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WORLD AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

1979-80

FASLI-1389

TAMIL NADU

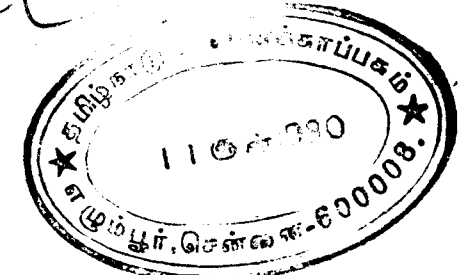
PART - I

REPORT AND ANALYSIS

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WORLD AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

1979 - 80

(FASLI - 1389)

TAMIL NADU



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PART I REPORT AND ANALYSIS

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1989

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WORLD AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

1979-80

(FASLI - 1389)

TAMIL NADU

PART I

REPORT AND ANALYSIS

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PREFACE.

This report is written in two parts, the first part containing a narrative report on the Agricultural Census 1979-80 and the second part giving the tables presenting the actual data on the number and area of operational holdings and estimated percentages of other important characteristics. Chapter I of Part I deals with the historical background and methodology. Chapter II describes the concepts and methodology, scope and coverage of the Census. In Chapter III, the results are analysed. Chapter IV gives an account of problems and perspective. Finally, Chapter V sums up the report drawing some conclusions.

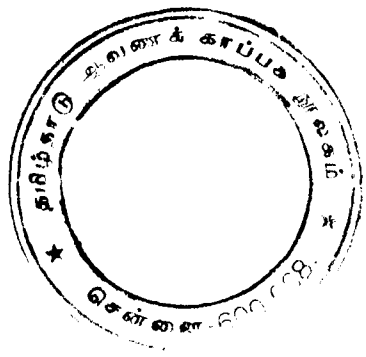
The co-operation extended and assistance rendered by the Officers of Government of India, Officers of the State Government especially the Revenue and Statistics Department and all Heads of Departments, District Collectors and all the staff engaged in the Census Operations are gratefully acknowledged.

T. P. NAGARAJAN,
Commissioner of Statistics.

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INTRODUCTION.

Agriculture holds a key position and constitutes a sector closely linked with the economy as a whole. During the planning decades, much emphasis was laid on growth oriented programmes in the vital sphere of agriculture and the development of necessary infrastructure facilities for ensuring its full contribution to economic development. The era of planning in the country has evolved a series of new farm strategy measures to generate sustained growth rates in productivity. The process of planning with its basic emphasis on the achievement of productivity efficiency in the agriculture sector has to be carried to the village level. Within a village, the size structure and tenure of operated farm units have to be reckoned with for increasing productivity, as they contribute substantially to the operational efficiency. An "Operational Holding", as the fundamental unit of decision making in agriculture has, therefore, been more and more recognised as of paramount importance for agricultural production and planning in India. Any scientific planning in the field of agriculture is possible only when the data on the structure and characteristics of operational holdings are made available. It is to collect this type of data that the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations has been instrumental in conducting Decennial Agricultural Census in almost all the countries of the world since 1950.

The Agricultural Census seeks to gather relevant information for micro level agricultural planning on an operational holding basis. An "Operational Holding" for the purpose of Agricultural Census is defined as "All land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and operated directly or managed as one technical unit by one person alone or with others without regard to the title, legal form, size or location". A holding may consist of one or more parcels of land provided they are located within the same taluk (a restriction up to this area being made on administrative grounds) and form part of the same technical unit. A technical unit has been defined as "that unit which is under the same management and has the same means of production such as labour force, machinery and animals". It would be seen from this definition that the actual tiller's or cultivator's holding and not the owner's is the fundamental unit of decision making.

The International Institute of Agriculture, Rome took the initiative in the 1924, in organising a World Census of Agriculture. The Director of the census in the Institute persuaded the member countries to carry out a general agricultural census on a uniform plan prepared by the Institute. Sixty three countries and territories participated in the first census in 1930 and of these 46 took it by holdings. The Institute originally programme to repeat the census at ten year intervals, which could not fructify. With the outbreak of the Second World War, the census programme for 1940 remained incomplete. After the war, the Food and Agriculture Organisation took over the responsibility of the International Institute of Agriculture. The standing Advisory Committee on Statistics, in the Food and Agriculture Organisation, met for the first time in August 1946 and laid down the general plan in 1948 for carrying out the census programme for 1950. In the second world Agricultural Census 1950 more number of countries and territories participated than in the first census 1930, the respective figures being 106 and 63.

India participated in the world Agricultural Census of 1950 and subsequently in the 1960 census. In both the censuses, the data were collected for the reference year 1953-54, 1959-60 and 1960-61 through the National Sample Survey Organisation by socio Economic Surveys which gave estimates for the State as a whole for larger regions, These estimates were of limited value for micro level planning :

With the formulation of new strategy for agricultural development involving acceleration of the tempo of agricultural production and devising programmes for small farmers, marginal farmers, etc., the need for data on structure of holdings and other related items at the level of lower geographical units became paramount. Also, the need for placing agricultural statistics on sound footing to meet the planning needs was keenly felt. The pros and cons of the various methods suggested by the Food and Agriculture Organisation for carrying out Agricultural Census were carefully examined by the Government of India. The Government of India also had consultations with the State Governments on the conduct of the census 1970 and then decided to conduct it in two parts as indicated below :—

Part one.—The method of complete enumeration may be adopted in respect of those items for which information is available from Revenue Records directly by re-abulation without making any further detailed enquiry from the holders in regard to

- (i) Number and size of operational holdings
- (ii) Land utilisation.
- (iii) Area under crops.
- (iv) Irrigation (Crop wise and source wise) and
- (v) Tenure and Tenancy.

Part Two.—In respect of items,

- (i) Farm population.
- (ii) Livestock Numbers.
- (iii) Machinery and implements.
- (iv) Application of fertilisers: and
- (v) Adoption of improved agricultural practices,

for which land records do not contain any information enquiry from households would be necessary. These items of information may therefore be collected by enquiry method through sample surveys.

As decided by Government of India, a census was carried out in Tamil Nadu in 1970-71 (Fasli 1380) for items included in part one above. The collection of data on items in part one and part two with the exclusion of sub-item (V) was also carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation for 1970-71 in the Twenty sixth Round adopting enquiry method through sample survey as suggested by Government of India. The Agricultural Census 1970-71 covered thirteen districts of the State excluding Madras city district. The approach to census methodology in the first census in 1970-71 followed by the Government of Tamil Nadu was based on complete enumeration of the entire geographical area operated in eleven out of fourteen districts of Tamil Nadu noted below.—

Chengalpattu	Tiruchirappalli.
South Arcot	Thanjavur
North Arcot	Madurai.
Salem	Ramanthapuram
Dharmapuri	Tirunelveli.
Coimbatore.	

The two districts of the Nilgiris and Kanniyakumari, were covered under sample surveys since the basic records available at that time could not lend themselves for retabulation of census data. The remaining district-Madras-city was outside the purview of the Agricultural Census because of its urban nature.

In eleven districts, the entire operated holding area, excluding Government lands was retabulated from the village basic records (Account No. 2 and 10.1). Account No. 2 provided all information relating to area operated during the Fasli year wholly or partly, crops cultivated and irrigated, tenures and tenancies, etc., Account No. 10.1 provided information relating to registered owners of various parcels of land included in the operational holdings. For the particulars of tenant cultivators, where tenant cultivator was operating land based on oral agreement and not recorded in Account No. 2, the primary reporters had been instructed to record such information based on their local knowledge. In districts where the records of Tenancy rights had been done, that was also used.

The Jurisdiction of the operational holdings for the purpose of the census was taluk and the consolidation of part holdings was carried out first at firka level and finally at the taluk level. The primary enumerators and the supervisory Officers in charge of the field work were provided with detailed instructions on the field work.

The Agricultural Census 1970-71 was carried out under complete enumeration method in eleven districts comprising 16,293 Revenue villages and in two districts (viz.) the Nilgiris with 33 villages and 23 towns and Kanniyakumari with 64 paguthis comprising 1145 karas were covered under Sample Survey basis.

The Agricultural Census data relating to 1970-71 census was mechanically processed and 6 tables in respect of each of the eleven districts were brought out as required by the Government of India. The holding wise data for individual districts in six tables were grouped and presented under twelve size classes. Similar tables and additional tables 7 to 23 were prepared in respect of the Nilgiris and Kanniyakumari district which were covered sample Surveys. The results of the Census 1970-71 were published in the report "World Agricultural Census 1970-71 (Fasli 1380) Tamil Nadu" in two volumes (Volumes I and II).

The Agricultural Census 1970-71 provided for the first time authentic information on the number and pattern of distribution of operational holdings in Tamil Nadu. The census revealed that there were 53,14,323 operational holders in the State, operating an area of 77,09,208, hectares.

Distribution of operational holdings in 1970-71.

Serial number and category.							Number of holdings.	Operated area in Hectares.
(1)							(2)	(3)
1.	Marginal	..	..	..	..	..	31,25,280	13,21,574
2.	Small	..	..	..	..	..	11,09,317	15,77,575
3.	Semi-Medium	..	..	..	..	..	6,95,529	19,14,324
4.	Medium	..	..	..	..	..	3,24,968	18,92,688
5.	Large	..	..	..	..	..	59,229	10,03,047
Total							53,14,323	77,09,208

As 1970-71 census provided useful data at the lower geographical units for preparation of meaningful and effective plans for agricultural developments, it was found necessary and useful to undertake the Agricultural Census at more frequent intervals. The data on operational holdings became very essential for planning purposes of Small Farmers Development Agencies and Marginal Farmers Development Agencies. It was originally decided in August 1974 that the next census should be carried out on a sample survey basis with the Agricultural year 1975-76 as the reference period. However a lot of changes were expected to take place in the land records during 1975-76 and since the land records formed the base for the Agricultural Census in many of the States, the Government of India postponed the reference year from 1975-76 to 1976-77. The National Commission on Agriculture and the Planning Commission also recommended that the next Agricultural Census may be carried out with 1976-77 as the reference period. In accordance with the instructions laid down by the Government of India the Agricultural Census 1976-77 (Fasli 1386) was conducted in Tamil Nadu, covering fourteen districts, comprising 16,958 Revenue villages. A report "World Agricultural Census 1976-77 (Fasli 1386) —Tamil Nadu" was brought out in two parts, containing useful information on the structure and characteristics of operational holdings in the State.

The Agricultural Census 1976-77 revealed that there were 61,11,553 operational holdings in Tamil Nadu, operating on area of 76,28,460 hectares.

Distribution of operational holdings in 1976-77.

Serial number and category.							Number of holdings.	Operated area in Hectares.
(1)							(2)	(3)
1.	Marginal	..	..	..	..	..	39,51,175	16,07,533
2.	Small	..	..	..	..	..	11,25,740	15,86,429
3.	Semi Medium	..	..	..	..	..	6,83,086	18,75,796
4.	Medium	..	..	..	..	..	3,05,496	17,63,039
5.	Large	..	..	..	..	..	46,056	7,95,663
State							61,11,553	76,28,460

The Third Comprehensive Agricultural Census was carried out as a Central Scheme during sixth Five-Year Plan period. The Agricultural Census 1980-81 (1979-80) in the case of Tamil Nadu was undertaken on complete enumeration basis in most of the States including Tamil Nadu, as they are having comprehensive land records. In Tamil Nadu, the third census was carried out in all the sixteen districts, comprising 17,291 Revenue villages. Madras City was also brought under the purview of the Agricultural Census for the first time. This report presents the findings of the third census in an analytical manner. According to the Agricultural Census 1979-80, there are 71,90,503 operational holdings, accounting for an operated area of 77,07,859 hectares in Tamil Nadu.

Distribution of operational holdings in 1979-80.

Serial number and category.	Number of holdings.	Operated area in Hectares.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Marginal	50,14,754	19,06,499
2. Small	12,09,059	17,09,987
3. Semi-Medium	6,57,868	18,21,579
4. Medium	2,69,059	15,55,400
5. Large	39,763	7,14,394
State	71,90,503	77,07,859

The average size of the operational holdings in Tamil Nadu for the following years were found to be as follows :—

1960-61	1.61 Hectares (N.S.S. 16th Round).
1970-71	1.45 Hectare.
1976-77	1.25 Hectare.
1979-80	1.07 Hectare.

