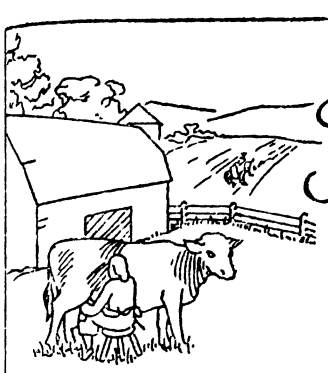

Farm Labor

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C. BAE April 13, 1948

DAILY FARM WAGE RATES DOWN FROM JANUARY, MONTHLY RATES HIGHER, EMPLOYMENT UP SEASONALLY

Average daily wage rates paid to hired farm workers declined slightly from January 1 to April 1 while monthly rates were steady to a little higher, for the country as a whole, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. However, the increase in the monthly rate was enough to more than offset the decreases in daily rates and resulted in an increase of 1 percent in the index of farm wage rates to 412 percent of the 1910-14 average. Farm employment increased about three-quarters of a million during March to a level about the same as a year ago.

Ordinarily, farm wage rates advance during the first quarter of the year. However, for the three years before this the daily rate without board dropped from January 1 to April 1, but not as much as this year. The decline in daily rates is probably due to the recent break in farm product prices. Lower prices for some products at present and some doubt about future prices have made farmers less willing to pay wage rates as high as those in January. The supply of regular workers who receive monthly rates is generally still short so that these rates were kept up to get and keep workers for the entire season. At this time there is less need for seasonal short-time workers, who usually receive day rates. At the same time the supply is ample in most areas, so that day rates were the only ones that were lower.

The average of all wage rates, which was up from January for the country as a whole, was also up for all regions except the South Atlantic and the East South Central. Increases for regions were only 1 or 2 percent except in the Middle Atlantic (5 percent) and West North Central States (8 percent). Wage rates in the West North Central States usually show greater seasonal variations than other regions. The decreases amounted to 1 percent in the South Atlantic States and 5 percent in the East South Central States. Delays in spring planting and cuts in tobacco acreage quotas probably held demand for labor down. In comparison with a year ago the average of all wage rates on April 1 was higher for all regions. Increases ranged from 3 to 10 percent.

Monthly wage rates advanced from January 1 to April 1 in all sections of the country except in parts of the South. Monthly rates with board were down a dollar in the East South Central States and the same as January 1 in the West South Central States. Monthly rates without board were also lower than on January 1 in the East South Central States and the same in the South Atlantic region. Per day rates were lower on April 1 than on January 1 in over half

of the regions. There were increases in the Northeast and the West North Central States and no change in the West South Central States. Both monthly and daily rates for April 1 were above a year ago in all regions.

Farm employment on April 1 totaled 9 and a quarter million, about the same as a year earlier. The increase during the previous month was about the same as usual. Farm operators and unpaid members of their families accounted for 7-1/2 million of the people working on farms on April 1. This was slightly less than last year. The number of hired workers employed on farms on April 1 was 4 percent larger than a year ago and up a little more than usual from a month earlier.

Weather during the last week in March was changeable in most parts of the country. The ground was generally bare and free of frost except in extreme northern regions and the higher elevations of the West. Farming activities were increasing but were limited in many areas by wet soils. Some plowing and oat seeding were active locally on drier soils in the central areas as far north as Iowa. In the South, rain continued to delay land preparations and planting in many areas.

The number of family workers on April 1 was about the same or less than a year ago in all regions except New England and the Mountain States. There were small decreases in the East North and South Central States and in the Pacific States. Increases from March 1 varied from 4 to 7 percent, about the same as usual, for most regions. Larger seasonal increases in New England and the East South Central States were somewhat more than customary.

There were more hired workers employed on farms in all regions on April 1 than a year ago except in the North Central States. Here there was no change. Increases over a year ago in hired employment were small except in the East South Central States. The increase from last year in this region was fairly large but about the same as a month earlier. Ordinarily there is an increase from March 1 to April 1 in the number of hired workers in this region. But both this year and last, when weather was quite similar, hired employment declined from March 1 to April 1. Seasonal changes during March in hired employment also differed from usual in the North Central States where increases were less than ordinarily expected. Greater than usual increases in the number of hired workers from March 1 to April 1 occurred in the Northeast, the South Atlantic States and the West.

