and potatoes. Crop land occupies nearly one-fourth of the total area of the county, with corn, cotton and tobacco using 74.2 percent of the crop land, and 17.8 percent of the county's total land area. The average production per acre on most farms in the county is extremely low. (Table 1). The production is higher on those farms which have engaged in the agricultural planning programs of extension and vocational workers.

Livestock production is of minor significance. However, work-stock including horses and mules is of considerable importance because they are almost the only source of farm power used in the cultivation of crops. The low number of only 1.2 horses or mules per farm is due largely to the fact that the average farm contains only fifty-five acres of which about fifty per cent is cultivated.

The number of food animals is insufficient for a balanced live-at-home program as the average per farm was: hogs, 1.4; chickens, 10.9; cows, 2.8; and sheep only 0.08.

Type and Size of Farms. The 1935 United States Agricultural Census for North Carolina shows that at least eight types of farms were operated in Vance County. It was estimated that 78.09 percent were tobacco farms; 9.81 percent, cotton; 3.45 percent, general; 0.82 percent, part-time; 0.28 percent, dairy; 0.12 percent, truck; 0.07 percent, forest; and 7.23 percent, unclassified.

Table I. -- Crop Acreage and Production, Vance County, 1935⁽¹⁾

Name of crop	Acreage	Production		Average production per acre	
		Unit	Amount	General practices(2)	Improved practices(3)
Corn	30,088	Bu.	213,893	14.47	37.50
Tobacco	9,343	Lb.	6,878,903	747.00	1,000.00
Cotton	6,988	Lb.	2,695,230	385.00	625.00
Hay	5,250	Ton	4,821	1.08	2.50
Wheat	2,508	Bu.	20,322	8.15	44.00 ✓
Sweet potatoes	800	Bu.	63,391	79.24	250.00
Oats	503	Bu.	693,158	15.86	30.00
White potatoes	356	Bu.	18,808	52.82	140.00

(1) North Carolina Farm Census, 1935.

(2) General average in the county, 1935.

(3) Farmers enrolled in extension and vocational classes, 1932-1935.

Approximately eighty-eight percent were tobacco and cotton farms.

The average size of farms in the county was only 55.5 acres as compared with the state average of 66.2 acres.

Farm Tenure Groups. Sixty-seven percent of the 2,561 in Vance County were operated by White farmers, and the remaining third by Negroes*. It is of interest to note that 784 were operated by full owners, 131 by part owners, 3 by farm managers, 760 by croppers and 833 by cropper renters and cash renters. Thus, only 34.5 percent of the farms in the county were cultivated by farmers who possessed any equity in the farm unit.

The five distinct types of tenants in North Carolina, as well as in the state of Virginia** are: straight croppers, cropper renters, standing renters, stock share renters and cash renters. These types vary to a considerable extent in regards to differences in agreements made by both landlord and

*United States Agricultural Census, 1935.

**Taylor, Clifford C., "Renting Farms in Virginia", Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Blackburg, Virginia, Bulletin 249, May 1926.

tenant. The most important differences are revealed in the following explanations: (1) Straight croppers receive two-thirds of the cash income from cash crops and furnish all labor, work-stock and equipment. In some instances the landlord may share in fertilizer expenses; (2) cropper renters receive either one-third or one-half of the cash income depending upon the amount of work-stock and equipment furnished. Landlords pay a share of the fertilizer, seed and feed used by their tenants; (3) standing renters receive one-half of the cash income, while landlords bear all expenses of fertilizers, seed and marketing. The tenant furnishes all the labor, work-stock and equipment; (4) stock share renters generally receive one-half of the cash income from crops and livestock. The landlord furnishes the farm and one-half interest in the dairy herd, swine, poultry and other livestock excepting work-stock, while the tenant furnishes the work stock, machinery and one-half interest in the other livestock. The landlord also pays one-half of such expenses as fertilizer, seed, transportation and other operating expenses, while the tenant pays the other half of these expenses and furnishes all labor; and (5) cash renters furnish all of the work-stock, machinery, equipment and feed; they receive the entire crop and pay all of the expenses excepting the usual expenses of the landlord such as land taxes, building insurance, repairs and depreciations. A fixed money rent is paid by the tenant to the landlord for the use of the farm.

In the area of this study, the two types which predominate are straight croppers and cash renters. In the former system, a practice exists which is peculiar to the area, namely, that of allowing tenants to receive cash income from fruits, livestock and livestock products up to a certain proportion, providing the tenants plant at least one-fourth of the crop land in tobacco and cotton.

Population. The population of the county was 27,295 in 1935. Of this number 56.14 percent were White, while the remaining 43.86 percent were Negroes. The rural population comprised 76.77 percent, while the rural farm population formed 50.22 percent of the county's population. Thus, sixty-five percent of the rural population are farmers.

Approximately thirty-six percent of the Negroes who lived in rural areas were not engaged in farming. These rural Negroes secure their livelihood through such work as cement workers, stone workers, bag makers and other seasonal work available in Henderson and surrounding territories.

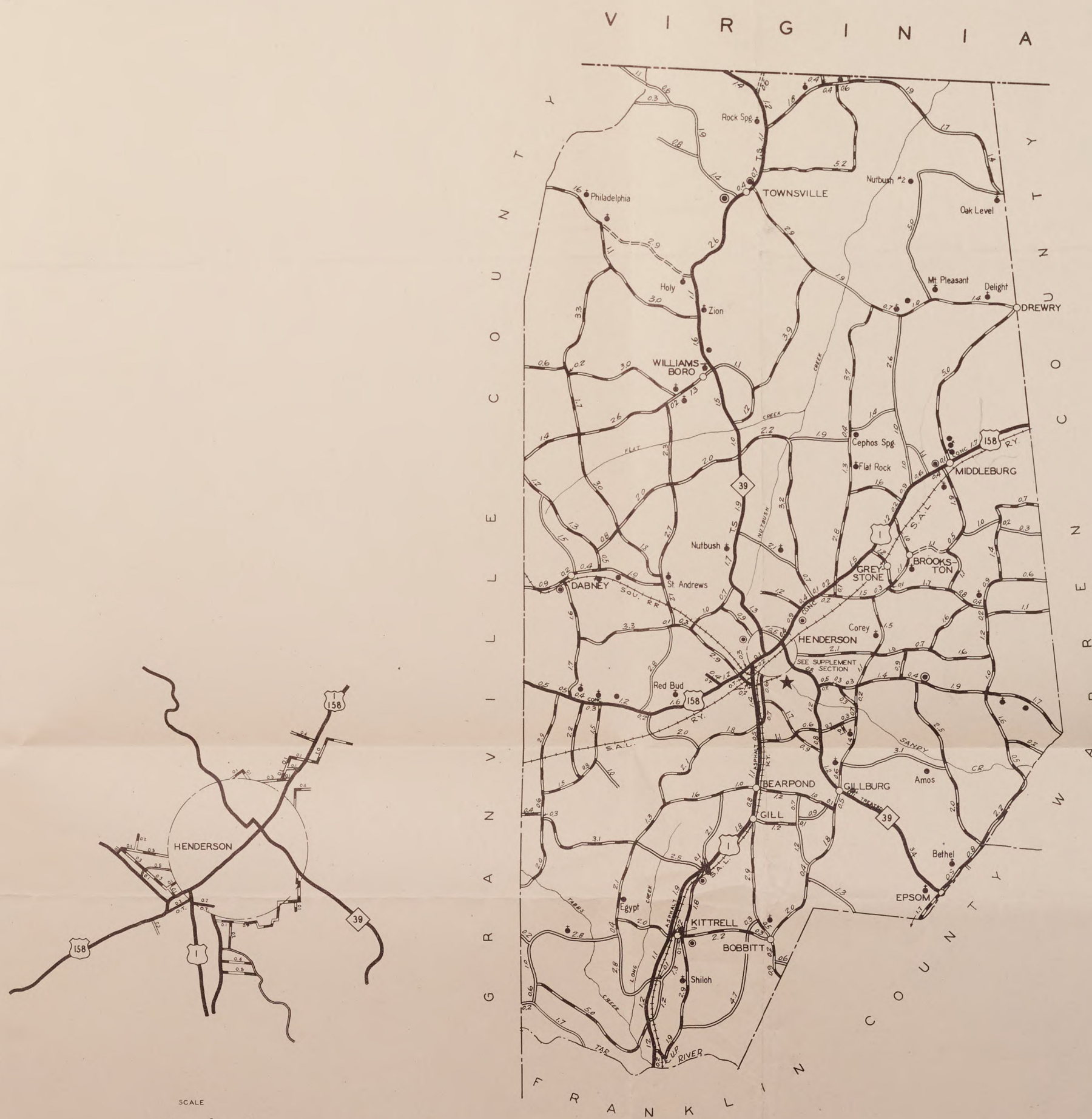
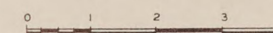
Henderson, which is the only town in the county had a population of 6,345. Thus, 23.0 percent of the total population of the county lived in this urban center of which Negroes comprise 45.0 percent.

Markets and Transportation Facilities. Vance County is located near a large number of thriving cities and towns. Henderson, the county seat is one of the largest tobacco marketing centers in North Carolina. It is also the largest seed cotton market in the state and provides two large cotton mills which consume a large proportion of the lint cotton produced in the county and surrounding areas. Most of the corn, cotton, wheat and vegetables are consumed in the local area, while tobacco and truck crops move into other markets. Two curb markets in Henderson provide an outlet for vegetables and livestock products. A number of smaller as well as larger markets within a distance of fifty miles also provide readily accessible outlets for products grown in the county. The most important of these are Durham, Oxford, Louisburg, Franklinton, Warrenton and Wilson, the largest tobacco market in the South.

The main line of the Seaboard Air Line Railway from New York to Florida serves the county (Figure 4). This railway operates a branch line from

VANCE COUNTY DIV. C DIST. I

SCALE
MILES



LEGEND

STATE HIGHWAYS	
COUNTY ROAD TYPES	
HARD SURFACE	
T.S. - SC - GRAVEL	
GRADED	
UNIMPROVED	
CONSOL. SCHOOLS	
PRISON CAMP	
RAILROADS	
OVERHEAD XING	O.H.
UNDERPASS	U.P.
ELEC. SIGNAL	E.S.
OTHER SCHOOLS	
CHURCHES	

Figure 4.--Railways and highways in Vance County.

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Henderson, North Carolina to Norfolk, Virginia. The Southern Railway operates a branch line from Henderson to Durham, North Carolina, a tobacco manufacturing center.

There are three hardsurface highways which run through the county, one of which is the United States Highway Number One. These highways radiate from the principal cities of the state and furnish connection with all counties of the state and other states both north and south of the county. Over this network of highways, fast freight and express truck lines operate among the principal cities of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, and many of the eastern states.

II. DESCRIPTION OF FARMS AND FARM FAMILIES STUDIED

Location of Farms. The 88 farms included in the study were located in seven of the nine townships in Vance County. The distribution was as follows: Henderson, 19; Townsville, 19; Kittrell, 18; Williamsboro, 14; Middleburg, 12; Nutbush, 5; and Dabney, 1; (Figure 5). Since Negroes are sparsely settled in both Sandy Creek and Watson townships, no samples were taken in these two areas.

Tenure of Farms. Of the 88 farms, 64 or 72.8 percent, were operated by owners, while the remaining 24 or 27.2 percent were operated by tenants, of which 21 or 23.8 percent were operated by straight croppers and the remaining 3 or 3.4 percent by cash renters. The sample of farms selected contained more than twice as large a percentage of owner farms as did the entire county.