The average size of the operational holdings in Tamil Nadu depicts a decreasing trend with every Agricultural Census.

CHAPTER-II.

CONCEPTS, METHODOLOGY AND COVERAGE.

Unlike population census, Agricultural Census is of recent origin in India. India participated in a limited way in the World Agricultural Census 1950 during 1953-54 and subsequently in the 1960 Census during 1959-60 and repeated the same thing during 1960-61. The data were then collected through the National Sample Survey and by Socio-Economic Surveys which gave estimates for the country as a whole and for larger regions. These estimates were of limited value for micro-level agricultural planning.

According to the proposals received from the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, the first comprehensive Agricultural Census was conducted in India by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India with the agricultural year 1970-71 (July 1970 to June 1971) as the reference year. The Agricultural Census became imperative in the context of the implementation of the new strategy for agricultural development involving acceleration of the tempo of agricultural production and formulating programmes for small farmers and the need for the data on structure of holdings and other related items at the level of lower geographical level. Keeping this immediate objective in view and also the basic need felt for placing Agricultural Statistics on the sound footing the Government of India found it essential to conduct the Agricultural Census in all the states and Union Territories. As recommended by the National Commission on Agriculture and the Planning Commission, the second Agricultural Census with the agricultural year 1976-77 (July 1976 and June 1977) as the reference period was carried out. While the first Agricultural Census 1970-71 was conducted on a complete enumeration basis, the second Agricultural Census 1976-77 was conducted on a sample census basis.

The Government of India carried out the Third Agricultural Census as a Central Scheme during Sixth Five Year Plan period and this corresponded to World Agricultural Census, 1980 sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organisation. This Census was conducted in Tamil Nadu with the Agricultural year 1979-80 (July 1979 to June 1980) as the reference period and was undertaken on complete enumeration basis.

Concepts.—As the Agricultural Census was a Central Scheme sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, it was carried out in the States and the Union Territories with uniform concepts and definitions. Also, there was not much change in the concepts followed in the three Agricultural Censuses conducted so far.

Operational Holdings.—The Operational Holding was the basic unit of enumeration in Agricultural Census. An Operational holding has been defined as "all land which is used wholly or partly for agricultural production and is operated as one technical unit by one person alone or with others without regard to the title, legal form, size, or location". A technical unit has been defined as that unit which is under the same means of production such as labour force, machinery and animals.

Agricultural Production.—For purpose of Agricultural Census, Agricultural Production would include growing of field crops, fruits, grapes, seeds, tree nurseries (except those of forest trees), pulps, vegetables, flowers, production of coffee, tea, cocoa, rubber, jute, oil seeds, fodder grass, etc. Grass would be treated as a crop if special efforts are made to raise it.

Holding Location.—A holding may consist of one or more parcels of land provided they are located within the same taluk and form part of the same technical unit. This implies that the pieces of land of the holding might all be located in a single compact block or scattered as fragments within the taluk. A restriction, upto this area, i.e., taluk, has been made on administrative grounds.

Operated Area.—Operated area would include both cultivated and uncultivated area, provided part of it is put to agricultural production during the reference period. It would also cover the land occupied by the farm buildings, including the house of the holder, provided such buildings are located within the cultivated area. If farm buildings are located outside the cultivated area and are covered under abadi area, such buildings would not be included. Operated area would exclude Government forest land, Government waste land, village common grazing land, abadi area, etc. If the entire area of the holding is put to non-agricultural use and/or it is under old fallows it will not be considered as operated area.

The operated area may comprise of (a) land owned and self operated, (b) land leased in and (c) land otherwise operated.

(a) *Land Owned and Self Operated*.—Land for which the cultivation has the right to permanent heritable possession would be considered as owned. This would include—

(i) Land held from Government or others under grant or lease or assignment with right of permanent heritable possession with or without right of transfer.

(2) Land operated under perpetual lease. Self operated land would include—

(i) Self cultivation.

(ii) Land cultivated through members of the family.

(iii) Land cultivated with the help of hired labour.

(b) *Area Leased in* defined as land taken on lease from others without any permanent right of possession for the lessee. Land may be leased in for:

(i) fixed money.

(ii) fixed produce.

(iii) share of produce.

(iv) usufructuary mortgage.

(v) Other terms.

(c) *Area Otherwise Operated*.—This would include encroachment, land forcibly occupied, unauthorised or land in dispute, etc., which cannot be treated as owned or leased in as per definitions given above.

Operational Holder.—An Operational holder is the person who has responsibility for the operation of the agricultural holding and who exercises the technical initiative and is responsible for its operation. He may have full economic responsibility or may share it with others. The operational holder may be Individual/Joint/Institutional.

(a) *Individual*.—If the holding is operated either by one person alone or by group of persons who are the members of the same household, it will be considered as an individual holding.

(b) *Joint*.—If two or more persons belonging to different households, share jointly as partners the economic and technical responsibility for the operation of an agricultural holding, such holding would be considered as Joint.

(c) *Institutional*.—Holdings such as Government farms, sugarcane factories, co-operative farms, lands managed by trust would be treated as Institutional.

Complete Holding.—A holding is said to be complete holding if the entire operated area of that holding is located in one village.

Part Holding.—If the operated area is spread over more than one village, it would be considered as part holding. Taluk would be taken as the outer limit for consolidation of part holdings.

Land Utilisation.—Operated area would be classified into six broad categories—

(i) Net area sown,

(ii) Current fallow,

(iii) Fallow land other than current fallow,

(iv) Other uncultivated land excluding fallow,

(v) Culturable waste and,

(vi) Not available for cultivation.

These are explained below:

(i) *Net Area Sown*.—Total area sown with crops and orchards counting area sown more than once in the same year only once.

(ii) *Current Fallow*.—Cropped areas which are kept fallow during the current year.

(iii) *Fallow other than Current Fallow*.—All Lands which are taken up for cultivation but are temporarily out of cultivation for a period of not less than one year and not more than five years.

(iv) *Other Uncultivated Land excluding Fallow*.—This will include:—

(a) *Permanent Pastures and Other Grazing Lands*.—All grazing lands, whether they are permanent pastures and meadows or not. Village common grazing lands would, however, be excluded.

(b) *Land under Miscellaneous Tree Crops*.—Cultivable land which is not included in the net area sown but is put to some agricultural use. Lands under casuarina trees, thatching, grasses, bamboo bushes and other groves for fuel which are not included under 'Orchards' would be covered under this category.

(v) *Culturable Waste*.—All lands available for cultivation, whether not taken up for cultivation once but not cultivated during the current year and the last five years or more in succession for one reason or the other. Such lands may be either wholly or partly covered with shrubs and jungles which are not put to any use. Land once cultivated but not cultivated for five years in succession would also be included.

(vi) *Not available for Cultivation*.—This would include Forest, area under non-agricultural use, barren and uncultivable land.

(a) *Forest*.—All lands classed as 'forests' under any legal enactment dealing with forest or administered as forests, whether state owned or private and whether wooded or maintained as potential forest land.

The area of crops raised in the forest and grazing lands or areas open for grazing within the forests would be included under the forest area. Only private forest would be covered under this category.

(b) *Area under Non-Agricultural Use*.—All lands occupied by buildings and other lands put to uses other than agriculture within the holding.

(c) *Barren and Uncultivable Land*.—All barren and uncultivable land within the cultivated holding.

Methodology and Coverage.—The Government of India decided to conduct the Agricultural Census 1979-80 on complete enumeration basis, as was done during the first Agricultural Census 1970-71. This was also keeping in line with the policy of the Government of India to develop agricultural statistics required for area planning. In Tamil Nadu, the comprehensive system for collection of agricultural statistics through village accounts maintained by the revenue agencies has formed the base for Agricultural Census. The land record contain detailed particulars on individual fields (Survey Numbers and Sub-division Numbers) which are normally aggregated at various geographical levels like village, firka, taluk, district, etc. As the operational holding is the basic unit of decision making the Agricultural Census aimed at collection of agricultural statistics at the holding level.

In Tamil Nadu, the basic land records are available in all the districts (viz) Madras, Chengalpattu, North Arcot, South Arcot, Salem, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore, Periyar, The Nilgiris, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukkottai, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari. In all these districts, the Agricultural Census 1979-80 was conducted on complete enumeration basis. The census envisaged collection of data in respect of each operational holding by retabulating the data already available in village land records. The retabulation approach involved recompilation of data survey number-wise; sub division number-wise into operational holding-wise figures. The following items were covered:

(a) Size of operational holdings (b) Status of operational holdings (c) land utilisation, (d) irrigation source-wise, (e) area under crops and (f) irrigation crop-wise.

CHAPTER III.

ANALYSIS OF CENSUS RESULTS.

Prior to the advent of planning era, agriculture in India was based on Conventional methods. The planning decades had brought with them perceptible changes in Agricultural practices and improvements in efficient utilisation of factors of production. The organisation of farm units of economic sizes in now-a-days receiving much attention with a view to make the units viable and capable of producing not only for household consumption but also for sale with profit margins. The Five Year Plans introduced effective land reform measures which helped in bridging the gap between ownership and actual cultivation. These land reform measures and other development measures carried out so far have found expression in the size pattern of farm units better adjusted to sociological and economic conditions in different parts of the State.

2. The first ever Agricultural Census was conducted in Tamil Nadu with the Agricultural Year 1970-71 as the reference period and on complete enumeration basis. This was followed by the Second Agricultural Census which had the Agricultural Year 1976-77 as the reference period and was conducted on twenty per cent sample survey basis. However, the information on the number and area of operational holdings alone was collected on complete enumeration in the second census. The third Agricultural Census, on which the present report is brought up was conducted with the Agricultural Year 1979-80 as the reference period, on complete enumeration basis as was done during the first census. These censuses have made available basic information on the structure and characteristics of the operational holdings which are helpful in evolving effective agricultural policies.

3. In this Chapter, it is ventured to analyse the results of the third Agricultural Census 1979-80 in a detailed manner. The results of the two earlier Census, viz., 1970-71 and 1976-77 are also made use of in appropriate places for purposes of comparison and for highlighting emerging trends. Among the three Censuses conducted so far, the third Agricultural Census is unique as it collected data on the structure of operational holdings according to social groups, for the first time in the history of Agricultural Census in India. The information on the operation holdings under the fold of the two major social groups (viz) scheduled caste and scheduled tribe are highlighted at the appropriate places in this chapter.

4. The results of Agricultural Census 1979-80 have been aggregated social group-wise under the following tables:

Table 1: Number and Area of Operational Holdings.

Table 2A : Number and Area of Operational Holdings by tenure and tenancy status.

Table 2B: Leased in Area by terms of leasing.

Table 3: Area under different land use.

Table 4 : Distribution of number of Operational holdings by irrigation status.

Table 5A : Number of Operational Holdings receiving irrigation and area irrigated by different sources.

Table 5B : Number of Wells and Tube Wells.

Table 6: Irrigated and unirrigated area under different Crops.

The above tables have been prepared social group-wise as indicated below

(i) Scheduled Caste,

(ii) Scheduled Tribe,

(iii) Others,

(iv) Total for all social groups.

Data are furnished in the tables in the form of frequency distribution containing thirteen intervals of size classes of operational holdings.