Field work in New England and the Middle Atlantic States was barely started by April 1. Maple sugar operations were about completed. Plowing and planting potatoes on Long Island were about the only field operations started in New York. In Pennsylvania some oats were being planted in the southern part of the State. Plowing for corn and oats was started in northern New Jersey. In the central part of the State potatoes were being planted while in South Jersey planting of cabbage, lettuce, cauliflower, beets and carrots was underway.

In much of the North Central region preparations for spring work was the most important work. A little plowing was being done on soils that were not too wet as far north as southern Wisconsin and some oats were being planted in the southwestern part of the region. Wet soils were generally delaying full-scale field operations.

Continued on last page.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm labor: Persons employed, wage rates, indexes and related data, United States, April 1, 1948, with comparisons

	Annual average 1910-14	April average 1935-39	April 1, 1947	March 1, 1948	April 1, 1948
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons)					
Total	12,052	10,273	9,242	8,541	9,225
Family labor	9,160	8,031	7,571	6,996	7,494
Hired labor	2,892	2,242	1,671	1,545	1,731
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation)					
Total	100	91	84	85	85
Family labor	100	91	86	87	86
Hired labor	100	87	74	76	80

	Annual average 1910-14	April average 1935-39	April 1, 1947	January 1, 1948	April 1, 1948
FARM WAGE RATES					
Per month, with board	$22.09	$25.36	$91.50	$95.00	$97.00
Per month, without board	29.18	33.44	107.00	113.00	113.00
Per day, with board	1.16	1.14	4.17	4.50	4.45
Per day, without board	1.42	1.44	4.77	5.20	5.10
Composite rate per month 1/	24.76	28.22	96.20	101.00	102.00
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES					
Unadjusted	100	114	389	408	412
Adjusted for seasonal variation	100	116	397	425	420
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES BY REGION					
New England	100	141	383	402	412
Middle Atlantic	100	127	389	400	418
East North Central	100	114	362	391	393
West North Central	100	96	349	349	376
South Atlantic	100	108	363	386	381
East South Central	100	98	303	336	320
West South Central	100	98	355	382	386
Mountain	100	102	342	357	365
Pacific	100	125	418	426	431
RELATED INDEXES					
Prices received by farmers 2/	100	109	278	304 3/	283
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	100	96	71	75	69
Average weekly factory earnings 4/	100	196	423	465	--

1/ Weighted average of monthly rates with and without board, and daily rates with and without board converted to a monthly basis.
2/ Average of the 15th of the given and the 15th of the previous month.
3/ March 15, 1948 - latest data available.
4/ Factory payroll per employed worker; average of all weeks during the designated month.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm employment: Persons employed, United States and geographic divisions, April 1, 1948, with comparisons

Geographic divisions	April average 1935-39	March 1, 1947	April 1, 1947	March 1, 1948	April 1, 1948
	Thousands				
TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT					
United States	10,273	8,591	9,242	8,541	9,225
New England	240	201	222	203	230
Middle Atlantic	594	510	559	508	564
East North Central	1,481	1,283	1,368	1,271	1,335
West North Central	1,586	1,418	1,499	1,417	1,495
South Atlantic	2,031	1,566	1,708	1,614	1,727
East South Central	1,722	1,293	1,480	1,293	1,464
West South Central	1,685	1,460	1,490	1,394	1,497
Mountain	418	367	399	373	407
Pacific	516	493	517	468	506
FAMILY WORKERS 1/					
United States	8,031	7,046	7,571	6,996	7,494
New England	161	151	160	151	166
Middle Atlantic	414	372	397	371	397
East North Central	1,172	1,112	1,182	1,102	1,149
West North Central	1,310	1,268	1,321	1,265	1,317
South Atlantic	1,536	1,248	1,359	1,276	1,359
East South Central	1,476	1,138	1,330	1,121	1,294
West South Central	1,354	1,174	1,214	1,140	1,213
Mountain	295	291	291	285	298
Pacific	313	292	317	285	301
HIRED WORKERS					
United States	2,242	1,545	1,671	1,545	1,731
New England	79	50	62	52	64
Middle Atlantic	180	138	162	137	167
East North Central	309	171	186	169	186
West North Central	276	150	178	152	178
South Atlantic	495	318	349	338	368
East South Central	246	155	150	172	170
West South Central	331	286	276	254	284
Mountain	123	76	108	88	109
Pacific	203	201	200	183	205

1/ Including farm operators and members of their families working without wages.