Size of Farms. The farms studied ranged from 10 to 400 acres, averaging 63.1 acres per farm, which was 3.1 acres less than the average for the state and 7.6 acres more than the average for the county. Sixty percent of the farms were less than 50 acres in size, while the average was 72.7 acres on farms operated by owners and 37.6 acres on those operated by tenants. Thirty-six percent of the farms cultivated by owners and sixty-six percent by tenants were less than 30 acres in size. Six farms had ten acres or less (Table 2), and only four farms or 4.6 percent had more than 200 acres.

Utilization of Land. The average number of acres in crops for all farms was 34.2 acres (Table 3), or 54 percent of the total acreage.



Figure 5.--Location of Farms Studied.



Table 2.--Size of Farms

Acres in farms	Owners		Croppers		Renters		All farms		Cumulative
	No.	Per-cent	No.	Per-cent	No.	Per-cent	No.	Per-cent	
0-10	6	9.4	0	--	0	--	6	6.8	6.8
11-20	6	9.4	2	9.5	1	33.3	10	11.5	18.3
21-30	11	17.2	12	57.1	1	33.3	24	27.3	45.6
31-40	6	9.4	2	9.5	0	--	8	9.0	54.6
41-50	6	9.4	0	--	0	--	5	5.7	60.3
51-60	5	7.8	2	9.5	1	33.3	8	9.0	69.3
61-70	2	3.1	0	--	0	--	2	2.3	71.6
71-80	4	6.2	1	4.8	0	--	5	5.7	77.3
81-90	2	3.1	0	--	0	--	2	2.3	79.6
91-100	6	9.4	1	4.8	0	--	7	7.9	87.5
101-200	6	9.4	1	4.8	0	--	7	7.9	95.4
200 and over	4	6.2	0	--	0	--	4	4.6	100.0
Total	64	100.0	21	100.0	3	99.9	88	100.0	

Woods occupied nearly 25 percent of the total land area, while idle crop land consisted of about 12 percent of the area which is due in part to such factors as, reduction in tobacco acreage and the low productivity of some soils on most farms.

Pasture land was exceptionally low on most farms with the average being only six acres. However, farmers in this area of the state are starting to replace soil depleting crops with temporary pasture crops, evidenced by the fact that plowable pasture increased from 3,795 acres in 1930 to 5,061 acres in 1935.*

Livestock. The livestock production program on the 88 farms studied was of little significance in providing cash income from livestock and livestock products. However, animal power was of importance in that it provided the power necessary to produce the crops from which farmers received most of their cash income.

*United States Agricultural Census, North Carolina, 1935.

Table 3.--Utilization of Land

Use of land	Owners			Croppers			Renters			All farms		
	Total acres	Ave. acres	Per- cent	Total acres	Ave. acres	Per- cent	Total acres	Ave. acres	Per- cent	Total acres	Ave. acres	Per- cent
Crops	2413	37.7	52.0	525	25.0	66.2	67	22.3	61.0	3005	34.2	54.3
Pasture	449	7.0	9.6	75	3.5	9.4	11	3.7	10.0	535	6.1	9.7
Woods	1070	16.7	23.0	118	5.6	14.9	16	5.3	14.5	1204	13.7	21.7
Idle crop land	575	8.9	12.4	58	2.7	7.3	13	4.3	11.8	646	7.4	11.9
Farmstead	127	1.9	3.0	18	0.8	2.2	3	1.0	2.7	148	1.7	2.4
Total	4634	72.2	100.0	794	37.6	100.0	110	36.6	100.0	5538	63.1	100.0

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The average number of horses and mules amounted to only 2.1 per farm (Table 4). The largest number of mules on a single farm was five, with only two families having that number. Most farms used mules instead of horses, the ratio being five to one, as they are a cheaper source of work power in the area.

The average number of cows of only 1.1 per farm and the fact that 15 families or 17.0 percent of them were without any cows, indicate that families are consuming a very small amount of milk.

Poultry flocks averaged 72.9 birds per farm, which was two-thirds larger than the average size flock in the county. The largest flock was 250, while the smallest flock was eight. One farm did not have any poultry. On the whole the flocks were larger on owner farms as the size of poultry flocks was limited by landlords on most farms operated by tenants, a practice which is common in most sections of the South.

Hogs were raised on most farms as a source of food, although they furnished a limited source of cash income.

Table 4.--Livestock on Farms

Kind of livestock	Owners		Croppers		Renters		All farms	
	Total	Ave.	Total	Ave.	Total	Ave.	Total	Ave.
Horses	23	0.3	7	0.3	0	0	30	0.03
Mules	125	1.9	27	1.3	5	1.7	157	1.8
Cows	67	1.04	25	1.2	5	1.7	97	1.1
Calves	62	0.96	16	0.7	0	0	78	0.08
Swine	318	4.9	67	3.1	4	4	397	4.5
Poultry	5285	82.6	747	35.5	390	130	6422	72.9

Size of Families. Thirty-six percent of all the families studied had at least five persons per family, the average family consisting of 6.8 persons.

Of the sixty-four owners, 37.0 percent had from six to eight persons in their families, while 47.6 percent of the croppers had the same number.

On the whole, the croppers had larger families than owners, as 33 percent of the former had families of over eight, as compared with 21.8 percent of owners (Table 5). The foregoing data include all persons living on farms, even though they are supported not only from the cash income available from various farm sales but also from other sources.

Table 5.--Size of Families

Number in family	Owners		Croppers		Renters		All farms	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
0-2	1	1.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.2
3-5	25	39.1	4	19.1	2	66.6	31	35.2
6-8	24	37.6	10	47.6	1	33.3	35	39.7
9-11	14	21.8	6	28.6	0	0.0	20	22.7
12 or more	0	0.0	1	4.7	0	0.0	1	1.2
Total	64	100.0	21	100.0	3	99.9	88	100.0

Ages of Family Members. Nearly seventy percent of the persons in the families studied were less than 21 years of age (Table 5). Approximately 44 percent of the persons were less than 15 years of age, while 15 percent were less than seven years of age. The age composition means that most of the farming operations are carried on by about fifty-six percent of the family membership.

Table 6.--Composition of Families by Age and Tenure

Age groups	Owners		Croppers		Cash Renters		All farms	
	No. of persons	Per- cent	No. of persons	Per- cent	No. of persons	Per- cent	No. of persons	Per- cent
0-6	56	13.7	31	18.0	3	21.5	90	15.1
7-14	110	26.8	60	34.9	2	14.2	172	29.0
15-20	101	24.6	43	25.0	3	21.5	147	24.6
21 and above	143	34.9	38	22.1	6	42.8	187	31.3
Total	410	100.0	172	100.0	14	100.0	596	100.0

Ages of Operators. Farm operators included in this study are in the most productive period of life since 71.6 percent of the group was between thirty-five and forty-four years of age (Table 7). Ninety-two percent of the total were less than sixty years old. No farm operator was over 64, and only two who were cash renters were less than 25. The average age of all farm operators was 47.3 years, the average among owners being 47.9 years and 45.6 years among tenants.

Table 7.--Ages of Farm Operators

Age group	Owners		Croppers		Renters		All Farms	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
20-24	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	66.6	2	2.3
25-29	0	0.0	1	4.8	-	-	1	1.2
30-34	3	4.7	1	4.8	-	-	4	4.5
35-39	4	6.2	1	4.8	-	-	5	5.7
40-44	15	23.6	4	19.0	-	-	19	21.6
45-49	11	17.1	6	28.6	-	-	17	19.3
50-54	18	28.1	4	19.0	-	-	22	25.0
55-59	8	12.4	2	9.5	1	33.3	11	12.5
60-64	5	7.9	2	9.5	-	-	7	7.9
65 and over	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-	0	0.0
Total	64	100.0	21	100.0	3	99.9	88	100.0

Education of Operators. The relation of education to farm income is significant. It is generally agreed that education in its broader sense has the effect of raising the standard of living. However, there is no definite method of measuring it. Formal education is more easily measured than general education. The school grade completed by farm operators is used as a measurement in this study. Of the 88 farmers in this study only one had attended college, while three had received no formal schooling (Table 8). The average number of years spent in school by farm owners was 4.5 years, while the average for the entire group was 4.4 years. Only 30 percent of the farm operators had attended school beyond the fourth grade. However, at least fifty percent had attended vocational agriculture and extension classes.

Table 8.—Education of Farm Operators

Grades completed	Owners		Croppers		Renters		All farms	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
0	0	0.0	2	9.5	1	33.3	3	3.4
1	2	3.1	0	0.0	0	-	3	2.3
2	11	17.1	2	9.5	0	-	13	14.8
3	9	14.0	5	23.9	0	-	14	15.9
4	15	23.6	4	19.0	0	-	19	21.6
5	5	7.9	1	4.8	0	-	6	6.8
6	10	15.6	3	14.3	0	-	13	14.8
7	5	7.9	2	9.5	0	-	7	7.9
8	3	4.7	0	0.0	0	-	3	3.4
9	1	1.5	2	9.5	0	-	3	3.4
10	2	3.1	0	0.0	2	66.6	4	4.5
11	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	-	0	0.0
12	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	-	0	0.0
Attended college	1	1.5	0	0.0	0	-	1	1.2
Total	64	100.0	21	100.0	3	99.9	88	100.0

III. AMOUNT AND SOURCES OF CASH INCOME

The amount of cash income largely determines the standard of living of farmers. It sets the limits to possible expenditures, and the manner in which these incomes are expended provides an index to the standard of living maintained by a farm family. Cash income as used in this study includes all the money earned or received by the entire family during the year, 1936. It does not include the value of commodities such as food and fuel which are produced on the farm and used in the home nor does it include the rental value of the farm home occupied by the family. Home produced products enabled many of the families included in this study to live more comfortably and enjoy a degree of economic security which they would not have otherwise obtained.

Gross Cash Income. The operators of the 88 farms in this study received during 1936, a total of \$143,214 in cash, or an average of \$1,627.09 per farm (Table 9), as compared with an average of \$1,894 on 311 farms in the Piedmont Region of North Carolina, during 1928.* Eighty-seven percent came from the sales of crops, 5.8 percent from livestock and livestock products, 2.2 percent from fruits, and the balance of 4.7 percent came from other sources such as labor off farm, sale of firewood and rent from farm property and from relief, benefit payments, gifts, boarders and fair premiums.

The average cash income on farms operated by owners was \$1,814.39, while the average on tenant farms was \$1,131.03 (Table 10). Crops contributed 86.6 percent of the total cash receipts received by owners and 89.9 percent of that received by tenants.

*Farm Income and Taxation in North Carolina, Tax Commission of North Carolina, June 1929.

Table 9.--Sources of Gross Cash Income

Sources	Total cash income	Ave. cash income per farm	Percent, of total cash income
	Dollars	Dollars	
Crops (1)	124,996	1,420.07	87.3
Fruits (2)	3,164	35.95	2.2
Livestock (3)	8,312	94.45	5.8
Other sources	6,742	76.62	4.7
Total	143,214	1,627.09	100.0

(1) Includes potatoes, melons, and vegetables.

(2) Includes tree and small fruits.

(3) Includes livestock products.