5. Seventeen reports containing the above statistical tables are brought out separately for State (including Regions) and Districts as indicated below :—

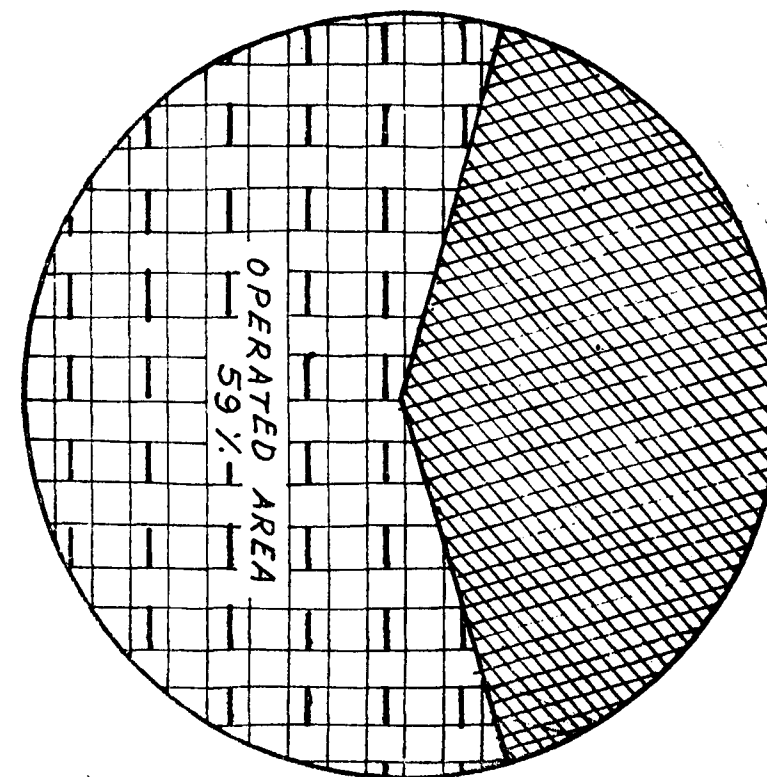
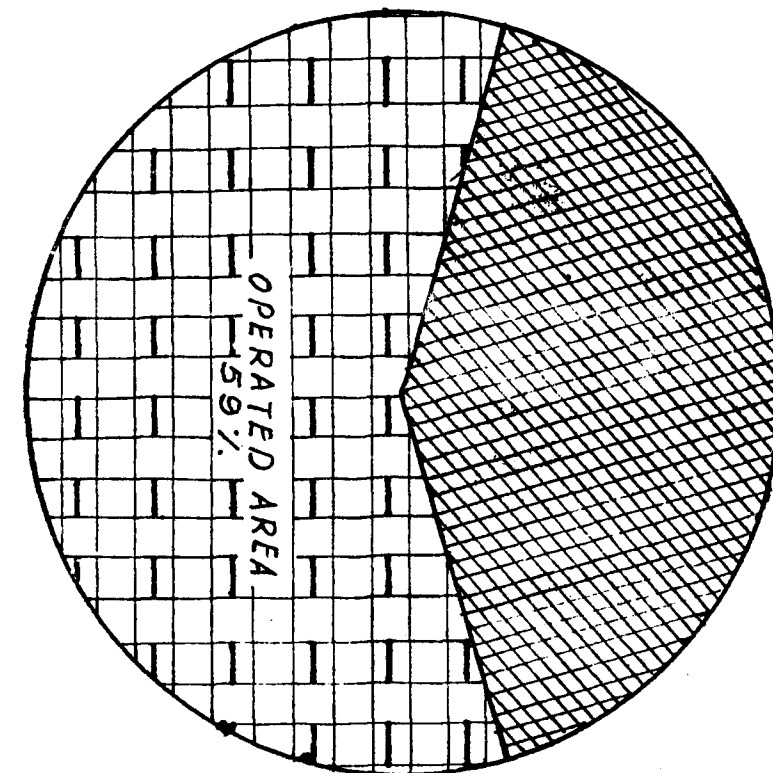
- (1) Tamil Nadu (including four regions),
- (2) Madras District,
- (3) Chengalpattu District,
- (4) South Arcot District,
- (5) North Arcot District,
- (6) Dharmapuri District,
- (7) Salem District,
- (8) Periyar District,
- (9) Coimbatore District,
- (10) The Nilgiris District,
- (11) Tiruchirappalli District,
- (12) Thanjavur District,
- (13) Pudukkottai District,
- (14) Madurai District,
- (15) Ramanathapuram District,
- (16) Tirunelveli District,
- (17) Kanniyakumari District.

The results of the third Agricultural Census 1979-80 are analysed in the following paragraphs State-wise, Region-wise and district-wise.

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA OPERATED.

6. The Agricultural Census 1979-80 has produced very useful data on the structure and characteristics of 71,90,503 operational holdings coming under thirteen size classes. These holdings account for an operated area of 77,07,860 hectares. Based on the results of the Agricultural Census 1979-80, the percentage of area operated to the geographical area for each of the sixteen districts of the State is shown below :

Serial number and district.	Geographical Area (Hectares).	Operated Area (Hectares).	Percentage of operated area to geographical area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Madras	18,192	642	3.53
2 Chengalpattu	7,84,546	431,489	55.00
3 South Arcot	10,90,347	670,032	61.45
4 North Arcot	12,30,223	645,338	52.46
5 Salem	8,62,005	511,598	59.35
6 Dharmapuri	9,62,914	461,742	47.95
7 Periyar	8,24,059	500,145	60.69
8 Coimbatore	7,49,073	474,514	63.35
9 The Nilgiris	2,54,654	71,659	28.14
10 Tiruchirappalli	11,12,089	782,543	70.37
11 Pudukkottai	4,66,130	260,833	55.96
12 Thanjavur	8,21,246	592,449	72.14
13 Madurai	12,66,326	708,320	55.94
14 Ramanathapuram	12,50,305	836,314	66.89
15 Tirunelveli	11,42,446	677,842	59.33
16 Kanniyakumari	1,67,214	82,400	49.28
State	130,01,839	77,07,860	59.28



GEOGRAPHICAL AREA AND OPERATED AREA IN THE STATE

The operated area covers 77,07,860 hectares and accounts for 59.28 per cent of the geographical area in the State. It is above 60 per cent in the districts of South Arcot, Periyar, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Ramanathapuram districts. While the geographical area is the largest in Madurai district, the operated area is the largest in Ramanathapuram district than any other district in the State.

8. In Dharmapuri and the Nilgiris districts, the operated area is as low as 47.95 per cent and 28.14 per cent respectively of the geographical area. These two districts have considerable area under forests which has become a limiting factor on the spread of operated area. Madras district comprises Madras City which is the State Head quarters. The city is predominantly urban in nature, though it has a very negligible extent (642 hectares) of operated area.

9. The following table indicates the trend in the percentages of area operated to the geographical area in each of the districts in the State from the first Census 1970-71 to the third Census 1979-80—

Serial number and district.				Percentage of operated area to geographical area.		
				1970-71. (2)	1976-77. (3)	1979-80. (4)
(1)						
1. Madras	..	..	..	..	..	3.53
2 Chengalpattu	..	..	..	52.93	56.20	55.00
3 South Arcot	..	..	..	63.68	62.97	61.45
4 North Arcot	..	..	..	50.34	48.97	52.46
5 Salem	..	..	..	57.01	58.59	59.35
6 Dharmapuri	..	..	..	46.21	47.62	47.95
7 Periyar	..	..	..	..	..	60.69
8 Coimbatore	..	..	..	63.50	62.29	63.35
9 The Nilgiris	..	..	..	28.21	23.74	28.14
10 Tiruchirappalli	..	..	..	67.27	67.53	70.37
11 Pudukkottai	..	..	..	..	58.45	55.96
12 Thanjavur	..	..	..	69.84	71.63	72.14
13 Madurai	..	..	..	55.53	54.95	55.94
14 Ramanathapuram	..	..	..	63.33	63.85	66.89
15 Tirunelveli	..	..	..	65.01	61.36	59.33
16 Kanniyakumari	..	..	..	56.96	51.74	49.28
State	..	..	..	59.34	58.69	59.28

The above table reveals that in the districts of Salem, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Ramanathapuram the operated area has tended to increase from the first census year 1970-71 to the third census year 1979-80, while in the districts of South Arcot, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari it tended to decrease in the same period. The operated area has slightly increased from the second census year 1976-77 to the third census year 1979-80 in North Arcot, Coimbatore, The Nilgiris and Madurai districts. While in the same period, it declined slightly in Chengalpattu and Pudukkottai districts. The percentage of operated area of geographical area at State level has remained at the same level around 59 in all the three census years.

10. According to the third Agricultural Census, 1979-80, there were 71,29,736 Individual holdings, 53,910 Joint holdings and 6,857 Institutional holdings in Tamil Nadu. These holdings formed 99.15 per cent, 0.75 per cent and 0.10 per cent respectively of the total.

number of holdings (71,90,503) in the State. The area under Individual holdings was as high as 75,95,963 hectares whereas the area under Joint holdings and Institutional holdings was as low as 75,122 and 36,774 hectares respectively, which show that Joint holdings and Institutional holdings are not very much in vogue in the State. In 1979-80, the average size of Individual holding, Joint holding and Institutional holding was 1.07, 1.39 and 5.36 hectares respectively.

The comparative position during the second and third census years is shown in the following table :—

Serial number.	Type of holding.	Average size (in hectares)	
		1976-77.	1979-80.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Individual holding	1.25	1.07
2	Joint holding	1.12	1.39
3	Institutional holding	5.41	5.36
	State Average	1.25	1.07

According to the first Agricultural Census 1970-71, the average size of an operational holding was 1.45 hectares. Thus, the average size of the operational holding decreased by 13.8 per cent in 1976-77 and again by 14.4 per cent in 1979-80.

11. The percentage distribution of the number of holdings and the operated area under different types of holdings in the State during the last three Census years are indicated in the following table.

Serial number and type of holdings.	Percentage distribution of number of holdings.			Operated Area.		
	1970-71.	1976-77.	1979-80.	1970-71.	1976-77.	1979-80.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Individual holdings	99.93	95.44	99.15	99.64	95.28	98.55
2 Joint holdings	0.07	4.38	0.75	0.36	3.94	0.97
3 Institutional holdings	..	0.18	0.10	..	0.78	0.48
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The number of holdings and the operated area continue to be more or less stable over the three census years. Joint holdings did not find favour with the cultivators in Tamil Nadu and Institutional holdings have dwindled both in number and area.

12. The number of operational holdings in Tamil Nadu is continuously increasing, emphasising both frequent fragmentation of holdings and dependence on agriculture by largest segment of population.

Serial number.	Census year.			Number of Operational holdings.	Operated area in hectares.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	1970-71	..	..	53,14,323	77,09,208
2	1976-77	..	..	61,11,553	76,28,460
3	1979-80	..	..	71,90,503	77,07,860

The number of holdings increased by 15.00 per cent in the second census year and by 17.65 per cent in the third census year, when compared to the previous census year. This might be due to too many fragmentations of the existing holdings taking place during the three census years. The evils of fragmentation and sub-divisions of farm units still persist in the agrarian scene and the formation of farm of economic size is still a distant cry. It may be said that the area under the operational holdings i.e., the area available to the actual tillers of the soil, has reached a near saturation level in the State. The operated area fell slightly by 1.05 per cent in the second census year, but increased by 1.04 per cent in the third census year, thus nearly regaining the position as obtained in the first census year.

13. It would be both educative and useful to study the pattern of distribution of operational holdings and operated area under the different categories of holdings (viz) Marginal, Small Semi-medium, Medium and Large.