Based on reports from 10,487 farmers who reported for their own farms the number of family and hired workers doing 2 or more days of work during the week of inquiry.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm employment: Total, family and hired workers, United States, specified annual averages, and by months, January 1, 1946 -April 1, 1948 1/

Year and month	Total farm employment	Family workers 2/	Hired workers
		Thousands	
1910-14 average	12,052	9,160	2,892
1935-39 average	10,920	8,352	2,568
1939 average	10,740	8,145	2,595
1940 average	10,585	8,019	2,566
1941 average	10,361	7,829	2,532
1942 average	10,397	7,855	2,542
1943 average	10,263	7,857	2,406
1944 average	10,037	7,810	2,227
1945 average	9,344	7,726	2,118
1946 average	10,010	7,862	2,148
January 1	7,732	6,412	1,320
February 1	7,799	6,375	1,424
March 1	8,263	6,774	1,489
April 1	9,121	7,469	1,652
May 1	10,366	8,391	1,975
June 1	11,422	8,969	2,453
July 1	11,586	8,875	2,711
August 1	11,044	8,258	2,786
September 1	11,111	8,334	2,777
October 1	11,458	8,834	2,624
November 1	10,809	8,306	2,503
December 1	9,405	7,345	2,060
1947 average	10,157	7,930	2,227
January 1	8,272	6,747	1,525
February 1	8,280	6,693	1,587
March 1	8,591	7,046	1,545
April 1	9,242	7,571	1,671
May 1	10,280	8,281	1,999
June 1	11,394	8,913	2,481
July 1	11,518	8,833	2,685
August 1	11,140	8,301	2,839
September 1	11,132	8,259	2,873
October 1	11,700	8,896	2,804
November 1	10,938	8,320	2,618
December 1	9,402	7,298	2,104
1948 average	--	--	--
January 1	8,129	6,641	1,488
February 1	8,133	6,661	1,472
March 1	8,541	6,996	1,545
April 1	9,225	7,494	1,731

1/ Annual averages are straight averages of first of month employment estimates.

2/ Includes farm operators and members of their families working without wages.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Farm wage rates: Wage rates, by geographic divisions, April 1, 1948 with comparisons

Geographic division	Annual average 1910-14	January 1, 1947	April 1, 1947	January 1, 1948	April 1, 1948
FARM WAGE RATES		Dollars		Dollars	
PER MONTH WITH BOARD					
New England	24.18	94.80	95.40	101.00	104.00
Middle Atlantic	22.25	86.40	91.30	93.00	96.00
East North Central	23.75	84.90	89.00	95.00	98.00
West North Central	26.32	86.40	95.90	93.00	102.00
South Atlantic	14.62	53.30	51.80	53.00	55.00
East South Central	14.71	44.20	44.00	47.50	46.50
West South Central	17.35	66.20	65.80	71.00	71.00
Mountain	32,48	108.00	114.00	118.00	123.00
Pacific	33.45	151.00	149.00	151.00	156.00
PER MONTH WITHOUT BOARD					
New England	37.70	136.00	139.00	142.00	148.00
Middle Atlantic	33.41	120.00	126.00	128.00	135.00
East North Central	32.80	114.00	118.00	126.00	129.00
West North Central	36.86	114.00	123.00	122.00	132.00
South Atlantic	20.97	74.70	73.00	78.00	78.00
East South Central	20.80	61.70	60.90	68.00	66.00
West South Central	24.93	91.00	91.00	96.00	97.00
Mountain	46.42	142.00	152.00	160.00	161.00
Pacific	48.16	188.00	190.00	191.00	195.00
PER DAY WITH BOARD					
New England	1.27	5.08	4.96	4.85	5.20
Middle Atlantic	1.24	4.64	4.76	5.10	5.20
East North Central	1.31	4.52	4.61	5.00	4.95
West North Central	1.46	4.68	4.82	5.00	5.30
South Atlantic	.81	3.11	3.11	3.30	3.20
East South Central	.81	2.54	2.50	2.85	2.65
West South Central	.98	3.41	3.38	3.70	3.70
Mountain	1.50	4.90	5.09	5.50	5.30
Pacific	1.49	6.87	6.56	7.00	6.80
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD					
New England	1.71	6.23	6.25	6.50	6.60
Middle Atlantic	1.63	5.72	5.84	6.20	6.40
East North Central	1.68	5.52	5.62	6.30	6.10
West North Central	1.88	5.80	6.15	6.30	6.60
South Atlantic	1.05	3.86	3.80	4.05	4.00
East South Central	1.05	3.28	3.15	3.50	3.35
West South Central	1.25	4.11	4.06	4.45	4.45
Mountain	2.05	5.99	6.10	6.70	6.50
Pacific	2.06	8.27	7.93	8.20	8.10