Table 10.--Sources of Cash Income of Owner and Tenant Farms

Sources	Average per farm		Proportion of total	
	Owners	Tenants	Owners	Tenants
	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
Crops	1,571.68	1,017.00	86.6	89.9
Fruits	46.89	6.79	2.6	0.6
Livestock	94.65	93.95	5.2	8.3
Other sources	101.17	13.29	5.6	1.2
Total	1,814.39	1,131.03	100.0	100.0

Gross Cash Income Groups. About two-fifths of the farms studied had annual gross cash incomes of less than \$1,000, another two-fifths had incomes from \$1,001 to \$2,000, and the incomes on the remaining 17 farms were over \$2,000 (Table 11).

Of the low income groups, one farmer received less than \$400, while two in the extremely high group for the area studied received more than \$5,000. Almost 32 percent of the owners and 63 percent of the tenants received cash incomes of less than \$1000, while 26 percent of the owners and only 8.4 percent of the tenants received incomes above \$2,000.

From such a distribution of incomes one can obviously conclude that there is a wide range in the standard of living among Negro farmers, from poverty at the lower extreme to a relatively high standard among a few

farm families.

Table 11.--Distribution of Gross Cash Income by Groups

Income groups	Owners		Tenants		All Farms	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Dollars						
1-200	--	--	--	--	--	--
201-400	--	--	1	4.2	1	1.2
401-600	5	7.8	4	16.6	9	10.2
601-800	10	15.6	4	16.6	14	16.0
801-1000	5	7.8	6	25.0	11	12.5
1001-1200	6	9.4	1	4.2	7	7.9
1201-1400	8	12.5	4	16.6	12	13.6
1401-1600	6	9.4	--	--	6	6.8
1601-1800	5	7.8	2	8.4	7	7.9
1801-2000	2	3.2	--	--	2	2.3
2000 and over	17	26.5	2	8.4	19	21.6
Total	64	100.0	24	100.0	88	100.0

Cash Crop Sales The fact that 83 percent of the cash income of the farms studied was from tobacco and cotton shows that the prevailing type of agriculture in the area is the raising of these cash crops which are produced on small farm units by the use of considerable family labor (Table 12).

All but one of the farms studied sold tobacco as a cash crop. The total sales of \$95,588 amounted to 76.5 percent of the cash income from crops and to two-thirds of the total cash income. The average cash income from tobacco on those farms making sales was \$1,098.71.

Cotton sales which were made by 82 farmers amounted to \$22,984 or to approximately one-fifth of the crop sales and a little over one-sixth of the cash gross income. On those farms selling cotton, the average receipts were \$280.29.

Although the farms as a group produced considerable amounts of corn, wheat, potatoes, cantaloupes, watermelons, sorghum and vegetables, these items accounted for only 16.1 percent of the crop income and 4.6 percent of the gross cash income. It is apparent from a comparison of tables 1

and 12 that these products were consumed mostly on the farms where grown.

Table 12.--Cash Income from Crops

Crops	No. of farms selling crops	Percent of farms selling crops	Total crop sales	Ave. sales of farms selling crops	Ave. crop sales of 88 farms	Percent of crop sales	Percent of gross cash income
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
Tobacco	87	98.8	95,588	1,098.71	1,086.11	76.5	66.7
Cotton	82	93.1	22,984	280.29	261.14	18.4	16.0
Corn	35	39.7	1,678	47.94	19.06	1.4	1.2
Wheat	26	29.5	690	26.53	7.84	0.5	0.5
W. potatoes	25	28.4	857	34.28	9.70	0.6	0.6
S. potatoes	15	17.0	488	32.53	5.54	0.4	0.4
Cantaloupes	24	27.2	1,190	49.58	13.52	0.9	0.8
Watermelons	17	19.3	253	14.88	2.87	0.2	0.2
Sorghum (1)	34	38.6	852	25.05	9.68	0.7	0.6
Corn (2)	13	14.7	153	11.76	1.73	0.1	0.1
Vegetables	14	15.9	263	18.78	2.98	0.3	0.2
Total	--	----	124,996	-----	1,420.17	100.0	87.3

(1) Sorghum for syrup.

(2) Corn for meal (market)

Table 13.--Cash Income from Crops of Owner and Tenant Farms

Crops	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of farms selling crops	Percent of farms selling crops	Ave. sales of farms selling crops	No. of farms selling crops	Percent selling crops	Ave. sales of farms selling crops
			Dollars			Dollars
Tobacco	64	100.0	1,195.43	23	95.8	829.56
Cotton	60	93.7	307.22	22	91.6	206.68
Corn	31	48.4	50.03	4	16.6	31.75
Wheat	18	65.6	30.61	8	33.3	18.25
W. potatoes	23	35.9	34.21	2	8.3	35.00
S. potatoes	14	21.8	34.28	1	4.1	8.00
Cantaloupes	19	29.6	48.15	5	20.8	55.00
Watermelons	13	20.3	15.46	4	16.6	13.00
Sorghum	34	53.1	25.05	-	----	-----
Corn	10	15.6	12.80	3	12.5	8.33
Vegetables	9	14.0	19.77	5	20.8	17.00

Although crop sales were considerably larger on owner than on tenant farms, crops constituted about the same proportion of the total sales for each group, namely, 86 and 90 percent, respectively. All of the owners sold

tobacco averaging \$1,195 per farm, while all but one of the tenants made tobacco sales averaging \$829.56 per farm (Table 13). The owners also received about \$100 more per farm for cotton than did the tenants. Tenants received less cash income from other crops than did the owners, probably due in a large measure to the fact that restrictions placed on the acreage of minor cash crops on tenant farms prohibited sales from such being larger.

Cash Fruit Sales. Cash income from fruit sales was insignificant, amounting to only \$3,164 for all farms, which was only 2.2 percent of the gross cash income (Table 14).

Less than a third of the farms sold fruits, with peaches, pears, and apples accounting for more than two-thirds of the cash income received from fruits by the farms making sales.

Small fruits, including dewberries, strawberries and grapes provided only \$298 in cash, but it was an indication of the fact that Negro farmers are beginning to enter into this farm enterprise as a source of cash income, an enterprise carried on for many years among German farmers in Vance County.

Most of the fruit sales were made on the local Negro curb market, organized in 1933 and located in Henderson, the county seat. However, a number of the farmers are still engaged in selling fruits by peddling from house-to-house.

Almost all of the fruit sold was by owners, as only five tenants made fruit sales (Table 15). There are possibilities of an expansion of small fruit production by some tenant farmers as shown by the fact that one tenant received \$100 from strawberries. About one-half of the owners sold tree fruits in the local markets.

Cash Income from Animals and Animal Products. Total cash receipts of \$8,312 from animal and animal products amounted to only 5.8 percent of the

Table 14.--Cash Income From Fruits

Fruits	No. of farms selling	Percent of farms selling	Total sales	Ave. sales of farms selling	Ave. sales of 88 farms	Percent of fruit income	Per- cent of gross cash income
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
Apples	33	37.5	662	20.06	7.52	20.9	0.46
Peaches	35	39.7	679	19.40	7.71	21.5	0.47
Pears	32	36.3	790	24.68	8.97	24.9	0.55
Plums	4	4.5	32	8.00	0.36	1.0	0.03
Cherries	8	9.0	136	17.00	1.54	4.3	0.09
Dewberries	6	6.8	107	17.83	1.21	3.4	0.07
Strawberries	5	3.4	110	36.66	1.25	3.5	0.07
Canned fruits	15	17.0	567	37.80	6.44	17.9	0.39
Grapes	8	9.0	81	10.12	0.92	2.6	0.05
Total	--	----	3,164	-----	35.92	100.0	2.2

Table 15.--Cash Income From Fruits of Owner and Tenant Farms

Fruits	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of farms selling	Percent of farms selling	Ave. sales of farms selling	No. of farms selling	Percent of farms selling	Ave. Sales of farms selling
			Dollars			Dollars
Apples	31	48.4	20.87	2	8.3	8.50
Peaches	34	53.1	19.97	1	4.1	15.00
Pears	32	50.0	24.68	-	---	-----
Plums	4	6.2	8.00	-	---	-----
Cherries	8	12.5	17.00	-	---	-----
Dewberries	6	9.3	17.83	-	---	-----
Strawberries	2	4.6	5.00	1	4.1	100.00
Canned fruits	12	23.4	47.25	3	12.1	10.34
Grapes	8	12.5	10.10	-	---	-----

gross cash income (Table 16). Thus, cash income from this source was of little significance on most farms. However, Negro farmers in the area studied are becoming inclined to diversify their production program in order to secure as much cash income as possible, without depending on a single source.

Swine and cattle sales contributed more than two-thirds of the cash income received from animal and animal products on those farms making such sales, which was only about four percent of the gross cash income. Swine

sales also constituted about two-thirds of the animal sales for both owner and tenant farmers, averaging \$60.59 and \$46.31, respectively (Table 17).

Most of the farms produced animals and animal products but they were primarily used to supply home demands for meat and animal products, although approximately one-third of the farms made sales of their surplus products on local markets.

Table 16.--Cash Income From Animals and Animal Products

Kind	No. of farms selling	Percent of farms selling	Total sales	Ave. sales of farms selling	Ave. sales of all farms	Percent of Live- stock income	Percent of gross cash income
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
Swine (1)	60	68.1	3,407	56.76	38.71	40.9	2.37
Cattle and Calves (2)	34	38.6	2,356	69.29	26.77	28.4	1.64
Horses and mules	4	4.5	378	94.50	4.25	4.5	0.26
Poultry (3)	30	34.0	678	22.60	7.70	8.3	0.48
Other animals (4)	5	5.6	112	22.40	1.27	1.4	0.08
Eggs	34	38.6	474	13.94	4.38	5.7	0.33
Milk	21	23.8	504	24.00	5.72	6.0	0.35
Butter	21	23.8	377	17.95	4.28	4.5	0.27
Honey	2	2.2	26	13.00	0.29	0.3	0.01
Total	--	----	8,312	-----	93.37	100.0	5.8

(1) Includes young pigs and market hogs.

(2) Includes butchered calves and cows.

(3) Includes chickens, turkeys and guineas.

(4) Includes hunting and pet animals.

Table 17.--Cash Income From Animals and Animal Products
of Owner and Tenant Farms

Kind	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of farms selling	Percent of farms selling	Ave. sales of farms selling	No. of farms selling	Percent of farms selling	Ave. sales of farms selling
			Dollars			Dollars
Swine	44	68.7	60.59	16	66.6	46.31
Cattle and calves	26	40.6	63.30	8	33.3	88.75
Horses and mules	1	1.5	80.00	3	12.5	99.33
Poultry	21	32.8	25.47	9	37.5	15.88
Other animals	1	1.5	22.00	4	16.6	22.50
Eggs	29	45.3	13.89	5	20.8	14.20
Milk	15	23.4	22.13	6	25.0	28.66
Butter	20	31.2	17.35	1	4.0	30.00
Honey	2	3.1	13.00	-	----	-----

A greater proportion of the owners, as would be expected, made live-stock and livestock products sales. However, the proportion of tenants making such sales was also high, indicating that tenants are seeking to increase their cash income from those sources which would receive no deductions from their landlords, and thus, be in a position to spend more for family living as well as for the operation of the farming business.

Other Sources of Cash Income. Cash income from sources other than those discussed above contributed a total of \$6,742 in cash, from at least fourteen different sources (Table 18).