Serial number and Categories of holdings.	Percentage distribution of operational holdings.		
	1970-71.	1976-77.	1979-80.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Marginal	58.81	64.65	69.74
2 Small	20.87	18.42	16.82
3 Semi-medium	13.09	11.18	9.15
4 Medium	6.12	5.00	3.74
5 Large	1.11	0.75	0.55
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

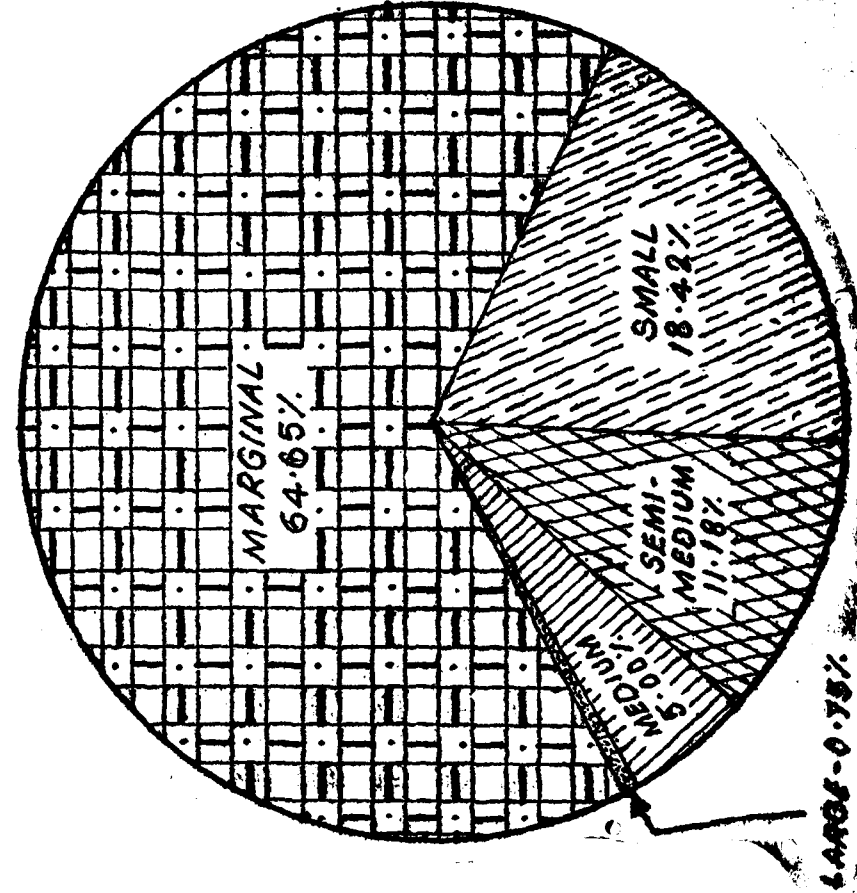
In the year 1979-80, Marginal holdings accounted for as much as 70 per cent of operational holdings in the State, while the Small holdings accounted for 17 per cent, Semi-Medium holdings were not prominent, their share being 9 per cent, Medium holdings were also very less prominent with only about 4 per cent of holdings under their fold. Large holdings had a negligible percentage emphasising the fact that the large holdings are on the way out due to land reform measures. The number of Marginal holdings continued to increase from the first census year to third census year mainly due to fragmentation of holdings. Due to paucity of cultivating lands and partitioning of existing holdings, Marginal holdings had emerged as the largest category of holdings in the State. The other categories of holdings, (viz) Small holdings, Semi-Medium holdings, Medium holdings and Large holdings were continuously on the decline from the first census year to the third census year.

14. The following table depicts the percentage distribution of operated area among the various categories of holdings in the State in the three census years.

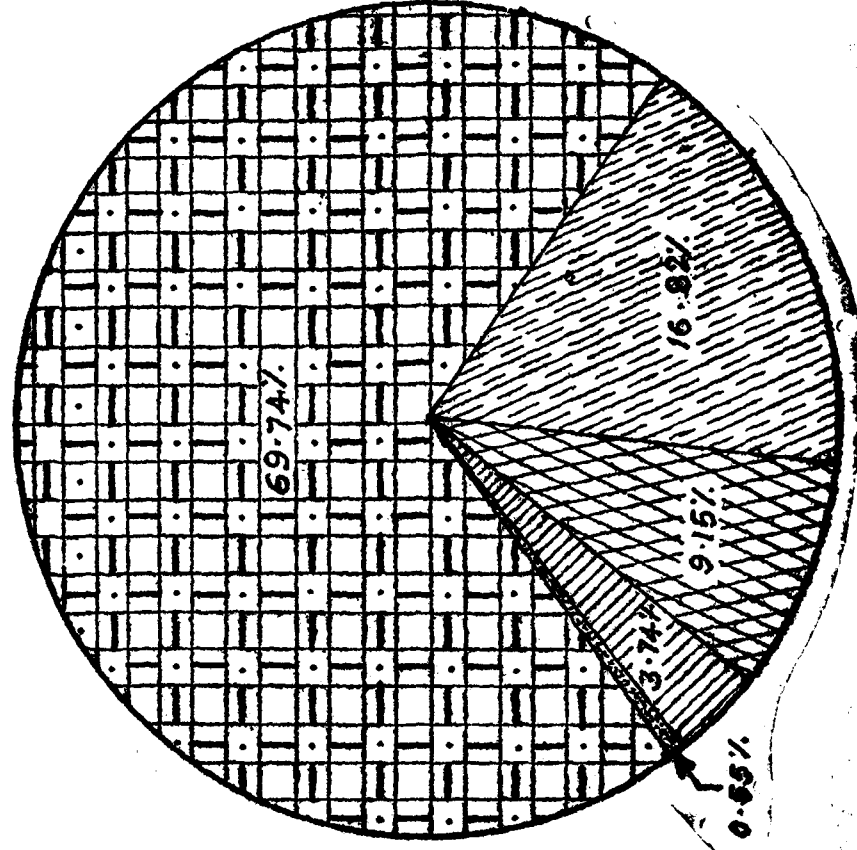
Serial number and category of holdings.	Percentage distribution of operated area.		
	1970-71.	1976-77.	1979-80.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Marginal	17.14	21.07	24.73
2 Small	20.47	20.80	22.19
3 Semi-Medium	24.83	24.59	23.63
4 Medium	24.55	23.11	20.18
5 Large	13.01	10.43	9.27
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS IN FIVE GROUPS

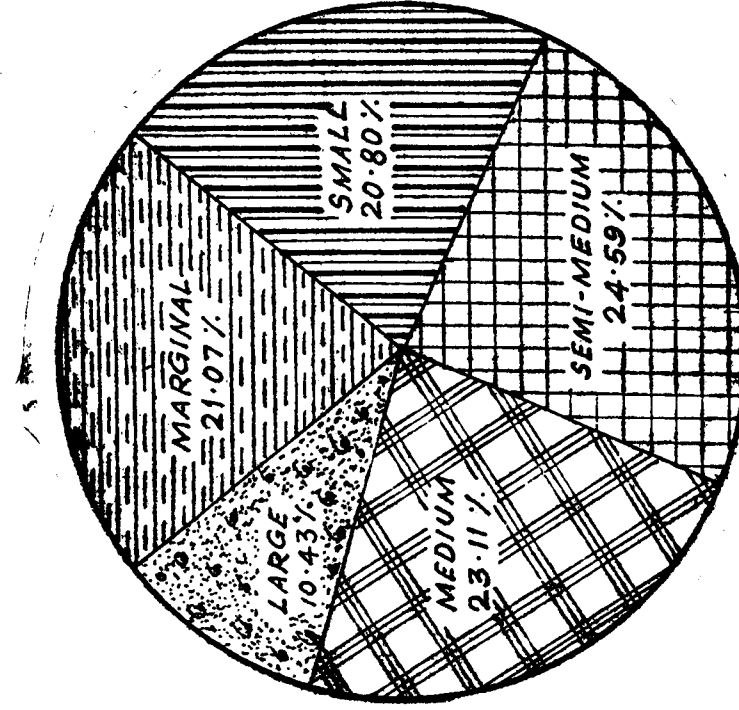
1976-77



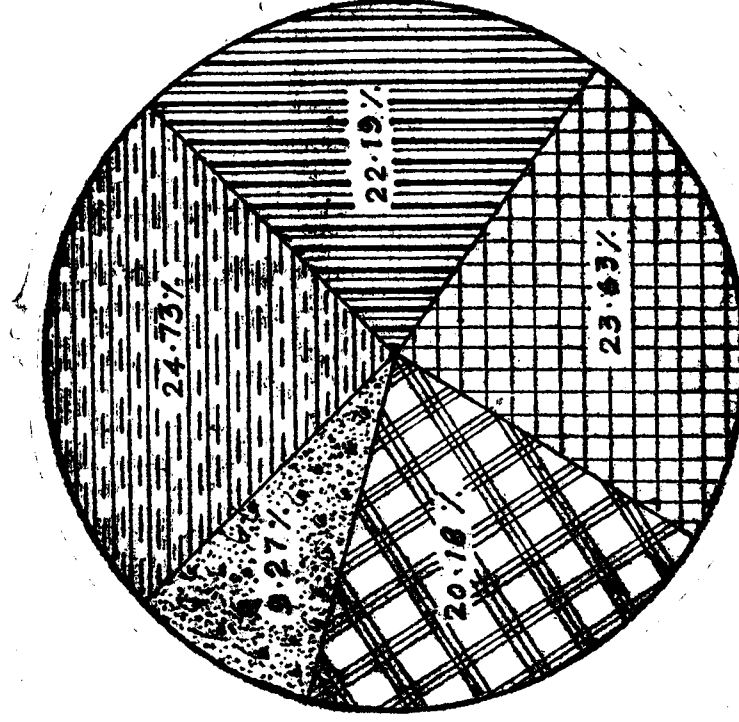
1979-80



PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATED AREA IN FIVE GROUPS



1976-77



1979-80

The operated area under Marginal holdings and Small holdings continued to increase from the first census year to the third census year. The other three categories of holdings (viz.) Semi-Medium, Medium and large holdings were continuously shedding some of the operated area from their fold right from the first census year to the third census year. The operated area under marginal holdings and Small holdings was ostensibly increasing at the cost of bigger holdings.

15. The relationship between the number of operational holdings and the operated area under the different categories of operational holding in the State in the third census year is shown in the following table :—

Serial number and Category of holdings.				Percentage distribution in 1979-80.		Average size (Hectare)
				Number of holdings.	Operated area.	
(1)				(2)	(3)	(5)
1 Marginal	..	..	..	69.74	24.73	0.38
2 Small	..	..	..	16.82	22.19	1.41
3 Semi-Medium	..	..	..	9.15	23.63	2.71
4 Medium	..	..	..	3.74	20.18	5.79
5 Large	..	..	..	0.55	9.27	17.97
				100.00	100.00	1.97

The above table leads to important finding in the structure of operational holdings in the State. About 70 per cent of operational holdings in the State, which belonged to the category of Marginal holdings, accounted for only 25 per cent operated area. The average size of many of the operational holdings was only 0.38 hectare (not even 1 acre) in 1979-80. Large holdings, though they formed a negligible percentage (0.55) in the total number of holdings, had as much as 9 per cent of operated area in the state. The distribution of operated area among Marginal holdings, Small holdings, Semi-Mediums and Medium holdings was about 20 per cent and more or less uniform. However the distribution of number of holdings among these four categories of holdings widely varied from 4 per cent to 70 per cent.

16. An unique feature of the third Agricultural census 1979-80 is that it made a beginning and laid special emphasis in the collection of information on operational holdings according to social status of the cultivators. The details regarding the number of holdings and their characteristics were collected in 1979-80 separately for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Others. The distribution of Operational holdings and operated area social status-wise is indicated in the following table.

Serial number and Social Status.				Number of holdings.	Operated area (Hectares)	Average size (Hectares)
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Scheduled Caste	..	..	..	5,63,859	3,79,084	0.67
2 Scheduled Tribe	..	..	..	47,955	77,907	1.62
3 Others	..	..	..	65,78,689	72,50,868	1.10
Total	..	..	..	71,90,503	77,07,859	1.07

The Percentage distribution of operational holdings in the State under Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Others was 7.84, 0.67 and 91.49 respectively, whereas the percentage distribution of operated area under these three groups was 4.92, 1.01 and 94.07 respectively. The average size of the operational holdings was the highest (viz.) 1.62 hectares in the case of Scheduled Tribe. This is understandable as most of the Scheduled Tribe people lived in hilly regions with easy access to cultivate larger areas.

Type of Tenures :

As it is generally believed that there is some relationship between the type of tenure and the productivity of land, it may be worthwhile to analyse the data on number of holdings and area operated under different type of tenures. The percentage of number of holdings and the total operated area in Tamil Nadu under different forms of tenures for 1970-71, 1976-77 and 1979-80 are shown in table No. 1.