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Farm wage rates: Wage rates, by States,
April 1, 1947 and April 1, 1948

State	Per month with board		Per month without board		Per day with board		Per day without board	
	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948
	Dollars				Dollars			
Maine	91.00	93.00	130.00	133.00	5.00	5.20	6.30	6.40
New Hampshire	96.00	102.00	136.00	149.00	4.90	5.30	6.10	6.90
Vermont	95.00	103.00	132.00	140.00	5.20	5.40	6.60	6.70
Massachusetts	98.00	108.00	146.00	157.00	4.80	4.90	6.20	6.60
Rhode Island	94.00	105.00	142.00	153.00	4.85	5.00	6.10	6.70
Connecticut	95.00	108.00	140.00	153.00	4.85	5.10	6.10	6.60
New York	101.00	101.00	137.00	142.00	4.95	5.30	6.20	6.50
New Jersey	100.00	107.00	140.00	150.00	5.20	5.80	6.25	6.90
Pennsylvania	75.25	86.00	108.00	120.00	4.35	4.85	5.25	6.00
Ohio	77.75	87.00	106.00	117.00	4.30	4.85	5.20	6.00
Indiana	77.25	85 00	105.00	116.00	4.45	4.45	5.10	5.10
Illinois	96.50	105.00	121.00	129.00	4.75	5.10	5 60	6.20
Michigan	91.25	98.00	125.00	132.00	5.00	5.00	6.30	6.50
Wisconsin	97.00	108.00	130.00	146.00	4.65	5.20	5.90	6.50
Minnesota	97.75	103.00	124.00	135.00	4 95	5.60	6.10	6.70
Iowa	109.00	121.00	132.00	145.00	5.40	6.40	6.70	7.60
Missouri	70.00	75.00	95 75	100.00	3.65	3.90	4.55	4.70
North Dakota	106.00	111.00	140.00	149.00	5.00	5.50	6.80	7.00
South Dakota	105.00	108.00	136.00	146.00	5.20	5.30	6.80	6.80
Nebraska	103.00	110.00	134.00	143.00	5.20	5.60	6.50	6.90
Kansas	90.00	98.00	121.00	132.00	4.95	5.20	6.10	6.60
Delaware	72.00	76.00	96.00	105.00	5.00	5.00	6.00	6.00
Maryland	75.00	78.00	104.00	108.00	4.55	4.65	5 10	5.70
Virginia	62.25	69.00	83.50	94.00	3.60	3 90	4.20	4.60
West Virginia	56.00	57.00	77.50	78.00	2.90	3.20	3.80	4.15
North Carolina	54.25	62.00	75.50	85.00	3.40	3.60	3.90	4.10
South Carolina	38.75	39.00	53.25	55.00	2.30	2.35	2.90	2.90
Georgia	39.25	42.00	55.50	60.00	2.60	2.80	3.10	3.50
Florida	60.00	60.00	90.00	95.00	3.20	3.20	4.40	4.50
Kentucky	54.75	55.00	72.75	75.00	2.80	2.80	3.40	3 70
Tennessee	45.00	47.00	64.00	69.00	2.45	2.60	3.05	3.25
Alabama	38.00	44.00	53.00	63.00	2.40	2.65	3.05	3.35
Mississippi	40.00	41.00	56.00	58.00	2.40	2.55	3.15	3.15
Arkansas	55.00	55.00	75.00	77.00	3.00	3.00	3.75	3.80
Louisiana	45.00	45.00	65.00	65.00	2.55	2.60	3.10	3.30
Oklahoma	74.75	81.00	101.00	112.00	3.90	4.55	4.65	5.20
Texas	73.25	84.00	102.00	112.00	3.70	4.15	4.35	4.95
Montana	127.00	131.00	161.00	168.00	5.70	5.80	6.80	6.80
Idaho	140.00	148.00	175.00	177.00	6.40	6.60	7.40	7.60
Wyoming	116.00	123.00	161.00	169.00	5.00	5.30	6.20	6.70
Colorado	105.00	110.00	141.00	152.00	4.95	5.20	6.00	6.60
New Mexico	85.00	100.00	117.00	126.00	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.70
Arizona	110.00	125.00	144.00	170.00	4.50	4.60	5.50	5.60
Utah	140.00	140.00	168.00	168 00	5.40	5.80	6.30	6.70
Nevada	127.00	132.00	170.00	170.00	5.00	5.20	6.00	6.30
Washington	146.00	146.00	194.00	194.00	6.80	6.90	8.40	8.70
Oregon	144.00	145.00	181.00	182.00	6.80	6.80	7.80	7.80
California	150.00	158.00	190.00	197.00	6.50	6.80	7.90	8.00
U. S.	91.50	97.00	107.00	113.00	4.17	4.45	4.77	5.10