Table 18.--Cash Income from Other Sources

Items	No. of farms receiving income	Percent of farms receiving income	Total cash income received	Ave. sales of farms selling	Ave. cash income received from all farms	Percent received from other sources	Percent of gross cash income
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
Labor elsewhere	12	13.6	1,247	103.91	14.17	18.5	0.87
Firewood	42	47.7	1,989	47.35	22.60	29.5	1.39
Rent from land	6	6.8	1,388	231.33	15.77	20.6	0.97
Rent from bldgs.	12	13.6	362	30.16	4.11	5.4	0.25
Rent from team	4	4.5	14	3.50	0.16	0.2	0.009
Rent from trucks	2	2.2	29	14.50	0.53	0.4	0.02
Benefit payments	3	3.4	285	95.00	3.25	4.2	0.20
Boarders	2	2.2	600	300.00	68.18	9.0	0.42
Fair Premiums	21	23.8	136	6.47	1.54	2.0	0.09
Gifts	5	5.6	185	37.00	2.10	2.8	0.13
Relief	2	2.2	25	12.50	0.28	0.3	0.02
Bonuses	1	1.1	125	125.00	1.42	1.8	0.09
Miscellaneous (1)	6	6.8	357	57.82	4.05	5.3	0.25
Total	--	----	6,742	-----	137.94	100.0	4.7

(1) Includes day boarders, litter and vegetable plants.

Firewood is a more or less definite source of additional income for most farmers in Vance County, primarily because of the available supply of growing timber and the large number of families who use wood as a cheap source of fuel for cooking and heating purposes. About one-half of the

families sold firewood and received an average of \$47.35 per farm.

Firewood, rent from farm land and labor off the farm accounted for more than three-fifths of the cash income received from other sources while cash income from boarders, rent from farm buildings and miscellaneous receipts figured quite heavily in the remaining two-fifths.

Only three farmers received benefit payments from the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, which makes it apparent that Negro farmers in the area of the study failed to make application for participation in the Agricultural Adjustment Program.

Approximately one-fifteenth of the owners received income from rent of land not used by themselves, amounting to over one-fourth of the cash income derived from other sources of income, which indicates that a fair number of farmers, especially owners, have made investments in farm property as a means of securing a better standard of living due to this additional income, (Table 19).

Very few families, either owners or tenants, had an opportunity to secure employment off their own farms as a source of additional cash income. This was due in part, especially among owners, to the intensity of tobacco culture, a crop which requires family labor about five-sixths of the entire year. It would have been almost impossible in most instances for tenants to have secured employment elsewhere, as they are more or less obligated to have their labor consumed on the farms which they have agreed to operate for their landlords.

Cash income and the numbers receiving such from other sources on farms operated by owners, as would be expected, were far above that of tenant farms. Of the twenty-four tenants included in this study, only six different families received any cash income from other sources. Of the \$287 received from other sources by tenants, one family received \$144 of that amount which shows that only the very progressive tenants who are favorably located are able to

Table 19.--Cash Income from Other Sources
of Owner and Tenant Farms

Items	Owners			Tenants		
	No. re- ceiving income	Percent receiving income	Ave. re- ceived	No. re- ceiving income	Percent receiv- ing income	Ave. re- ceived
			Dollars			Dollars
Labor elsewhere	10	15.6	122.00	2	8.3	13.50
Firewood	39	60.9	50.61	3	12.5	5.00
Rent from land	6	9.3	231.33	-	----	-----
Rent from buildings	8	12.5	40.00	4	16.6	10.50
Rent from team	4	6.2	3.50	-	----	-----
Rent from trucks	1	1.5	20.00	1	4.2	9.00
Benefit payments	2	3.1	120.00	1	4.2	45.00
Boarders	2	3.1	300.00	-	----	-----
Fair premiums	20	31.3	6.70	1	4.2	2.00
Gifts	4	6.2	40.00	1	4.2	25.00
Relief	1	1.5	15.00	1	4.2	10.00
Bonuses	1	1.5	125.00	-	---	-----
Miscellaneous	5	7.8	53.60	1	4.2	92.00

procure income from sources other than the major and minor cash crops of the area.

IV. UTILIZATION OF CASH INCOME

The total cash income is utilized to pay current farm and living expenses; and if there is any remainder, it is used for investment in the farm or home or for some other type of savings. The difference between total cash income and farm business expenses determines the balance available for family living, and consequently the standard of living, and also any residue which may be invested within or outside the farm.

Of the total cash income from 88 farms, 50.0 percent was used to pay for current farm expenses, 21.5 percent for family living expenses, and the remainder or 28.5 percent was invested within the farm or home or held as apparent savings (Table 20).

Table 20.--Utilization of Cash Income

Items using income	Total used	Ave. used per farm	Percent of total cash income
	Dollars	Dollars	
Farm Expense	71,668	814.40	50.0
Family living (1)	30,722	336.61	21.5
Investment costs	7,238	82.20	5.0
Apparent savings (2)	33,586	381.66	23.5
Total	143,214	1,614.87	100.0

(1) Includes home, food, clothing, fuel and miscellaneous expenditures for living.

(2) Includes saving accounts and cash held on farms.

The total amount of cash income expended amounted to \$109,628. The gross cash income from the 88 farms studied was \$143,214 (Table 9), which was a difference of \$33,586. Of this difference, \$10,230 was held in saving accounts with banks, leaving an apparent balance of \$23,356, or an average of \$265.40 per farm. This sum seems surprisingly large, and therefore, it

is highly possible that some of the farmers failed to report all of their cash expenditures, or underestimated certain items. An undetermined amount may have been used in paying off or reducing past indebtedness.

Cash Income Used by Owner and Tenant Farms. Farm owners used 46.8 percent of their cash income for the farm business, while the tenants used 64.9 percent for the same purpose which included \$6,085 paid to landlords as their cash share of the harvested crops (Table 21).

Table 21.--Utilization of Cash Income by Owner and Tenant Farms

Items using income	Owners			Tenants		
	Total used	Ave. per farm	Percent of cash income	Total used	Ave. per farm	Percent of cash income
	Dollars	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars	
Farm Expense	54,877	857.45	46.8	16,791	699.63	64.9
Family living	24,733	386.45	21.0	5,989	249.70	23.2
Investment costs	7,173	111.05	6.1	65	27.08	0.4
Apparent savings	30,572	480.81	26.1	3,014	121.51	11.5
Total	117,355	1,835.76	100.0	25,859	1,097.92	100.0

Living costs, absorbed more than one-fifth of the cash income received by all farmers. However, the owners spent about \$140 more per year on family living and consequently enjoyed better living conditions. Cash income from tobacco and cotton was higher in 1936 than in any year since 1929. The practice of keeping money at home for safe keeping is common to the area, as most farmers who make profits are more or less reluctant about revealing such information.

Cash Farm Expenditures. Cash farm expenses in this study have been classified into the following groups:* Crops, livestock, feed, labor, taxes, cash rent, crop rent, interest, machinery, and improvements (Table 22).

*As used in the Farm Account Book, Michigan State College, Farm Management Department, Extension Service.

Table 22.--Cash Farm Expenditures

Items of cost	Total amount used by all farms	Ave. amount used per farm	Percent of farm expenses	Percent of cash income
	Dollars	Dollars		
Crop	27,436	311.77	38.4	19.3
Livestock	802	9.12	1.1	0.6
Feed	3,274	37.20	4.6	2.3
Labor	2,124	24.14	2.8	1.4
Taxes	2,162	24.56	3.0	1.5
Cash rent	499	5.67	0.6	0.3
Crop rent	6,085	69.15	8.5	4.2
Interest	810	9.21	1.3	0.6
Machinery and equipment	24,081	273.65	33.6	16.8
Improvements	4,395	49.94	6.2	3.0
Total	71,668	814.41	100.0	50.0

The crop expenses which included expenditures for seed, fertilizers, spray materials, crop insurance, twine, containers, lime and miscellaneous crop items (Table 23) constituted 38.4 percent of the total farm expenses and 19.3 percent of all cash income. The average crop expense for all farms amounted to \$311.77. Crop expenditures were significant on all farms since 87.5 percent (Table 9) of the gross cash income was derived from the sale of crops. All farms purchased complete fertilizers which totaled more than four-fifths of the crop expenses, and amounted to an average of \$234.34 per farm. Seventy-seven of the farms used nitrate of soda for side-dressing crops. Fertilizers consumed about one-fifth of the cash income received by all farmers. North Carolina uses more commercial fertilizer than any other state in the Union.* During 1931, the state expended for fertilizers an amount equivalent to more than the entire gross cash income from the state's cotton crop.

*University of North Carolina, "News Letter", Aug. 3, 1932, Vol. XVII, No. 16, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Table 23.—Farm Expenses

	No. of farms spend- ing	Percent of farms spend- ing	Total amt. for farms spending	Ave. amt. for farms spending	Ave. amt. for all farms	Percent of farm expenses	Percent of all cash ex- penses
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars		
Crop:							
Seed	26	29.5	187	7.19	2.12	0.2	0.12
Fertilizer (1)	88	100.0	20,643	234.35	234.35	28.8	14.41
Nitrate of soda	77	87.5	4,076	52.93	46.32	5.7	2.85
Spray materials	22	25.0	115	5.23	1.30	0.2	0.08
Insurance (2)	12	13.6	620	51.66	7.04	0.9	0.45
Twine	33	37.5	104	3.15	1.18	0.1	0.07
Containers	8	9.0	26	3.25	0.30	0.02	0.01
Lime	36	40.9	981	27.25	11.14	1.4	0.68
Other	28	31.8	684	24.43	7.77	0.9	0.48
Livestock:							
Veterinary fees	23	26.1	247	10.73	2.81	0.3	0.17
Medicine	43	48.9	290	5.73	3.30	0.3	0.20
Breeding fees	44	50.0	265	6.02	3.01	0.3	0.19
Feed:							
Hay	25	28.4	841	33.64	9.56	1.3	0.59
Dairy feed	31	35.2	924	27.70	10.50	1.4	0.64
Poultry feed	32	36.4	339	10.59	3.84	0.6	0.24
Mule feed	20	22.7	667	33.35	7.58	0.9	0.46
Other feed	24	27.3	503	20.95	4.71	0.7	0.35
Taxes:							
Property	74	84.0	1,888	25.51	21.45	2.6	1.32
Personal	49	55.7	274	5.59	3.11	0.3	0.19
Cash Rent:							
Land	5	5.7	499	99.80	5.67	0.7	0.35
Crop Rent:	21	23.9	6,085	289.76	69.15	8.5	4.25
Labor:							
Hired	54	61.4	2,124	39.33	24.13	2.9	1.48
Interest (3)	15	17.0	810	54.00	9.20	1.1	0.56
Machinery and equipment:							
Machinery repairs	55	62.5	2,730	49.64	31.02	3.8	1.90
New machinery	57	64.7	11,429	200.50	129.87	15.9	7.98
Truck repairs	12	13.6	610	50.83	6.93	0.8	0.42
Truck licenses	13	14.7	251	19.30	2.85	0.4	0.18
Auto repairs	41	46.1	2,378	58.00	27.02	3.3	1.66
Auto licenses	50	56.8	617	12.34	7.01	0.9	0.43
Gas and oil, truck	25	28.4	1,185	47.40	13.46	1.7	0.83
Gas and oil, auto	50	56.8	4,018	80.36	45.66	5.6	2.80
Other equipment	24	27.3	863	35.96	9.81	1.2	0.60
Improvements:							
Barn repairs	45	51.1	3,021	67.13	34.33	4.2	2.10
Fence repairs	39	44.3	814	20.35	9.25	1.1	0.57
Insurance (4)	14	15.9	560	40.00	6.36	0.8	0.39
Total			71,668		814.41	100.0	50.0

(1) Includes all kinds of complete fertilizers.