2. The percentage of wholly owned and self operated area which increased from 92.23 per cent in 1970-71 to 94.81 per cent in 1976-77 has further increased to 98.47 per cent during the Current Census. Whereas partly owned and partly leased in holdings have decreased. The same trend is noticed in the case of operated area. The average size of wholly owned and self operated holdings which decreased from 1.49 hectares in 1970-71 to 1.23 hectares in 1976-77 has decreased further to 1.07 hectares during 1979-80. The average sizes of owner-cum-tenant holding and wholly tenanted holding have also decreased.

3. The following table gives the estimated percentage of number of operational holdings and area by tenural status for the various groups of operational holders (in Table 2).

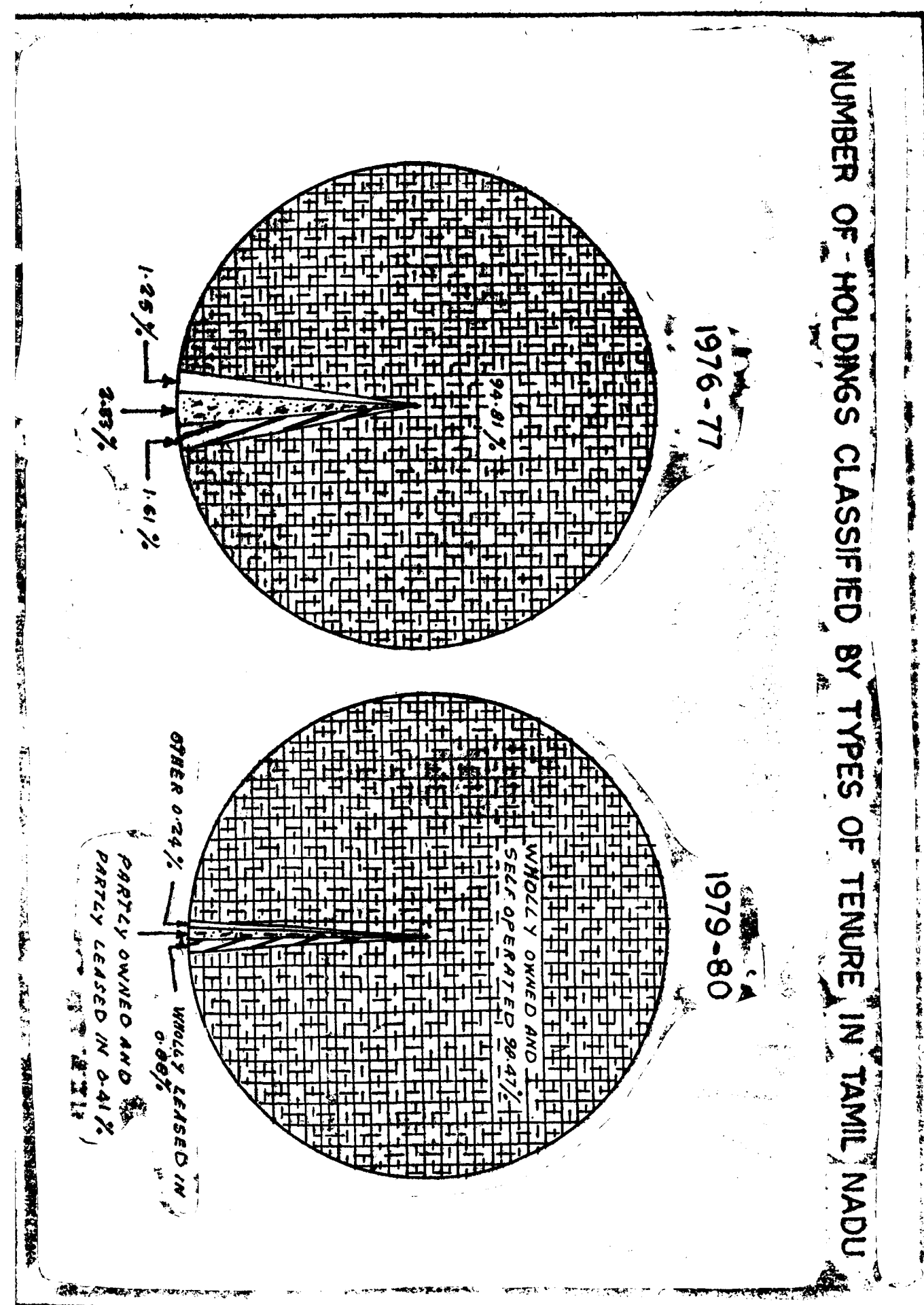


TABLE 1.

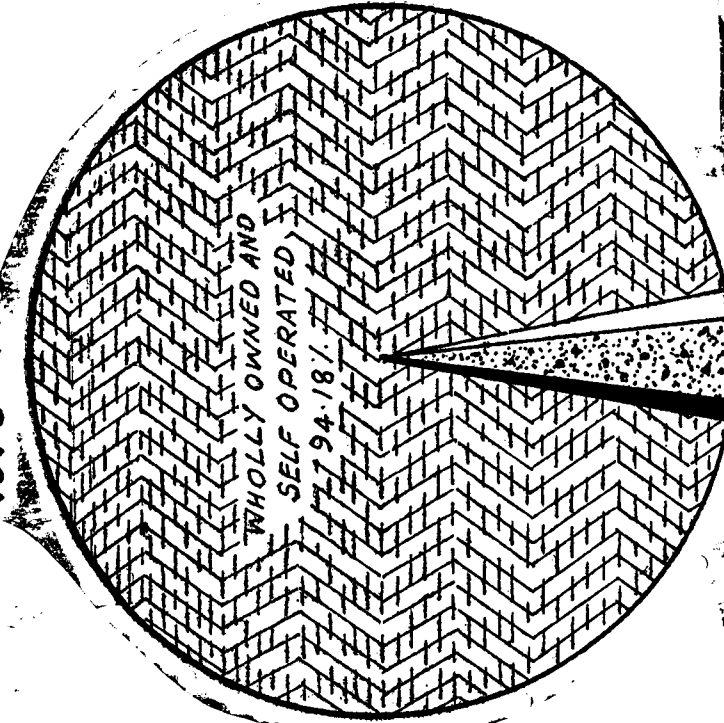
<i>Tenure Status</i>	<i>Holding Percentage</i>			<i>Area Percentage</i>			<i>Per Holding Size</i>		
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1 Wholly owned and self operated ..	92.23	94.81	98.47	91.29	94.18	98.69	1.49	1.23	1.07
2 Partly owned and partly leased in ..	3.38	2.33	0.41	5.58	3.68	0.46	2.48	1.96	1.20
3 Wholly leased in ..	4.39	1.61	0.88	3.13	1.27	0.66	1.07	0.91	0.80
4 Wholly otherwise operated ..	..	..	0.12	..	..	0.05	..	..	0.44
5 Partly owned and partly otherwise operated. ..	..	..	0.10	..	..	0.12	..	..	1.28
6 Partly leased in and partly otherwise operated. ..	..	..	0.01	..	..	0.00	..	..	1.72
7 Partly owned and partly leased in and partly otherwise operated. ..	..	..	0.01	..	..	0.02	..	..	2.54
Total ..	100.00	..	100.00	100.00	..	100.00	1.45	1.25	1.07

TABLE 2.

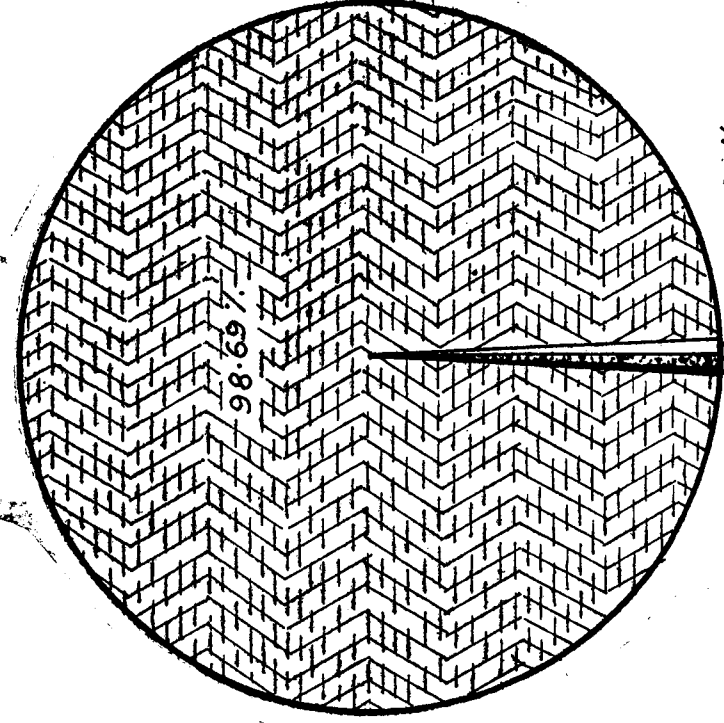
Size Groups	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.		
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Marginal	69.7	24.67	61.43	24.03	18.72	73.68	35.60
Small	16.78	22.10	22.87	25.89	30.41	18.12	30.64
Semi-medium	9.16	23.63	12.13	28.30	28.12	6.85	21.10
Medium	3.77	20.29	3.10	16.54	13.73	1.21	8.12
Large	0.56	9.31	0.47	5.24	9.02	0.14	4.54

AREA OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS CLASSIFIED BY TYPES OF TENURES IN TAMIL NADU

1976-77



1979-80



4. It is seen from the above table that about 70 per cent of the wholly owned and self operate holdings are marginal farms, operating on about 25 per cent of the total area under wholly owned and self operated holdings. About 17 per cent of wholly owned and self operated holdings are small farms, operating on about 22 per cent of the total area. About 61 per cent of the total partly owned and partly leased in holdings are marginal farms, operating on an area of which the area owned by them is about 24 per cent of the total area owned by this type of farmers and the area leased by them is about 19 per cent of the total area leased in by this type of farmers. About 23 per cent of the total partly owned and partly leased in holdings are small farms, operating on an area of which the area owned by them is about 26 per cent of the total area owned by this type of farmers and the area leased by them is about 30 per cent of the total area leased in by this type of farmers. About 74 per cent of the total wholly leased in holdings are marginal farms and the area leased by them is about 36 per cent. About 18 per cent of the total wholly leased in holdings are small farms and the area leased by them is about 31 per cent.

5. Table 3 shows the percentage distribution of area covered under different types of tenures in Tamil Nadu for the different farm groups in the case of owner-cum-tenant holdings.

6. It is seen from table 3 that in Tamil Nadu, more land (62.38 per cent) is leased in by owner-cum-tenants for fixed produce than for any other term of tenancy. Next in order comes "Share of produce", which is about 30 per cent. About 6 per cent of the Total area operated by owner-cum-tenant has been leased in for fixed money. Other terms of tenancy, including usufructuary mortgage, are far less popular in Tamil Nadu. The preference of the lessees to cultivate for the term fixed produce is mainly due to the fall in the purchasing power of money. The above table also shows that more area is leased in by owner-cum-tenant for fixed produce in various size groups of farms. The percentage of area leased in for "share of produce" ranged from 15 per cent in large farms to about 36 per cent in Small farms. The percentage of area leased in for fixed money ranged from 3 per cent in the case of large farms to 10 per cent in the case of medium farms. The percentage of area leased in for "usufructuary mortgage" and on other terms were found to be negligible.