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Farm wage rates: Composite wage rate per month by States and geographic divisions, January 1, 1947 and 1948, April 1, 1947 and 1948

State and geographic division	January 1,		April 1,	
	1947	1948	1947	1948
	Dollars		Dollars	
Maine	116.00	113.00	112.00	118.00
New Hampshire	120.00	128.00	117.00	128.00
Vermont	114.00	121.00	118.00	123.00
Massachusetts	120.00	129.00	123.00	132.00
Rhode Island	140.00	150.00	142.00	153.00
Connecticut	119.00	129.00	119.00	132.00
New England	118.00	125.00	119.00	128.00
New York	109.00	118.00	116.00	120.00
New Jersey	115.00	119.00	117.00	127.00
Pennsylvania	91.00	98.00	91.60	103.00
Middle Atlantic	102.00	110.00	107.00	115.00
Ohio	85.70	98.00	90.40	102.00
Indiana	87.50	98.00	90.10	98.00
Illinois	102.00	113.00	106.00	115.00
Michigan	105.00	113.00	107.00	114.00
Wisconsin	103.00	116.00	109.00	122.00
East North Central	97.70	109.00	101.00	111.00
Minnesota	92.00	105.00	104.00	113.00
Iowa	108.00	116.00	115.00	129.00
Missouri	75.50	84.00	76.70	81.00
North Dakota	94.70	101.00	114.00	121.00
South Dakota	104.00	109.00	113.00	116.00
Nebraska	111.00	118.00	112.00	120.00
Kansas	99.40	108.00	101.00	108.00
West North Central	95.10	103.00	103.00	111.00
Delaware	99.00	101.00	96.80	100.00
Maryland	91.40	102.00	95.40	100.00
Virginia	77.10	82.00	76.80	85.00
West Virginia	65.90	71.00	70.20	73.00
North Carolina	71.00	75.00	69.60	76.00
South Carolina	47.40	50.00	49.50	50.00
Georgia	53.60	57.00	52.40	57.00
Florida	79.70	78.00	78.40	80.00
South Atlantic	68.00	71.00	66.80	70.00
Kentucky	66.30	70.00	65.50	68.00
Tennessee	56.30	62.00	57.10	61.00
Alabama	53.90	59.00	51.90	59.00
Mississippi	52.90	60.00	54.30	55.00
East South Central	57.90	63.00	56.80	60.00
Arkansas	66.20	71.00	69.60	71.00
Louisiana	55.10	62.00	58.50	60.00
Oklahoma	89.30	98.00	90.60	101.00
Texas	87.60	95.00	87.60	99.00
West South Central	80.40	86.00	79.90	87.00
Montana	114.00	128.00	131.00	135.00
Idaho	135.00	148.00	144.00	150.00
Wyoming	119.00	128.00	118.00	127.00
Colorado	108.00	119.00	111.00	116.00
New Mexico	83.70	103.00	90.50	104.00
Arizona	112.00	125.00	110.00	124.00
Utah	123.00	129.00	138.00	140.00
Nevada	112.00	115.00	131.00	118.00
Mountain	111.00	123.00	118.00	126.00
Washington	157.00	167.00	165.00	165.00
Oregon	149.00	157.00	156.00	157.00
California	166.00	165.00	162.00	168.00
Pacific	164.00	164.00	161.00	166.00
UNITED STATES	94.80	101.00	96.20	102.00

Farm wage rates: Annual average wage rates and index numbers, geographic divisions, 1943-1947