(2) Includes all classes of crop and storm insurance.

(3) Includes interest paid on various loans and mortgages.

(4) Includes insurances on various farm buildings.

Percent of all expenditures		Percent of all expenditures	
No. of claims	Percent of claims	No. of claims	Percent of claims
spending	spending	spending	spending
ing	ing	ing	ing
Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars

[illegible]

Expenditures for machinery and equipment which ranked next in importance, constituted 33.6 percent of the farm expenses and 15.8 percent of the gross cash income. About \$274 per farm was spent for new machinery, machinery repairs, automobile and truck licenses, petroleum products, and other farm equipment. New farm machinery accounted for nearly half of the machinery and equipment costs, as fifty-seven farmers spent an average of \$200.50 for making purchases of new farm machinery. This fact, indicates that Negro farmers in Vance County, especially owners are gradually purchasing labor saving machinery for tobacco culture; with a view of reducing unit production costs.

Gasoline and oil for automobiles averaged \$80.36 per farm for those families purchasing such products, or an average of \$45.67 for all farms. This sum was \$7 per farm less than that spent in 1933 by 46 rural families in South Carolina.* Expenditures for gasoline and oil were charged to the farm business due to the fact that automobiles in the area of the study are used primarily in the transportation of cash crops to local markets rather than for traveling for family pleasure.

Machinery and equipment expenditures in 1936 were far greater than would usually be expected. This increase was no doubt due in part to the increase in tobacco and seed cotton prices which during the depression had declined to levels far below the average prices in 1929 of eighteen and five cents per pound, respectively, as maintained on the local "Golden Belt" market for Franklin, Granville, Warren and Vance Counties.** During the recent period of low prices, farm machinery and equipment and motor driven

*Frayser, Mary E., "A Study of Expenditures For Family Living by 46 South Carolina Rural Families", South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 299, September 1934, p. 26.

**North Carolina crop and Livestock Report, No. 68, February 1936, p. 5.

vehicles used in the farm business had become badly depreciated; and with a rise in prices and a substantial increase in cash income, farmers spent rather heavily for new machinery and for making necessary repairs of farm equipment as well as for renovating many old automobiles which had stood in sheds for a period of about five or more years.

Crop, machinery and equipment costs amounted to three-fifths of the farm expenditures and more than a third of all cash income. Such expense items as crop rent, livestock, feed, labor, taxes, cash rent, interest and improvements accounted for 58.0 percent of the farm expenditures and 18.9 percent of the cash income. Of these expenditures crop rent amounted to an average of \$289.76 for the 21 tenants paying such rent, which was 13 percent less than the third of their cash income.

The system of tenancy prevalent in this area allows one-third of the cash income derived from tobacco and cotton; and the landlords usually grant tenants the privilege of selling fruits, livestock and livestock products, and a few minor cash crops without any cash deductions up to a stipulated amount. Since at least a third of the tenants included in this study took advantage of this opportunity, their crop rent was less than one-third of their cash receipts.

Expenditures for farm improvements amounted to only an average of \$49.94 per farm, which indicates that most farmers failed to make the necessary improvements on their partially rundown farm buildings and fences. However, quite a few farmers are skeptical about making many improvements for fear such would raise their taxes and might reduce prices which they obtain on the auction market for tobacco.

Feed costs amounted to nearly 5.0 percent of the farm expenses. This amount was spent in general for feed concentrates as most farmers produced

their own roughages. However, approximately one-third of the farms studied purchased feed that could be produced on their own farms.

Taxes amounted to only \$1,888, or an average of \$25.51 for the 74 farms making such payments. Taxes on the remaining 14 farms were not paid by the end of the year for 1935. This amount was 47 percent less than the average for farmers in Grayson County, Virginia in 1931.* Farms in North Carolina are small and relatively poor with small tax paying capacity.**

Fifty-four farms paid out a total of \$2,124 for hired labor which was only 2.0 percent of all cash income. It is generally thought that Negro farmers perform all of the work on their farms but with the type of agriculture prevalent in the area of this study, extra farm labor is often necessary during the rush season on most farms. Tobacco priming, (harvesting) requires rapid work in order to complete the curing process before the crop is seriously damaged, thereby, reducing the potential amount of net cash income. A few farmers use additional labor for picking cotton but since cotton acreage is much smaller and work less technical, family labor including children is usually sufficient.

The leading items of farm expenses on farms operated by owners were fertilizers, new machinery, petroleum products, repairs and taxes, while the heaviest expenses for tenants were fertilizers, crop rent, miscellaneous crop expense, machinery repairs and petroleum products (Table 24).

*University of North Carolina, "News Letter", August 3, 1932, Volume XVII, No. 15.

**Vernon, J. J., "A Study of the Organization and Management of Farms in Grayson County, Virginia"., Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 304, June 1936, p. 21.

Table 24.--Farm Expenses of Owner and Tenant Farms

	Owners			Tenants		
	No. spending	Percent spending	Ave. spent	No. spending	Percent spending	Ave. spent
Crop:			Dollars			Dollars
Seed	17	23.6	6.82	9	37.5	7.88
Fertilizer	64	100.0	264.22	24	100.0	155.54
Nitrate of soda	56	87.5	58.18	21	87.5	38.95
Spray materials	19	29.7	4.89	3	12.5	7.33
Insurance	7	10.9	35.00	5	20.8	75.00
Twine	24	37.5	2.83	9	37.5	4.00
Containers	7	10.9	7.28	1	4.2	3.00
Lime	28	43.7	27.64	8	33.3	25.87
Other	16	25.0	18.50	12	50.0	32.33
Livestock:						
Veterinary fees	18	28.1	9.78	5	20.8	14.20
Medicine	33	51.6	5.03	10	41.6	9.10
Breeding fees	34	53.1	6.18	10	41.6	5.50
Feed:						
Hay	21	32.8	55.28	4	16.6	25.00
Dairy feed	25	40.6	31.42	5	20.8	21.40
Poultry feed	24	37.5	11.62	8	33.3	7.50
Mule feed	14	21.9	31.57	6	25.0	37.50
Other feed	20	31.3	22.30	4	16.6	14.25
Taxes:						
Property	64	100.0	31.65	10	41.6	13.20
Personal	37	54.8	5.76	12	50.0	5.08
Cash Rent:						
Land	2	3.1	62.00	3	12.5	125.00
Crop Rent:	--	---	-----	21	100.0	289.76
Labor:						
Hired	44	68.7	39.89	10	41.6	36.90
Interest	10	15.6	64.20	5	20.8	32.80
Machinery and equipment:						
Machinery repairs	48	75.0	48.98	7	29.2	54.14
New machinery	49	76.6	212.63	8	33.3	126.25
Truck repairs	12	18.7	50.83	-	----	-----
Truck licenses	12	18.7	19.25	1	4.2	20.00
Auto repairs	32	50.0	54.53	9	37.5	70.33
Auto licenses	40	62.5	12.70	10	41.6	10.90
Gas and oil, truck	15	23.4	76.33	10	41.6	4.00
Gas and oil, auto	40	62.5	55.77	10	41.6	78.00
Other equipment	18	28.1	38.89	6	25.0	27.16
Improvements:						
Barn repairs	45	70.3	67.13	--	----	-----
Fence repairs	37	57.8	20.35	--	----	-----
Insurance	14	21.9	40.00	--	----	-----

Cash Used for Family Living. Expenditures for family living were relatively low, the amount averaging only \$349.00 per family, or \$5⁴/₁₀ per capita. (Table 25).

Table 25.—Cash Expenditures for Family Living

Items of cost	Total used	Ave. per family	Percent of living costs	Percent of cash income
	Dollars	Dollars		
Home repairs	4,095	46.53	13.4	2.9
Food	7,843	89.12	25.5	5.5
Clothing	12,004	136.41	39.0	8.4
Fuel	1,280	14.54	4.2	0.9
General	5,500	62.50	17.9	3.8
Total	30,722	349.10	100.0	21.5

Expenses for clothing and food consumed more than three-fifths of the cash utilized for family living, while miscellaneous expenditures and repairs accounted for most of the remaining two-fifths. Expenditures for fuel costs amounted to only one-twentieth of the family living expense.

The low expenditures for living purposes by the 88 families included in this study, would indicate that the standard of living on these farms was exceptionally low, but this meager outlay is probably due in part to the fact that most farmers engaged in producing food supplies; thereby, conserving a portion of their cash income which would otherwise have been utilized for food costs, an important item in family living.

Owners spent 21.0 percent of their cash receipts for family living, while tenants spent 23.2 percent of their available cash income (Table 26). These figures indicate that owners and tenants spent approximately the same proportion of their cash income for family living, but inasmuch as owners received cash incomes equivalent to almost twice as much as those received

by tenants; it is evident that owners spent on an average more than twice as much for family living as did the tenants.

Table 26.--Cash Expenditures for Family Living of Owner and Tenant Families

Items of cost	Owners			Tenants		
	Total used	Ave. per family	Percent of cash income	Total used	Ave. per family	Percent of cash income
	Dollars	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars	
Home repairs(1)	4,095	63.98	3.5	-----	-----	-----
Food	5,699	89.05	4.9	2,144	89.53	8.3
Clothing	9,473	148.02	8.0	2,531	105.46	9.8
Fuel	1,002	15.58	0.8	278	11.58	1.0
General	4,464	69.75	3.8	1,056	43.17	4.0
Total	24,733	386.48	21.0	5,989	163.20	23.2

(1) Includes additions.

Forty-nine families either made additions or repairs to their homes amounting to \$4,095, an average of 63.98 per family, (Table 26). Thus, 77.6 percent of the farm owners provided their families with more comfortable homes. This is an indication of the improvement of general housing conditions among owners included in this study and is also in accordance with the general "Better Home Movement", as sponsored by the Negro extension division of North Carolina. This is in line with the improvement in housing conditions which appears to be taking place all over North Carolina at the present time. Expenditures for home improvements were made by owners alone, as tenants lived in homes owned by their landlords and therefore, as would be expected, spent nothing at all for home improvements.

Expenditures for Food. Inasmuch as this study fails to include figures for food produced on the farm and consumed by the farm family, the cash expenditures for food should not be regarded as a true measure of the general family living conditions with respect to food or family diets,

Food expenditures amounted to a total of \$7,843 or an average of \$89.11 per family which was only 5.5 percent of all cash income (Table 27). This would indicate a lack of proper diet and in most instances such would be the case, especially with share-croppers, as their gardening and home preserving practices are sadly neglected. However, most of the farm owners have a wide variety of garden products and therefore, carry on a home canning program during the summer months which provides a fairly suitable family diet during the winter months.

Table 27.--Distribution of Food Expenditures

Kind	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Total amount spent	Ave. for farms spending	Ave. for all farms	Percent of food expenditures
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	
Flour	82	93.2	3,560	43.41	40.45	45.9
Sugar	81	92.0	1,386	17.11	15.75	17.7
Coffee	73	82.9	535	7.33	6.08	6.2
Lard	47	53.4	546	11.62	6.20	6.9
Meats	29	32.9	585	20.17	6.65	7.4
Beans	22	25.0	128	5.82	1.45	1.7
Canned goods	29	32.9	297	10.24	3.37	3.8
Pastries	11	12.5	49	4.45	0.56	0.6
Fruits	26	29.5	245	9.42	2.78	3.2
Vegetables	14	15.9	137	9.78	1.56	1.8
Other	22	25.0	375	17.04	4.26	4.8
Total	--	----	7,843	-----	89.11	100.0

Flour was the most important food cost, with 82 families purchasing some flour during the year. The total spent by these families for flour was \$3,560, or an average of \$43.41 for those families having such expense, while the average for all families was \$40.45. Thus, flour consumed was 40.9 percent of the food costs, or 2.5 percent of all cash income. Those families that did not purchase any flour at all utilized their own flour which was milled by local millers for a certain percentage of wheat. This method of securing flour for family usage is a common practice among all farmers in Vance County.