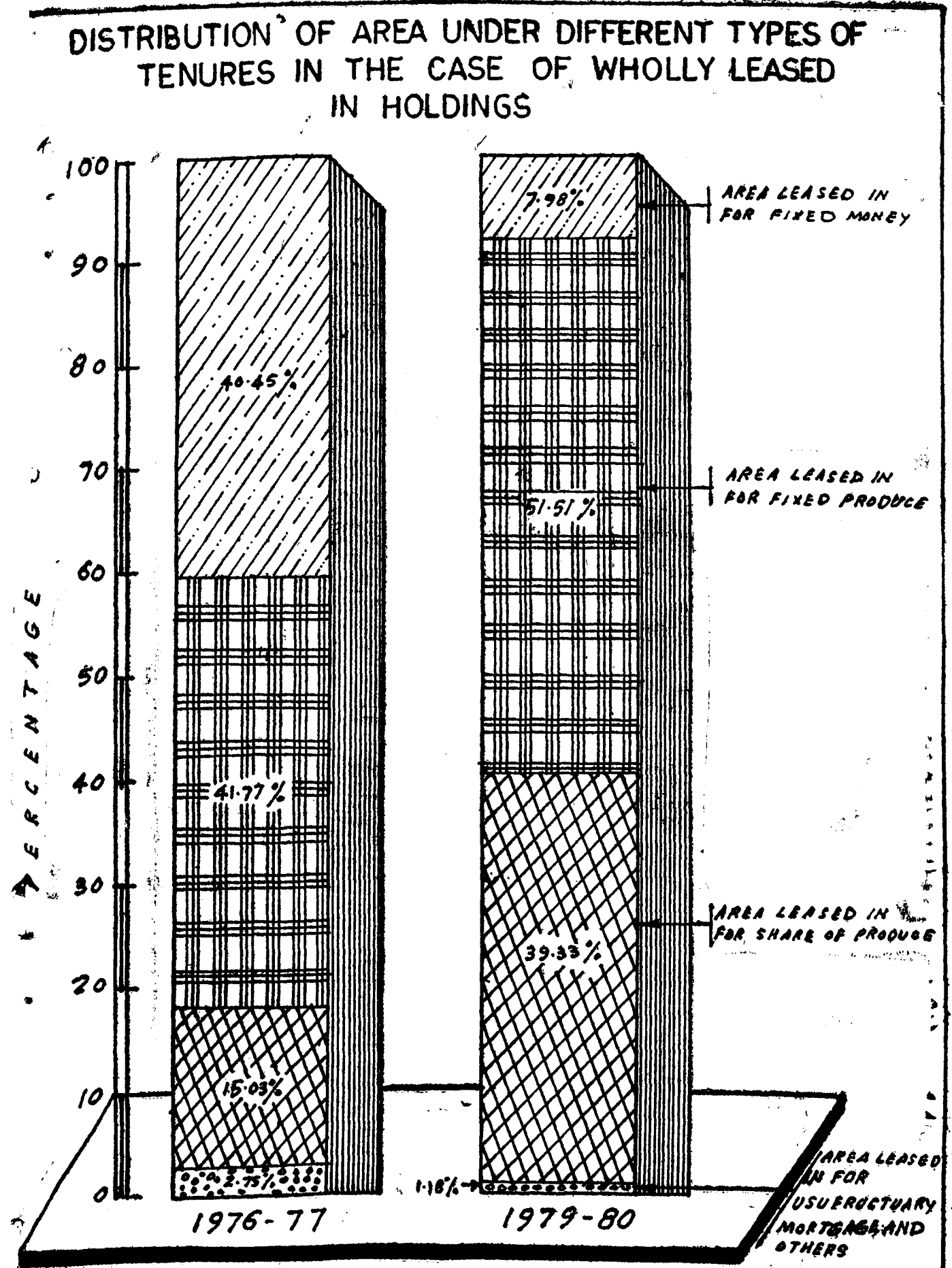
Size Group.

TABLE 3.

Percentage distribution of area covered under.

	Total area under partly owned and partly leased in holdings.	Fixed Money.	Fixed Produce.	Share of Produce.	Usufructuary mortgage.	Other terms.
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small	..	..	..	..	..	..
Semi-medium	..	..	..	..	..	..
Medium	..	..	..	..	..	..
Large	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	100.00	5.85	62.38	30.05	1.55	0.17

30



7. The following table shows the percentage distribution of area covered under different types of tenure in Tamil Nadu for the different farm groups in the case of wholly leased in holdings with comparative figures for the two earlier Censuses. (h.e. Table No. 4 and its continuation).

TABLE 4.

Size Group	(1)	Area Leased in for Fixed Money						Wholly leased in Holdings.					
		1970-71			1976-77			Fixed Produce			Share of Produce		
		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Marginal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Semi-medium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Medium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Large	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	23.75	40.45	7.98	44.51	41.77	51.51	27.86	15.03	39.33	33	33	33

TABLE-4 (Contd.)

		Wholly Leased in Holdings.						
		Area Leased in for						
		Usufructuary Mortgage and Others.					Total	
		1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77		1979-80
Size Group.		(1)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
Marginal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Semi-medium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Medium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Large	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..		..	3.88	2.75	1.18	100.00	100.00	100.00

34

35

8. The percentage area leased in for 'fixed money' by wholly leased in tenants though increased from 24 per cent in 1970-71 to 40 per cent in 1976-77 has considerably decreased to 8 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage area leased in for 'fixed produce' which decreased from 45 per cent in 1970-71 to 42 per cent in 1976-77 has increased to 54 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage area leased in for 'share of produce' though decreased from 28 per cent in 1970-71 to 15 per cent in 1976-77 has substantially increased to 39 per cent in 1979-80. It can be inferred that the farmers leasing in lands preferred to cultivate for 'fixed produce' and 'share of produce' rather than for 'fixed money'.

LAND UTILISATION.

The distribution of land utilisation such as net area sown, current fallows, uncultivated area excluding fallow, fallow other than current fallows, etc., are given in Table-5 along with the earlier two Censuses data for Tamil Nadu.

The land use pattern has slightly changed from the earlier two Censuses to the Census under review. The percentage of net area sown which slightly decreased from 77 per cent in 1970-71 to 75 per cent in 1976-77 has increased to 78 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage of area under current fallows which increased from 14 per cent in 1970-71 to 20 per cent in 1976-77 has decreased to 17 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage of area under uncultivated area excluding fallow which decreased in 1976-77 has slightly increased in 1979-80 when compared with the year 1976-77.

3. The following table 6 shows how the area under different land use has been distributed over the farm groups.

TABLE—5.

Year	Net area sown.	Current fallows.	Uncultivated area excluding fallow.	Fallow other than current fallows.	Culturable waste land.	Not available for cultivation.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1970—71	77.28	14.40	1.53	2.96	1.95	1.88	100
1976—77	75.34	19.65	0.74	1.10	2.31	0.86	100
1979—80	78.11	17.49	0.97	0.93	1.03	1.47	100

TABLE 6.

Size Groups.	Estimated percentage area under different land use.						
	Net area sown.	Area under current fallows.	Net cultivated area.	Net uncultivated land excluding fallow lands.	Fallow land other than current fallows.	Culturable waste land.	Total uncultivated land available for cultivation.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8) (9)
Marginal	26.10	19.61	24.92	19.69	18.32	17.47	18.48 25.19
Small	23.03	19.40	22.36	19.74	16.96	16.70	17.79 19.16
Semi-medium	23.96	22.63	23.72	20.41	19.26	21.89	20.57 23.91
Medium	19.15	24.28	20.08	23.51	25.03	23.97	24.15 29.12
Large	7.76	14.08	8.92	16.65	20.43	19.97	19.01 22.62
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00 100.0

The above table shows that about 26 per cent of the net area sown lies in the Marginal farm group about 23 per cent in the small farm group and about 24 per cent in the semi-medium group. The rest are cultivated by medium and large farmers.

The marginal farmers have kept fallow 18 per cent of the cultivable land, the small farmers about 17 per cent and the semi-medium farmers about 19 per cent. While the land kept fallow by the medium and large farmers being 25 and 20 per cent respectively. The share of culturable waste land in Tamil Nadu is the highest in the medium size farms, the percentage being 24 per cent and the lowest about 17 per cent by the small farmers. In the marginal sized farms, the percentage of land not available for cultivation is about 25 per cent and in the semi-medium size, it is found to be about 24 per cent.

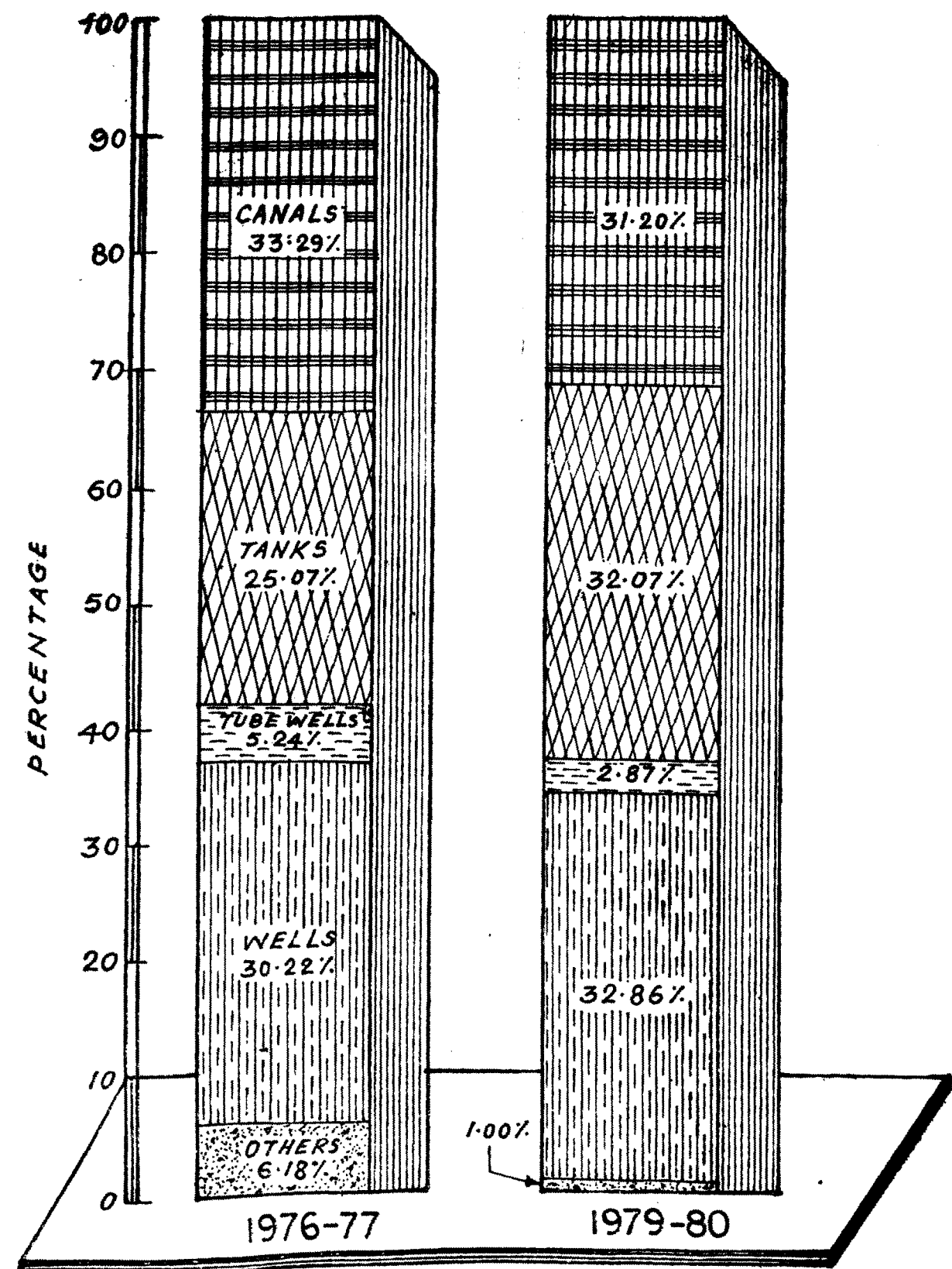
IRRIGATION.

The following table shows the percentage distribution of estimated number of operational holdings by irrigation status for various size groups of farms:

TABLE 7.