Year and geographic division	Per month		Per day		Weighted average rate per month	Index numbers of farm wage rates (1910-14 = 100)
	With board	Without board	With board	Without board		
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	
New England						
1943	69.54	103.10	3.55	4.56	87.80	282
1944	80.00	117.00	4.07	5.11	99.90	321
1945	86.30	126.00	4.26	5.43	107.00	344
1946	91.90	133.00	4.86	5.92	114.00	367
1947	97.00	140.00	5.10	6.50	122.00	392
Middle Atlantic						
1943	60.09	86.39	3.34	4.26	73.00	265
1944	69.20	99.30	3.81	4.74	83.50	303
1945	76.20	109.00	4.09	5.05	91.10	331
1946	86.20	118.00	4.59	5.66	101.00	367
1947	93.00	128.00	4.95	6.10	110.00	400
East North Central						
1943	58.25	79.25	3.24	4.04	68.30	245
1944	66.80	91.00	3.74	4.60	78.40	281
1945	73.70	99.80	4.04	4.92	85.80	308
1946	82.40	110.00	4.42	5.35	94.80	340
1947	90.00	120.00	4.85	5.90	104.00	373
West North Central						
1943	66.25	85.75	3.63	4.56	72.90	247
1944	78.30	99.70	4.33	5.31	85.90	291
1945	87.90	112.00	4.75	5.71	96.00	326
1946	92.30	119.00	4.94	6.07	101.00	342
1947	100.00	128.00	5.40	6.60	109.00	369
South Atlantic						
1943	31.91	45.36	1.72	2.20	40.10	218
1944	38.50	53.20	2.16	2.68	48.10	262
1945	43.70	59.50	2.47	3 05	54.40	296
1946	49.40	67.60	2.88	3.53	62.20	338
1947	52.00	73.00	3.10	3.60	67.00	365
East South Central						
1943	30.61	42.16	1.58	2.02	37.80	201
1944	36.10	49.70	1.98	2.53	45.90	245
1945	39.40	53.90	2.15	2.73	49.60	265
1946	43.00	59.10	2.43	3.08	55.30	295
1947	46.50	65.00	2 70	3.35	60.00	320
West South Central						
1943	42.75	58.70	2.27	2.74	52.70	234
1944	52.60	71 70	2.90	3.39	65.10	289
1945	60.00	80.70	3.19	3.78	72.90	324
1946	1/ 62.50	1/ 85.30	3.42	4.03	1/ 77.20	1/ 343
1947	69.00	93.00	3.70	4.35	84.00	373
Mountain						
1943	80.13	107.57	3.86	4.77	84.50	245
1944	96.90	127.00	4.53	5.44	101.00	293
1945	107.00	138.00	4.96	5.87	111.00	1/ 322
1946	112.00	144.00	5.24	6.07	116.00	336
1947	122.00	158.00	5.60	6.70	126.00	365
Pacific						
1943	112.89	148.10	5.23	6.57	126.50	328
1944	132.00	169.00	6.00	7.36	145.00	376
1945	141.00	181.00	6.33	7.77	154.00	1/ 400
1946	148.00	186.00	6.72	8.19	161.00	418
1947	151.00	191.00	6.90	8.30	164.00	426

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In the two eastern regions of the South frequent rains continued to delay spring planting operations. Corn was being planted in the coastal plains of North Carolina and the southern counties of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and South Carolina. In Florida the movement of citrus was being limited somewhat by price but the volume of vegetable movement was increasing.

Field work was speeding up about the first of April in the West South Central States but was later than usual. Conditions were generally favorable for land preparation in Texas except in the heavier soils of the east which were wet and in the dry area in the western part of the State. Corn was being planted in all areas and cotton planted and replanted in southern counties. Planting spring vegetables was active. In Oklahoma major jobs were planting oats and plowing for and planting corn. Preparation of land and planting spring crops was moving ahead in Arkansas although some lowland was still wet. Very little land had been prepared for cotton. In Louisiana plowing and planting was being rushed in the north. Strawberry harvest was well underway.

In the West most field activity was confined to the Pacific States. Plowing was started in the Mountain States by April 1 but little progress had been made. In Washington spring seeding was well underway in the south but rain was causing some delay. Wet, cool weather was also slowing field work in Oregon. In the western part of the State plowing and seeding were in progress on better drained soils. Fruit men were burning trimmings and spraying. Planting peas in Umatilla County was off to a slow start. Sugar beets, onions and spring lettuce were being planted in the irrigated sections of Malheur County. Lambing and marking and docking lambs were big jobs in the southeast range sections. Rainfall in California interrupted farm work temporarily but gave additional relief to the dry condition of past months. Major seasonal activities were at about their lowest point on April 1. Navel orange and lemon harvests in southern California were about at their peak. The lettuce harvest in the Imperial Valley was being completed. In the San Joaquin Valley sugar beet thinning and asparagus harvest were just starting.