Sugar was the second highest item of food costs, averaging \$17.11 for those 81 farms purchasing sugar. The amount of cash spent for sugar as well as the number of families purchasing sugar indicate that little sugar is consumed. In other words, the amount spent for sugar was equivalent to only \$2.30 per capita for all families. This was due in part to the fact that a number of families, especially those in the lower income groups, use sorghum syrup instead of sugar for beverages, pastries and sweets.

Meats were next, with an average of \$20.17 for the 29 families purchasing meats, while the average for all families was only \$6.65 per family. Meat consumption indicates that more than two-thirds of the families studied, utilized only meats which were produced on the home farm.

Only 1.6 percent of the food expenditures were for items other than flour, sugar and meats.

With the number of cows being only 1.1 per farm (Table 4), it is readily seen that dairy products were insufficiently consumed. Therefore, with 15.0 percent of the persons in the families studied being under 8 years of age, it appears that most of the children suffer from under-nourishment.

On an average, as revealed in (Table 28), those owners who utilized money for food spent approximately the same amount as did the tenants, even though in most instances the families of tenants were larger than those of the owners. On the other hand, the amount of cash income was greater, and more money could be spent for food. The absence of a Negro home demonstration agent in the county may account for the types of food generally purchased by both owners and tenants. Thus, the lack of sufficient information on nutrition probably causes inadequate diets to prevail in most farm homes in the area.

Clothing Expenditures. Expenditures for clothing amounted to an average of \$136.36 per farm (Table 29) or nearly 9 percent of the expenses used for

Table 28.--Distribution of Food Expenditures of
Owner and Tenant Farms

Kind	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Ave. spent by farms	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Ave. spent by farms
			Dollars			Dollars
Flour	62	96.9	42.22	20	83.3	47.10
Sugar	59	92.2	18.47	22	91.6	13.45
Coffee	54	84.4	7.35	19	79.2	7.26
Lard	32	50.0	10.90	15	62.5	13.13
Meats	16	25.0	21.94	13	54.2	18.00
Beans	14	21.9	3.50	8	33.3	3.14
Canned goods	20	31.2	10.95	9	37.5	3.90
Pastries	10	15.6	4.70	1	4.2	2.00
Fruits	18	28.1	11.28	8	33.3	5.25
Vegetables	7	10.9	7.14	7	29.2	11.43
Other	15	23.4	19.40	7	29.2	12.00
Total	--	----	137.85	--	----	138.66

Table 29.--Distribution of Clothing Expenditures

Items	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Total amt. spent	Ave. amt. for farms purchasing	Ave. for all farms	Percent of clothing expenses
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	
Shoes	87	98.8	1,573	18.08	17.87	13.2
Socks	84	95.4	385	4.58	4.37	3.2
Suits	80	90.9	3,451	43.14	39.22	28.7
Coats	73	82.9	2,028	27.78	23.05	16.9
Dresses	79	89.7	1,532	19.39	17.40	12.8
Undergarments	73	82.9	808	11.07	9.18	6.7
Hats and caps	80	90.9	577	7.21	6.55	4.8
Shirts	78	88.6	615	7.88	6.98	5.2
Ties	61	69.3	244	4.00	2.76	2.0
Bedding	38	43.7	439	11.55	4.98	3.6
Other clothing	30	34.0	352	11.73	4.00	2.9
Total	--	----	12,004	-----	136.36	100.0

family living. The average annual clothing expenditures for 46 families in South Carolina* was \$60 less than the average for 88 families in this study.

*Frayser, Mary E., "A Study of Expenditures For Family Living by 46 South Carolina Rural Families.", South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 299, September 1934, p. 19.

This difference may be due in part to the rise in clothing costs during 1936 as compared with the cost of clothing in 1932, the year when the study in South Carolina was completed. The amounts spent for clothing ranged from \$28 to \$439 among owners and from \$18 to \$184 among tenants. These figures indicate that most of the owners were clothed fairly decently, while most of the tenants spent sums too small to be properly clad. Coats utilized 16.9 percent of the clothing budget, while shoes consumed 13.2 percent. Thus, suits, coats and shoes utilized nearly sixty percent of the money spent for clothing and approximately 5.0 percent of the cash income. Dresses, undergarments, shirts, hats, caps, socks and other clothing consumed the remaining 41.0 percent of the clothing budget in the order named.

Shoes were purchased by all of the owners and all but one of the tenants. (Table 30).

Table 30.--Distribution of Clothing Expenditures of
Owner and Tenant Farms

Items	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Ave. amt. spent by farms purchasing	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Ave. amt. spent by farms purchasing
			Dollars			Dollars
Shoes	64	100.0	17.33	23	95.8	20.17
Socks	62	96.9	4.70	22	91.6	4.23
Suits	60	93.7	49.90	20	83.3	37.65
Coats	57	89.0	29.62	16	66.6	20.50
Dresses	61	95.3	20.15	13	75.0	15.72
Undergarments	59	92.2	10.73	14	58.3	12.50
Hats and caps	64	100.0	7.22	16	66.6	7.19
Shirts	59	92.2	8.05	19	79.2	7.37
Ties	51	79.7	4.41	10	41.6	1.90
Spreads	32	50.0	11.66	6	25.0	11.00
Other clothing	20	31.2	14.05	10	41.6	7.10
Total	--	-----	178.02	--	----	145.53

The average was \$17.33 for owners and \$20.17 for tenants. The difference in this average was probably due to differences in the size of families as well

as the shopping ability of the two groups. Quite often a number of items, such as shoes, have to be replaced by farmers rather frequently due to the low quality of the goods purchased.

A larger proportion of the owners purchased clothing than tenants. In most instances there was a relative increase in the amount consumed for clothing as the amount of cash income rather than the size of the family increased. More money was spent for men's than women's clothing.

Fuel Expenditures. The total expenditure for fuel was \$14.54 per farm. This average included the one farm which used electricity amounting to \$126. (Table 31).

The type of heating and sources of fuel kept fuel expenditures at a very low level as all of the farms included in the study used either fireplaces or stoves for heating purposes, and used firewood for heating, which was procured from the woodlands of these farms.

Kerosene was the heaviest expense item for fuel representing 78.5 percent of the cost of fuel, but it was less than one percent of the total cash expenditures. Expenditures for kerosene are usually kept at a low figure as most families use only one or two kerosene lamps for the entire house. The early retiring habit also makes it unnecessary to consume any large amount of kerosene.

Table 31.—Distribution of Fuel Expenditures

	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Total amt. spent	Ave. amt. for farms purchasing	Ave. spent for all farms	Percent of fuel costs
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	
Kerosene	88	100.0	1,004	11.41	11.41	78.5
Electricity	1	1.1	126	126.00	1.43	9.8
Other (1)	21	23.9	150	7.14	1.70	11.7
Total	--	----	1,280	-----	14.54	100.0

(1) Fuel for gas lamps.

On a few farms, gasoline was used in gas lamps, as in recent years a number of families have purchased such lamps in order that their homes might have brighter light for their children to study their lessons, without affecting their eyes seriously.

There was very little difference between the average amount spent for fuel other than electricity by owners and tenants (Table 32).

Table 32.--Distribution of Fuel Expenditures of Owner and Tenant Farms

	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Ave. spent	No. of farms purchasing	Percent of farms purchasing	Ave. spent
			Dollars			Dollars
Kerosene	64	100.0	11.71	24	100.0	10.58
Electricity	1	1.6	126.00	—	—	—
Other	15	23.4	8.00	6	25.0	4.00

General Expenditures. General expenses as classified in this study include expenses for education, recreation, reading, church and sabbath school, societies, donations, fishing licenses, dog licenses, hunting licenses, hunting supplies, legal fees, postage and confectionaries.

Of the \$5,500 consumed for general expenses, education accounted for \$2,220 or 40.4 percent. This amount was spent by 69 families or 78.4 percent of the families included in this study. Even though this sum is small, it is an indication of the fact that Negro farm families are awakening to the need of assisting their children in securing at least a secondary school education. Of the sixty-nine families utilizing money for educational purposes, five or 5.7 percent of them had children attending college.

The second highest amount spent for general expenditures went for church and sabbath school funds, or an average of \$12.55 per farm for the eighty-four contributing to these religious agencies. This amount was

19.2 percent of the general expenditures. Funds contributed for church and sabbath school reveal the general attitude of Negro farmers toward religious activities as being favorable, as only four failed to make contributions for these activities.

Table 33.--Distribution of General Expenditures

Items	No. of farms spending	Percent of farms spending	Total amount spent	Ave. amt. of farms spending	Ave. amt. for all farms	Percent of general expenses
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	
Education (1)	69	78.4	2,220	32.17	25.23	40.4
Recreation (2)	28	31.8	596	21.28	6.77	10.8
Reading	63	71.6	336	5.33	3.81	6.0
Church (3)	84	95.5	1,054	12.55	11.98	19.2
Societies	19	21.6	98	5.16	1.11	1.8
Donations	53	60.2	405	7.64	4.60	7.4
Fishing licenses	9	10.2	25	2.78	0.28	0.4
Dog licenses	19	21.6	44	2.32	0.50	0.8
Hunting supplies	31	35.2	226	7.29	2.57	4.4
Hunting licenses	35	39.8	71	2.05	0.81	1.3
Legal fees	5	5.7	62	12.40	0.70	1.0
Postage	33	37.5	129	3.90	1.46	2.3
Confectionaries	42	47.7	234	5.57	2.66	4.2
Total	--	----	5,500	-----	62.48	100.0

(1) Includes books and tuition.

(2) Includes travel.

(3) Includes sabbath school.

Recreation was next in importance amounting to an average of \$21.28 for the 28 families who reported expenditures for this purpose, or to an average of \$6.76 for all farms. On the whole, opportunities for wholesome pleasures among Negroes included in this study are exceedingly limited. However, for about five years, there has been a growing interest in recreational trips for both adults and younger persons due largely to the influence of state camps, field days, and annual tours being sponsored by the local and state workers in agricultural education.

The average amount consumed for recreation per family in this study

was \$3 less than for the 46 rural families in South Carolina.*

Education, churches, and recreation accounted for 70.4 percent of the general expenditures and 3 percent of all cash income which indicate that the social aspects of rural life amongst nearly two-thirds of the families are not being entirely overlooked.

General expenditures for most items on farms being operated by owners were twice as great as those operated by tenants with the exception of church and society funds. In both of these instances the average was a few cents greater (Table 34).

Table 34.—Distribution of General Expenditures of Owner and Tenant Farms

	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of families spending	Percent of families spending	Ave. amt. per family	No. of families spending	Percent of families	Ave. amt. per family
			Dollars			Dollars
Education	52	81.2	36.62	17	70.8	18.59
Recreation	21	32.8	22.81	7	29.2	16.71
Reading	46	71.9	5.67	17	70.8	1.12
Church	61	95.3	12.39	23	95.8	12.96
Societies	17	26.6	5.12	2	8.3	5.50
Donations	42	65.6	7.86	11	45.8	4.09
Fishing licenses	8	12.5	3.00	1	4.2	1.00
Dog licenses	17	26.6	2.41	2	8.3	1.50
Hunting supplies	22	34.4	8.23	9	37.5	5.00
Hunting licenses	27	42.2	1.96	8	33.3	2.25
Legal fees	4	6.2	15.00	2	8.3	6.00
Postage	27	42.2	4.07	6	25.0	3.17
Confectionaries	30	46.9	5.93	12	50.0	4.67

Investments. Expenditures for investments as used in this study include money spent for taxes on other property, life insurance and new homes (Table 35).