Size Group.	Percentage distribution of estimated number of operational holdings by irrigation Status.							
	Wholly irrigated holdings.		Wholly Unirrigated holdings.		Partly irrigated holdings :			
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total area.	Irrigated area.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8):	
Marginal ..	74.69	33.97	66.48	24.04	47.36	15.46	17.85	
Small ..	14.94	24.08	18.81	24.28	22.98	18.57	18.42	
Semi-medium ..	7.32	21.59	10.15	24.48	18.50	27.41	27.62	
Medium ..	2.71	15.11	4.01	18.59	9.50	27.78	26.19	
Large ..	0.34	5.25	0.55	8.61	1.66	10.78	9.92	
Total ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	

DISTRIBUTION OF AREA IRRIGATED (UNDER DIFFERENT SOURCES IN TAMIL NADU)



Area irrigated in different sources (in thousands of hectares)					Percentage of area irrigated (in %)				
1976-77					1979-80				
Canals	Tanks	Tube Wells	Wells	Others	Canals	Tanks	Tube Wells	Wells	Others
3329	2507	524	3022	618	3120	3207	287	3286	100
33.29	25.07	5.24	30.22	6.18	31.20	32.07	2.87	32.86	1.00

2. It can be seen from the above table that out of the total number of wholly irrigated holdings, about 75 per cent belong to the marginal size group, about 15 per cent belong to the small group and about 7 per cent to the semi-medium group. Out of the total area under wholly irrigated holdings, about 34 per cent belong to marginal farms, about 24 per cent to small farms and about 22 per cent to semi-medium farms. Out of the total number of wholly unirrigated holdings in this State, about 66 per cent were marginal holdings covering an area of about 24 per cent, about 19 per cent belong to the small farm group covering an area of 24 per cent, about 10 per cent to the semi medium group and the percentage of area covered to the total wholly unirrigated area by this group is about 24 per cent. About 47 per cent of the total, partly irrigated holdings in Tamil Nadu are marginal holdings having 45 per cent of the total area under them. About 23 per cent of the total partly irrigated holdings in Tamil Nadu are small holdings having about 19 per cent of the total area under them in Tamil Nadu and about 19 per cent of the total partly irrigated holdings are Semi-medium holdings having about 28 per cent of the total partly irrigated area under them.

SOURCE-WISE IRRIGATION.

The percentage distribution of area irrigated under different sources in Tamil Nadu for the three Census years 1970-71, 1976-77 and 1979-80 are given below: —

TABLE 8

Area irrigated

Irrigation Source.	1970-71. 1976-77. 1979-80.		
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Canals	33.61	33.29	31.20
Tanks	32.62	25.07	32.07
Tube Wells	1.94	5.24	2.87
Wells	30.97	30.22	32.86
Others	0.86	6.18	1.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

2. The above table shows that the percentage area under canal irrigation though almost remained stationary during the earlier two censuses about 33 per cent has slightly decreased to about 31 per cent. The percentage area under tank irrigation which decreased from about 33 per cent 1970-71 to about 25 per cent in 1976-77 has increased to about 32 per cent in 1979-80. The reason for the increase in the area under tank irrigation is due to desilting. The percentage area under well irrigation which slightly declined from about 31 per cent in 1970-71 to 30 per cent 1976-77 has increased to about 33 per cent in 1979-80. This is due to the increase in the number of wells in Tamil Nadu.

1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
33.61	33.29	31.20
32.62	25.07	32.07
1.94	5.24	2.87
30.97	30.22	32.86
0.86	6.18	1.00
100.00	100.00	100.00

TABLE 9.

3. The following table gives the percentage share of area irrigated by different sources:

Size class (Ha.)	Area Irrigated by		
	Total irrigated area as percentage of operated area.	Canals as percentage of total net irrigated area.	Tanks as percentage of total net irrigated area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Below 0.5	51.08	31.24	44.76
2 0.5—1.0	44.20	31.70	36.43
3 1.0—2.0	39.38	31.52	32.10
4 2.0—3.0	36.95	32.89	27.74
5 3.0—4.0	36.88	30.11	27.98
6 4.0—5.0	34.97	29.49	26.80
7 5.0—7.5	32.91	31.16	23.65
8 7.5—10.0	30.41	27.88	24.28
9 10.0—20.0	27.72	27.08	23.34
10 20.0—30.0	26.93	32.38	27.02
11 30.0—40.0	30.44	44.58	33.30
12 40.0—50.0	27.58	34.72	37.22
13 50.0 and above	16.43	35.24	43.50
Total	38.17	31.20	32.07

Size class (Ha.)	Area Irrigated by		
	Tube wells as percentage of total net irrigated area.	Wells as percentage of total net irrigated area.	Other sources as percentage of total net irrigated area.
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Below 0.5	2.01	21.06	0.93
2 0.5—1.0	2.01	25.44	1.42
3 1.0—2.0	2.69	32.42	1.27
4 2.0—3.0	2.39	36.20	0.78
5 3.0—4.0	2.94	38.03	0.94
6 4.0—5.0	3.25	39.76	0.70
7 5.0—7.5	4.49	40.02	0.68
8 7.5—10.0	5.31	42.03	0.50
9 10.0—20.0	5.39	43.52	0.67
10 20.0—30.0	4.82	35.47	0.31
11 30.0—40.0	2.64	19.14	0.34
12 40.0—50.0	3.51	24.18	0.37
13 50.0 and above	4.17	16.41	0.68
Total	2.87	32.86	1.00

4. The percentage of area irrigated by Canals by various size classes of operational holdings ranges from about 27.08 per cent to 44.58 per cent. It is higher than the State proportion (31.20) in the size classes below 0.5, 0.5 to 1.0, 1.0 to 2.0, 2.0 to 3.0, 20.0 to 30.0, 30.0 to 40.0, 40.0 to 50.0 and 50.0 and above and lower in the remaining classes. The proportion of tank irrigation is highest with 44.76 per cent in the first size class (below 0.5) and lowest with 23.34 in the ninth size class (10.0 to 20.0). The proportion of area covered by well irrigation is less than 44 per cent in all size classes.

5. The following table presents the interse percentage distribution of estimated area irrigated by different sources for the five size groups of farmers viz. marginal, small, semimedium, medium and large.

TABLE 10.

Size, group	Percentage distribution of estimated area irrigated by different sources.				
	Canals	Tanks	Wells	Tube wells	Others.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Marginal	30.85	38.42	23.25	21.41	36.51
Small	23.12	22.91	22.58	21.41	29.16
Semi-medium	23.30	19.84	25.69	20.75	19.30
Medium	16.71	13.53	21.43	25.70	11.37
Large	6.02	5.30	7.05	10.73	3.66
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

6. Out of the total canal irrigated area in Tamil Nadu 30.85 percent belongs to the marginal holdings, about 23.12 per cent belongs to the small holdings, about 23.30 per cent belongs to the semi-medium holdings, about 16.71 per cent to the medium holdings and the rest to the large size holdings. Out of the total tank irrigated area in Tamil Nadu, about 38 per cent are under marginal holdings, about 23 per cent under small holdings, about 20 per cent under semi-medium holdings and about 14 per cent under medium holdings.

The share of Semi-medium holdings in the total well irrigated areas in Tamil Nadu is 26 per cent. The share of marginal and small holdings is more or less equal to about 23 per cent by each of them and the share of medium holdings is about 21 per cent. It may be seen that tank irrigation is most popular among the marginal size holdings and canal irrigation is also more popular with the same group in Tamil Nadu.

7. The following table shows the average area irrigated by a well and a tube well for the various size groups of holdings.

TABLE-11.

Size group.	Average area irrigated.	
	By a well.	By a tube well.
(1)	(2)	(3)
	(ha.)	(ha.)
Marginal	0.36	0.19
Small	0.86	1.04
Semi-medium	1.43	1.81
Medium	2.47	4.79
Large	5.12	12.29
All Sizes	0.84	0.66

8. The above table shows that in Tamil Nadu State as a whole, the average area irrigated by a well (with pumpset or without pumpset) is 0.84 ha. and this average is exceeded in all the size groups except the marginal holdings. The corresponding average area irrigated by a Tube well is 0.66 ha. for the whole State, this is exceeded by all the size groups except the marginal holdings.

9. The net sown area and the proportion irrigated under the major groups of the operational holdings are given below :—

TABLE-12.

Size groups.	Net sown area.	Gross cropped area as percentage of net sown area.	Net area irrigated as percentage of net sown area.	Gross Irrigated area as percentage of net sown area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Marginal	15,71,831.17	124.28	57.21	76.25
Small	13,86,521.22	123.47	48.56	63.48
Semi medium	14,42,897.94	130.49	46.61	64.36
Medium	11,51,901.22	128.46	44.57	58.97
Large	4,67,244.94	116.84	39.31	48.75
All Sizes	60,20,396.49	125.80	48.87	65.02

10. Of the total net area sown in Tamil Nadu, 48.87 per cent is irrigated. The percentage was 41.22 during 1970-71 and 40.85 during 1976-77. The area irrigated more than once is 65.02 per cent as against 125.80 per cent of cropped area, the corresponding figures during 1970-71 being 55.72 per cent and 117.93 per cent and during 1976-77, 52.44 per cent and 113.49 per cent respectively. The percentage of cropped area in the semi-medium and medium farms is slightly more than the State percentage. The percentage of net area irrigated to net sown area is higher than the State percentage in marginal farms. Similarly the percentage of gross irrigated area to net sown area is also higher than the State per centage in the marginal farms.

CROPPING PATTERN.

The percentage distribution of cropped area under various groups of operational holdings for foodgrains and non-foodgrains for the State of Tamil Nadu is shown below :—

TABLE 13.

Size groups.	Gross cropped area as percentage of operated area.	Area under.	
		Food crops as percentage of gross cropped area.	Non-food crops as percentage of gross cropped area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Marginal	102.46	80.85	19.15.
Small	100.12	78.53	21.42
Semi-medium	103.36	74.76	25.24
Medium	95.13	73.50	26.50
Large	76.42	66.48	33.52
Total ..	98.26	76.35	23.65

2. It can be seen from the above table that the percentage of gross cropped area to operated area is slightly above 100 per cent in the marginal, small and semi-medium farms and it is 95.13 per cent and 76.42 per cent in medium and large farms respectively. And while the per centage of area under foodcrops to gross cropped area decreases as the size of the holding increases, the per centage of non-foodcrops to gross cropped area increases as the size of the holding also increases. In Tamil Nadu as a whole the ratio of the per centage of area under foodcrops and non-foodcrops is 76:24. This was 80:20 during the year 1976-77.

REGIONAL AND DISTRICT TABLES.

National Sample Survey Regions :

The National Sample Survey Organisation has divided this State into four regions. The regions and the districts comprised therein are shown below :

National Sample Survey Region.	Districts.
(1)	(2)
(1) Coastal Northern Region	Madras, Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot.
(2) Inland Region	Salem, Dharmapuri, Periyar, Coimbatore and The Nilgiris.
(3) Coastal Region	Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai.
(4) Southern Region	Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari.

Among the four regions, the largest operated area of 2.3 million hectares under 2.3 million holdings is in the southern region. The operated area is 1.7 million hectares with holdings of about 2.0 million in the coastal northern region. The operated area is 2.0 million hectares with holdings of 1.3 million in the inland region. The operated area is 1.6 million hectares with 1.6 million holdings in the Coastal region.

2. The extent of operated area per operational holding in the four regions is indicated below for the year 1970-71, 1976-77 and 1979-80.

TABLE 14.

Region.	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Coastal Northern	1.32	1.10	0.89
Inland	1.76	1.49	1.54
Coastal	No such classification (Included in Inland and Southern Regions).	No such classification (Included in Inland and Southern Regions).	1.02
Southern	1.33	1.07	1.00
	(Coastal Southern).	(Coastal southern).	

3. The operated area per operational holding ranges from 0.89 ha. in the Coastal northern region to 1.54 ha. in the inland region.

4. The operated area in the Southern region is the highest about 29.9 per cent followed by about 26.2 per cent in the inland region. The percentage are 22.7 and 21.2 respectively in the Coastal northern and in the Coastal regions.

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS AND AREA OPERATED.

Coastal Northern Region :

In this region the marginal class of operational holders below 1.0 hectare formed about 74 per cent of the total operational holders, but they operate about only 33 per cent of the total operated area.