A total of only \$7,238 was invested for these purposes, or an average of \$82.25 for all farms, with more than four-fifths of this sum being used for building new farm homes. These homes were built for seven owners for an

*Frayser, Mary E., "A Study of Expenditures For Family Living by 46 Rural Families in South Carolina.", South Caroling Experiment Station, Bulletin 229, September 1934, p. 26.

average amount of \$864.26 per farm (Table 36).

Table 35.--Distribution of Investments

	No. of families	Percent of families	Amt. invested	Ave. for families investing	Ave. for all	Percent of investment
			Dollars	Dollars		
Taxes on other property	6	6.8	270	45.00	3.06	3.7
Insurance	12	13.6	918	76.50	10.43	12.7
Homes (new)	7	10.9	6,050	864.26	68.75	83.6
Total	--	----	7,238	-----	82.24	100.0

Table 36.--Distribution of Investments of
Owner and Tenant Farms

Items	Owners			Tenants		
	No. of families	Percent of families	Ave. amt. per family investing	No. of families	Percent of families	Ave. amt. per family investing
			Dollars			Dollars
Taxes on other property	6	9.4	45.00	--	----	-----
Insurance	10	15.6	85.30	2	8.3	32.50
Homes (new)	7	10.9	864.26	--	----	-----

This was exceptionally low, but the cost of building material was kept at a low level due to the use of farm grown timber which was dressed by local saw mills for a certain portion of the dressed lumber.

Taxes on other property and life insurance premiums used the remaining 16.4 percent of the investment costs. These facts indicate that the more enterprising Negro farmers in Vance County are following the investment policies of most of the leading farmers in North Carolina, that of investing money in other farm land.*

*Anderson, W. A., "Living Conditions Among White Land Owner Operators in Wake County", North Carolina Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 258, June, 1928, p. 25.

However, it is to be noted that none of the farmers included in this study made investments in stocks and bonds, urban real estate, and other business shares which show that all investments were made almost entirely in farming enterprises.

Apparent Savings. As previously indicated, the apparent cash available after all expenditures had been recorded was \$33,586, or an average of \$381.66 per family (Table 20). This sum included \$10,230 held by approximately one-fourth of the farmers in the form of saving accounts. Most of these accounts were possessed by farm owners, as only five tenants had saving accounts which amounted to only \$1,135 as compared with \$9,095 held by sixteen owners. Only small proportions of the cash earnings of either owners or tenants were placed in saving accounts, primarily because most of the farmers in the area of this study are more or less reluctant about having other individuals know about their profits, or accumulations of funds. Thus, as shown in this study, many farmers failed to deposit any money in banks, while others deposited very little of their net cash income. This fact, may account in part for the large amount of apparent savings beyond that held in bank accounts. Doubtless some of the apparent savings were used to pay off previously incurred debts.

V. FACTORS AFFECTING CASH INCOME

Cash income from farming is probably affected by as many factors as any type of business enterprise. In general, farming is affected by at least four important groups of factors, namely; economic, physical, biological and personal. However, this study includes only some of the economic factors which affect the amount of cash income received by the 88 farms. Such factors as the size of farms, size of families, number of adult workers and the education of farm operators are analyzed in their relation to cash farm expenditures and to net cash income available for family living, investments and apparent savings.

Size of Farms. The size of farms in total acres is one of the primary factors in determining the volume of farm business, largely because it usually affects the area, shape and location of fields; factors which aid in determining the profitableness of the farm business due to their effect on labor efficiency. As the size of the farm increased the amount of net cash income also tended to increase (Table 37). The farm operators who lived on the larger farms were able to utilize more effectively their resources of labor, equipment, supplies and land. It is also probably that the better farm operators tend to be located on the larger farms.

About two-fifths of the farms were capable of maintaining a standard of living far above the average in the area due primarily to the fact that these operators had farms of sufficient size to obtain a net cash income over three times as large as that received by the other three-fifths of the farmers.

Table 37.--Relation of Size of Farms to Cash Receipts and Net Cash Income

Acres in farm	No. of farms	Percent of farms	Total cash receipts	Ave. cash receipts	Total cash farm expenses	Ave. cash farm expenses	Net cash income (1)	Ave. net cash income
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
0-10	6	6.8	5,733	955.50	4,256	709.33	1,477	246.17
11-20	10	11.5	10,092	1,009.20	5,275	525.50	4,817	481.70
21-30	24	27.3	24,275	1,011.45	13,471	561.29	10,804	450.17
31-50	13	14.6	16,305	1,254.15	8,979	690.69	7,325	563.46
51-100	24	27.3	49,944	2,081.00	23,373	973.85	26,571	1,123.79
101-200	7	7.9	17,168	2,452.56	9,048	1,297.14	8,120	1,160.00
Over 200	4	4.6	19,698	4,924.50	7,286	1,821.50	14,412	3,128.00
Total	88	100.0	143,214	-----	71,688	-----	71,526	-----

(1) Cash income available for family living, investments and apparent savings.

Size of Families. The size of families is often a factor affecting cash labor costs but the cash income per capita may not be sufficient for providing the living necessities in case of a large family, especially if on a small farm. The family labor may be inefficient as well as too young or old to contribute much actual farm labor, so that the amount of cash income may be low on a per capita basis. In this study, the 35 families having from 6 to 8 members per family received the best returns, with an average of \$150.32 per capita (Table 38). It is doubtful whether or not such an income per person is sufficient to provide satisfactory living conditions. However, the cash income was greatly augmented by the production of home supplies which made it possible for these families to provide for their living expenses and also create savings. The families with nine or more members, which constituted about one-fourth of the entire group had a very low income per capita.

Adult Workers. The number of adult workers affects the net cash receipts from farming for if the number is either too large or too small for the volume of farm business, it is probable that the amount of net cash income per capita will be materially reduced. Therefore, it is necessary to keep workers employed a maximum amount of time on productive work in order to provide a satisfactory income per worker and per family under normal economic and physical conditions. More productive work per adult worker may be provided in this area by securing additional farm land, increasing the crop acreage, improving soil fertility and by expanding the livestock enterprises.

About two-thirds of the owner farms and practically all of the tenant farms were operated by one full-time family adult worker. The average net cash income on the two-man farms was twice as large as that on the one-man farms and about one-third larger than that received by the three-man farms. (Table 39).

Table 38.--Relation of Size of Family to Cash Receipts and Net Cash Income

No. in family	No. of families	Percent of families	Total cash receipts	Ave. cash receipts	Total cash farm expenses	Ave. cash farm expenses	Net cash income	Ave. net cash income	Ave. net cash income per person
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
0-2	1	1.2	695	695.00	133	133.00	562	562.00	281.00
3-5	31	35.2	42,529	1,373.84	23,340	752.90	18,189	586.76	138.80
6-8	35	39.7	65,057	1,858.71	27,778	793.66	37,279	1,065.11	150.32
9-11	20	22.7	34,175	1,708.75	20,177	1,008.85	13,998	699.90	72.54
Over 12	1	1.2	758	758.00	260	260.00	498	498.00	33.20
Total	88	100.0	143,214	-----	71,688	-----	71,526	-----	-----

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Table 39.--Relation of Adult Workers to Cash Receipts and Net Cash Income (1)

Group	No. of each group	Percent of farms	Total cash receipts	Ave. cash receipts	Total cash farm expenses	Ave. cash farm expenses	Net cash income	Ave. net cash income
			Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
One-man	71	80.7	107,775	1,517.96	58,398	822.50	49,377	695.45
Two-man	13	14.8	28,157	2,165.92	10,034	771.08	18,123	1,394.08
Three-man	4	4.5	7,282	2,427.33	3,256	814.00	4,026	1,006.50
Total	88	100.0	143,214	-----	71,688	-----	71,526	-----

(1) Includes male workers living on farms who are 21 years old or above.

This difference was partly due to the size of the farms, since the average for all farms of 34.2 crop acres was too large for one adult and too small for three adults to operate successfully on account of the intensiveness of tobacco production. Furthermore, such a difference indicates that the two-man farms are probably better adapted to the size of farms and type of agriculture followed in the area. Although the cash income per adult worker was practically the same on both the one-man and two-man farms, there was more net cash income per family member, in case of the two-man farms. Thus, it is apparent that the family could enjoy a higher standard of living on the farms operated by two adult workers.

Education of Farm Operators. The education of farm operators had negligible effects upon the amount of cash income, except for those farm operators who had completed the tenth grade and the one who had attended college (Table 40). This fact is contrary to the results of a study made in Grayson County, Virginia* which found that on both full-time and part-time farms, the farm income increased with the number of years the farm operators had attended school. However, this difference in effect of formal education on cash income may have been due in part to the difference in the type of agriculture in the two areas, as practically nine-tenths of the cash receipts on the Virginia farms were derived from livestock and supplementary occupations of farm operators as compared with four-fifths from tobacco and cotton on the farms in Vance County. In case of the type of agriculture followed in the area of this study, it is probable that long experience has as much effect on cash receipts as does formal education, as experience in producing tobacco

*Vernon, J. J., "A Study of the Organization and Management of Farms in Grayson County, Virginia", Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 304, June 1936, p. 65.

Table 40.--Relation of Education of Farm Operators to Cash Receipts and Net Cash Income

Grade completed	No. of farmers completing	Percent Completing	Total cash receipts		Ave. cash receipts	Total cash farm expenses		Ave. cash farm expenses	Net cash income	Ave. net cash income
			Dollars	Dollars		Dollars	Dollars			
0	3	3.4	6,581	2,193.67		3,086	1,028.67	3,495		1,165.00
1	2	2.3	3,148	1,574.00		2,026	1,013.00	1,122		561.00
2	13	14.8	15,194	1,168.77		7,074	544.15	8,120		624.61
3	14	15.9	20,268	1,447.71		10,702	763.71	9,566		683.29
4	19	21.6	23,879	1,256.78		12,200	642.10	11,679		614.68
5	6	6.8	15,567	2,594.50		7,202	1,200.33	8,365		1,396.17
6	13	14.8	25,495	1,807.30		10,519	809.15	12,976		998.16
7	7	7.9	6,439	1,073.17		4,691	670.14	1,748		249.71
8	3	3.4	7,112	3,370.67		4,014	1,338.20	3,098		1,032.67
9	3	3.4	4,341	1,447.00		2,874	958.00	1,467		489.00
10	4	4.5	11,231	2,807.78		5,012	1,253.00	6,219		1,554.75
Attended college	1	1.2	5,959	5,959.00		2,288	2,288.00	3,671		-----
Total	88	100.0	143,214	-----		71,688	-----	71,526		-----

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usually means higher prices on account of the superior quality of leaf tobacco, generally marketed by the experienced grower. However, the contact of farmers in vocational and agricultural extension classes may have aided in overcoming the handicap of limited formal school training.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study presents the findings of a survey of the amount, sources and utilization of cash income during 1936, among 88 Negro farm families in Vance County, North Carolina. Sixty-four or 72.7 percent of these farmers were owners, while the remaining ²⁴₁ were tenants.

In general, the type of farming conducted by these 88 farmers was a two-crop system, consisting of the production of tobacco and cotton, from which all farms secured at least four-fifths of their cash income. This type of farming is primarily due to a favorable climate as well as markets for tobacco and cotton. The low acreage of pasture land, the small size of farms and the lack of proper markets make it uneconomic to attempt livestock production as a major source of cash income, even though the topography of the soil in most areas of the county is satisfactory for livestock farming.

Farm prices received for tobacco and cotton were rising during the period of this study, and were at levels above any year since 1929. This condition made it possible for farmers to secure cash incomes above those expected and higher than incomes in other years.

The prevailing type of tenancy is that of straight-croppers where the tenant receives two-thirds of the cash income from the cash crops with the privilege of a limited income from other sources. This form of tenancy favors the tenant in that he is largely responsible for the amount of additional cash income which he may obtain from sources other than tobacco and cotton.

On the whole, farms were relatively small, averaging 65.1 acres per farm. However, they were only 51₂ acres smaller than the average size farm

in North Carolina, while they were 7.6 acres larger than the average for the county. The size of most farms was in accord with the type of agriculture, inasmuch as tobacco farmers in the area depend heavily upon family labor and therefore, since tobacco requires intensive cultivation, only a few acres are necessary to consume available family labor on most farms.

Approximately nine-tenths of the cash income obtained by the 88 farms was derived from the sale of crops. Cash income from sources other than farm enterprises accounted for less than four percent of the total cash receipts. Thus, it is evident that Negro farmers in Vance County depend almost completely upon farming as their mode of living.

The average gross cash income was \$1,814 on farms operated by owners, while the average was \$1,131 on tenant farms, a difference of \$683. This difference largely accounts for the apparent wide variations in the standard of living maintained by most of the farmers in these two groups. Nearly 32 percent of the owners and 63 percent of the tenants received gross cash incomes of less than \$1,000. However, most of the farmers in this cash income group were able to maintain a decent standard of living, primarily because of the fact that especially the owners and the enterprising tenants produced large supplies of food which not only reduced family expenditures but enabled them to make investments and create savings.

The average net cash income was about \$813 per farm or an average of \$120 per capita, which indicates that many families were unable to provide most of the comforts of life.

These 88 families spent 50.0 percent of their cash income for the farm business and 21.5 percent for family living, while the remainder or 28.5 percent was invested within the farm or home, or held as apparent savings. The average utilization of cash income on all farms was \$814 for the farm business, \$336 for family living, \$82 for investments while

the remainder or \$381 was classified as apparent savings.

Fertilizers constituted nearly 55 percent of the farm expenditures or \$280 per farm, which indicates the heavy application of fertilizers for tobacco and cotton as well as the low fertility of most soils in the area.

Clothing and food which consumed more than three-fifths of the cash spent for family living purposes averaged \$225 per farm. These expenditures were greatly reduced primarily because of home produced farm products, while most of the clothing used by many of the families was relatively inexpensive.

The construction of new homes among 10.9 percent of the farm owners accounted for 83.6 percent of the investments made by farmers in this study. This fact indicates that the more enterprising Negro farmers in Vance County are keeping in line with the general improvements in farm housing conditions throughout North Carolina.

Apparent savings amounted to a total of \$53,586 or an average of \$381.66 per family. This sum included \$10,230 held by approximately one-fourth of the farmers in the form of savings accounts. Doubtless some of the apparent savings were used to pay off previously incurred debts or were a part of the expenses which were not obtained in the questionnaires.

Cash income increased as the size of the farms increased, which was probably on account of the fact that on the larger farms the operators were able to utilize more effectively their resources of labor, equipment, supplies and land.

Those families having from 6 to 8 members received the largest cash incomes, averaging \$150 per capita, which was low for maintaining comfortable living standards as well as creating savings.

Those families who had two male adult members working on the farms

secured incomes twice as large as those with only one and one-third larger than those families with three male adult workers, which indicates that the average crop acreage of 34.2 acres per farm is better suited for the two-man farms than either the one-man or three-man farms.

Education of the farm operators in this study showed negligible effects upon the amount of cash income, except those who had completed the tenth grade and the one who had attended college. This fact seemingly indicates that probably long experience has as much effect on cash receipts as does formal education in this area of tobacco farming.

Recommendations. The findings during the course of this study seemingly warrant the following recommendations:

1. The production of more soil improving crops such as legumes is necessary to maintain and improve the fertility of the soils as a means of increasing the potential cash income.
2. The using of land for its best purpose would tend to increase the cash income of farmers and in removing submarginal or high cost lands from farm use. A state zoning law and a county zoning ordinance would aid in obtaining this end.
3. The participation in the present Agricultural Adjustment Program of Soil Conservation will serve to improve soil fertility.
4. If owners and tenants would engage in the production of more horticultural products, especially small fruits, the risks involved in the present two-crop system of farming would be reduced.
5. Many farmers should increase the number of dairy cows per farm as a means of providing an adequate supply of dairy products for the family and some might secure an additional source of cash income from the sale of dairy products.

6. Farmers whose records indicate apparent savings might make investments in farm land, bonds, life insurances, and other profitable investments as a means of securing greater economic security.
7. The mixing of fertilizers by groups of farmers will aid in reducing expenditures for commercial fertilizers.
8. Farmers should be encouraged to organize their own cooperative association to buy supplies for the farm and the home, and to participate in the selling of tobacco and cotton, cooperatively. A thorough educational program may be necessary to show the advantages and limitations of cooperatives and to explain the failure of a local Negro marketing association some ten or more years ago.
9. The production and marketing of high quality farm products should be encouraged in order to secure premium prices.
10. Those farmers who have failed to keep farm and household records should establish a system of farm record keeping as a means of determining more accurately the returns from the farm business.
11. The system of tenancy needs some modifications on many farms which will result in maintaining the fertility of the soil and in keeping the tenants on the farm for a longer period.
12. The continued and further participation of the farm families in the agricultural education programs will result in a steady improvement of the economic position of the farm people.
13. An expansion of the educational work in home economics and consumer education will improve the dietary habits, the standards of dress and other phases of farm living.

APPENDIX

EXHIBIT OF QUESTIONNAIRE

QUESTIONNAIRE TO OBTAIN CASH INCOME AND EXPENSES OF NEGRO FARMERS IN
VANCE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FOR 1936.General Information

Name _____ Township _____ Address _____

Number in family on farm _____, adults (21 or older) _____, boys _____, girls _____, Number children 0-6 years _____, 7-14 _____, 15-20 _____.

Acres operated _____, owned _____, rented _____ (operated by others _____).

Acres in crops _____, in pasture _____, woods _____, idle _____, farmstead _____.

Number mules _____, horses _____, cows _____, calves _____, hogs _____, chickens _____, turkeys _____, ducks _____, guineas _____, other _____.

System of farming, ownership _____, share _____, cash _____.

Describe _____.

Cash Income

(Record only products sold)

Crops

Corn, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Cotton, bales	_____	\$ _____
Tobacco, lbs.	_____	\$ _____
Wheat, bu.	_____	\$ _____
W. Potatoes, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Sw. Potatoes, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Cantaloupes, crates	_____	\$ _____
Watermelon, loads	_____	\$ _____
Vegetables,	_____	\$ _____
Seeds	_____	\$ _____
Molasses, gal.	_____	\$ _____
Meal, lb.	_____	\$ _____
Other	_____	\$ _____
Total		\$ _____

Tree and small fruits

Apples, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Peaches, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Pears, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Plums, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Cherries, gal.	_____	\$ _____
Quinces, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Grapes, bu.	_____	\$ _____
Dewberries, crates	_____	\$ _____
Strawberries, "	_____	\$ _____
Canned fruit	_____	\$ _____
Other	_____	\$ _____
Total		\$ _____

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Livestock

Hogs, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Pigs, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Cattle, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Calves, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Mules, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Eggs, doz.	_____			\$	_____
Milk, gal.	_____			\$	_____
Sour milk, gal.	_____			\$	_____
Butter, lb.	_____			\$	_____
Honey, lb.	_____			\$	_____
Hens, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Fries, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Turkey, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Ducks, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Guineas, No.	_____	lbs.	_____	\$	_____
Dogs, No.	_____			\$	_____
Others,	_____			\$	_____
Total				\$	_____

Other cash incomes

Firewood	\$	_____
Logs	\$	_____
Fair premiums	\$	_____
Land rental, gov't.	\$	_____
Land rental, farmers	\$	_____
Rent, tobacco barn	\$	_____
Rent, other bldgs.	\$	_____
Rent, team	\$	_____
Rent, truck	\$	_____
Labor elsewhere	\$	_____
Boarders	\$	_____
Pensions	\$	_____
Relief	\$	_____
Gifts	\$	_____
Policies	\$	_____
Other	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____

Farm Cash ExpensesCrop expenses

Fertilizers	\$	_____
Nitrate of soda	\$	_____
Lime	\$	_____
Seeds	\$	_____
Crop Insurance	\$	_____
Twine	\$	_____
Threshing	\$	_____
Containers	\$	_____
Spray	\$	_____
Other	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____

Livestock expenses

Breeding fees	\$	_____
Medicine	\$	_____
Veterinary fees	\$	_____
Fuel for breeder	\$	_____
Hay	\$	_____
Dairy feed	\$	_____
Poultry feed	\$	_____
Mule feed	\$	_____
Other feed	\$	_____
Other	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____

Farm machinery and truck expenses

Machinery repair	\$	_____
New machinery	\$	_____
Truck repairs	\$	_____
License truck	\$	_____
Auto repairs	\$	_____
License, auto	\$	_____
Trailer, repairs	\$	_____
License, trailer	\$	_____
Gas and oil, truck	\$	_____
Gas and oil, auto	\$	_____
Other	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____

Farm improvements' expenses

House repairs	\$	_____
Barn repairs	\$	_____
Fence repairs	\$	_____
Insurance	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____

Other farm expenses

Hired labor	\$	_____
Cash rent	\$	_____
Taxes (Personal)	\$	_____
Taxes (Property)	\$	_____
Total	\$	_____.

-3-

Household and Personal ExpensesFoods

Flour \$ _____
 Sugar \$ _____
 Coffee \$ _____
 Lard \$ _____
 meat \$ _____
 Beans \$ _____
 Canned goods \$ _____
 Pastries \$ _____
 Candies \$ _____
 Fruits \$ _____
 Vegetables \$ _____
 Other \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Clothing

Shoes \$ _____
 Socks \$ _____
 Suits \$ _____
 Coats \$ _____
 Dresses \$ _____
 Undergarments \$ _____
 Hats and caps \$ _____
 Shirts \$ _____
 Ties \$ _____
 Spreads \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

Other expenses

Church and Sunday school \$ _____
 Lodges and societies \$ _____
 Travel (other than car) \$ _____
 School expenses \$ _____
 Papers and magazines \$ _____
 Telephones \$ _____
 Postage and stationery \$ _____
 Legal fees \$ _____
 Interest on loans \$ _____
 Fishing license \$ _____
 Hunting license \$ _____
 Dog license \$ _____
 Hunting supplies \$ _____
 Donations \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Fuel and light

Kerosene \$ _____
 Electricity \$ _____
 Other \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

Summary

Total Income \$ _____

Total Expense \$ _____

Balance \$ _____

Savings

Life insurance premiums \$ _____

Farm investment \$ _____

Other savings(including bank) \$ _____

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