The small farmers (1.0 to 2.0 hectares) form about 16 per cent of the total holders and they operate over about 24 per cent of the total operated area. Seven per cent of the total operational holders belong to the semi-medium group and operate over 23 per cent of to

operated area. About 3 per cent of the operational holdings belong to medium group (4.0 to 10.0 hectares) covering an area of about 16 per cent of the total operated area. The number of large size holdings (10.0 hectares and above) are 0.3 per cent with an area of 5 per cent of the total operated area.

2. The percentage of individual holdings to the total holdings in the region is 99.0 per cent while it is only 0.9 per cent in the case of joint holdings.

3. The following table indicates the number of holdings and operated area in the districts of the region together with the area operated in each district:—

TABLE 15.

Name of District.	Number and percentage of number of holdings.	Operated area and percentage of operated area.	per holding size.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		(ha.)	(ha.)
Madras	680 (0.03)	641.55 (0.04)	0.94
Chengalpattu	5,83,290 (29.79)	4,31,489.01 (24.69)	0.74
South Arcot	7,73,865 (39.52)	6,70,032.24 (38.34)	0.87
North Arcot	6,00,445 (30.66)	6,45,337.67 (36.93)	1.08
Coastal Northern Region	19,58,280 (100.00)	17,47,500.47 (100.00)	0.89

4. It may be seen from the above table that the operated area per operational holding is less than 1.00 hectare except North Arcot district where it is 1.08 hectare.

The overall area coverage in all the five groups of farmers (District-wise) viz., Marginal, Small, Semi-medium, medium and large is as indicated below:—

TABLE 16.

Groups.	District.			
	Madras.		Chengalpattu.	
	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Marginal	82.65	28.79	80.37	35.01
Small	10.59	18.36	11.63	21.46
Semi-medium	5.15	14.21	5.68	19.89
Medium	1.32	6.90	1.98	15.38
Large	0.29	31.74	0.34	8.26
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

TABLE 16—cont.

Groups.	District.			
	South Arcot.		North Arcot.	
	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of Area.	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Marginal	74.48	30.07	68.22	33.53
Small	15.27	24.55	19.43	24.98
Semimedium	7.33	23.05	9.30	23.92
Medium	2.64	17.28	2.83	14.68
Large	0.28	5.05	0.22	2.89
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

5. Among the four districts, the Marginal farmers are found mostly in Madras district next in order come Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts. But the percentages of their operated area to the total area in the respective districts varies between 30 to 35 per cent. The average size of the operational holdings, in Chengalpattu is least having 0.32 hectares.

6. The percentages of small farmers in Madras, Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts are found to be about 11, 12, 15 and 19 respectively. Whereas the percentages of area operated are found to be 18, 21, 25 and 25 respectively.

7. The Semi-medium farmers are found in large number in North Arcot district; next in order come South Arcot, Chengalpattu and Madras districts. The percentage of operated Area to the total area in the respective districts ranges between 14 to 24 per cent.

8. The Medium farmers are found to be between 1 to 3 per cent of the total operational holders in all the four districts.

9. In all the four districts the proportion of large size holdings is uniformly negligible. But the percentages of the operated area are about 32, 8, 5 and 3 respectively. Thus it is noticed that the percentage area operated by all groups viz., Marginal, Small, Semi-medium, Medium and large in the four districts lie within a range of 3 to 32 per cent. Except Madras City almost all the operated area are equally shared by the first four size groups.

The following table shows that the average size of operational holdings in the various groups of operational holdings (district-wise) namely marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large in the Coastal Northern Region during the year 1979-80 Census.

TABLE 17.

Average size of operational holdings in hectares :

Districts.	Groups.				
	Marginal.	Small.	Semi-Medium.	Medium.	Large.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Madras	0.33	1.64	2.61	4.92	101.83
Chengalpattu	0.32	1.37	2.59	5.74	18.04
South Arcot	0.35	1.39	2.72	5.67	15.72
North Arcot	0.53	1.38	2.77	5.59	13.47

2. It can be seen from the above table that the average size of the marginal farm is lowest in Chengalpattu district and highest in North Arcot district. The average size of the small farm lies between 1.37 and 1.64 hectares. The average size of the Semi-medium farm is highest in North Arcot district and lowest in Chengalpattu district. The average size of Medium farm is highest in Chengalpattu district and lowest in Madras district. In respect of large size farm, the average size of an operational holdings in Madras district is the highest and the North Arcot district is lowest.

Inland Region.—In this region, the Marginal class of operational holders (below 1.00 hectare) form about 55 per cent of the total operational holders, but they operate about 16 per cent of the total area of the region. The small farms (1.00 to 2.00 hectares) form about 23 per cent and they operate about 21 per cent of the area. Regarding the Semi-medium group, the operational holders represent 15 per cent and operate more than 26 per cent of the total operated area in this region. About 7 per cent of the operational holders belong to the medium group and operate about 25 per cent of the total operated area. The large size farms represent very small proportion of 1 per cent but they cover an operated area of about 11 per cent.

2. The percentage of Joint holdings to total holdings in this region is 1.22, whereas it was 3.88 in 1976-77 and was less than one per cent during the year 1970-71 Censuses.

3. In this region the representation of different groups under joint holdings and the operated area covered by them to total holdings are furnished below :

							Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
	(1)						(2)	(3)
Marginal	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.43	2.02
Small	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.36	1.31
Semi-medium	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.47	2.54
Medium	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.48	2.50
Large	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.14	28.00

The following table indicates the number of holdings and operated area in the district of the inland region together with the area operated per holding in each district.

TABLE 18.

Name of the district.						Number and percentage of number of holdings.	Operated area and percentage of operated area (Hectares).	Per holding size (Hectares)
(1)						(2)	(3)	(4)
Salem	..	..	..	..	..	4,14,015 (31.49)	5,11,598.38 (25.33)	1.24
Dharmapuri	..	..	..	..	..	3,47,939 (26.46)	4,61,742.03 (22.86)	1.33
Periyar	..	..	..	..	..	3,12,113 (23.74)	5,001,45.20 (24.76)	1.60
Coimbatore	..	..	..	..	..	2,10,186 (15.98)	4,74,514.38 (23.50)	2.25
The Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	30,629 (2.33)	71,659.35 (3.55)	2.34
Region (Inland)	..	..	..	..	..	13,14,882 (100)	20,19,659.34 (100)	1.54

2. In comparing the Census figures of 1979-80 with that of 1976-77 for this region, the number and area of operational holdings in the districts of Salem and Dharmapuri have increased. In the Nilgiris district, while there is a decrease of 440 in number, their operated area has increased by 11,259 hectares.

The following table 19 gives the percentage number and area operated by five groups of farmers (district-wise), i.e., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large.—

2. In the Nilgiris district, 62 per cent of the farms belong to the marginal size group, with regard to other districts in the region, Salem represent about 60 per cent, Dharmapuri district about 59 per cent, Periyar district about 56 per cent and Coimbatore district about 38 per cent.

3. The proportion of small farms is highest in Coimbatore district and lowest in the Nilgiris district.

4. The proportion of Semi-medium farms in the five districts vary between 12.04 per cent and 21.82 per cent and the proportion of medium farms vary between 4.20 per cent and 11.84 per cent.

5. The large size farms are found to be little more than 2 per cent in Coimbatore district, little more than 1 per cent in the Nilgiris and Periyar districts and less than 1 per cent in Dharmapuri and Salem districts.

The following table shows the average size of operational holdings in the various groups of operational holdings (district-wise) viz., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large in the Inland region:—

TABLE 19.

Groups	Districts.									
	Salem.		Dharmapuri.		Periyar.		Coimbatore.		The Nilgiris.	
	Percentage of number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage of number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage of number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage of number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage of number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Marginal ..	59.54	21.52	59.48	20.67	55.73	13.67	38.42	8.66	62.00	10.36
Small ..	23.11	27.21	22.14	24.31	20.70	18.44	25.90	16.71	17.29	10.28
Semi-medium ..	12.85	28.33	12.95	28.12	14.27	24.82	21.82	26.94	12.04	14.06
Medium ..	4.29	18.88	4.94	21.01	7.81	28.80	11.84	30.65	7.00	17.55
Large ..	0.30	4.06	0.49	5.89	1.49	14.27	2.02	17.04	1.67	47.75
Total ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

TABLE 20.

Average size of operational holdings (hectares).

District.	Groups.				
	Marginal.	Small.	Semi-medium.	Medium.	Large.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Salem	0.45	1.45	2.72	5.56	16.76
Dharmapuri	0.46	1.46	2.88	5.64	16.03
Periyar	0.39	1.43	2.79	5.91	15.42
Coimbatore	0.51	1.46	2.79	5.85	19.03
The Nilgiris	0.39	1.39	2.73	5.86	66.96

2. In Periyar and the Nilgiris districts, it can be seen from the above table, the average size of the marginal farm is 0.39 hectares. In the other districts viz., Salem, Dharmapuri and Coimbatore, the average size being 0.45, 0.46 and 0.51 hectares respectively.

3. The average size of small farm is least in the Nilgiris district, i.e., 1.39 hectares and highest in Dharmapuri and Coimbatore districts, i.e., 1.46 hectares.

4. The average size of Semi-medium farm is lowest (2.72 hectares) in Salem district, and highest (2.88 hectares) in Dharmapuri district.

5. The average size of Medium farm is least in Salem district i.e., 5.56 hectares and highest in Periyar district, i.e., 5.91 hectares the average size of the large farm is least (15.42 hectares) in Periyar district and highest (66.96 hectares) in the Nilgiris district, where tea and coffee estates are plenty.

COASTAL REGION.

In this region, the marginal class of operational holders (below 1.00 hectares) form about 72 per cent of the total operational holders and their operated area is about 26 per cent only. Next follows the small farms (1.00 to 2.00 hectares) representing 16 per cent of the total holdings with their operated area of 22 per cent of the total operated area in the region.

2. The Semi-medium farm (2.00 to 4.00 hectares) forms about 8 per cent, covering an operated area of about 24 per cent.

3. The medium group holdings form about 3 per cent covering 20 per cent of the total operated area in the region. The large sized holdings are very low representing only 0.53 per cent with an area of about 8 per cent of the total operated area.

4. The percentage of Joint holdings to total holdings of this region is 0.51 per cent and it covers 0.52 per cent of the total operated holdings in the region.

5. The representations of different groups under Joint holdings and their operated area covered by them are furnished below:—

	(1)	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
	(2)	(3)	
Marginal	0.93	0.84	
Small	0.52	0.50	
Semi-medium	1.13	1.14	
Medium	1.71	1.67	
Large	3.45	3.36	

The following table indicates the number of holdings and operated area in the districts of the region together with the area operated per holding in each district.

TABLE 21.

Name of district.	Number and percentage of number of holdings.	Operated area and percentage of operated area. (hectares.)	Per holding size (hectares.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Thanjavur	5,73,329 (35.58)	5,92,449 (36.22)	1.03
Tiruchirappalli	6,77,131 (42.03)	7,82,543 (47.84)	1.16
Pudukkottai	3,60,765 (22.39)	2,60,833 (15.94)	0.72
Region (Coastal)	16,11,225 (100)	16,35,825 (100)	1.02

2. Among the three districts in the region viz., Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai, particulars relating to Thanjavur district alone is comparable with the figures of last Census. The number of operational holdings has thus increased by 35,092 in Thanjavur district when compared to last Census. Whereas, the operated area has increased only by 5,154 hectares. However, the average size of operational holding shows a decreasing trend in the district.

The overall area coverage in all the five groups of farms (district-wise) viz., Marginal, Small, Semi-medium, Medium and large is indicated below:—

TABLE 22.

Groups.	Districts.					
	Thanjavur.		Tiruchirappalli.		Pudukkottai.	
	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal	71.40	26.88	67.05	22.68	81.13	35.01
Small	16.62	24.13	17.61	21.21	11.31	20.74
Semi-medium	8.66	24.37	10.09	23.78	5.24	19.63
Medium	2.95	17.65	4.51	22.63	1.97	15.63
Large	0.37	6.97	0.74	9.70	0.35	8.99
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The proportion of marginal farm is very high with 81 per cent in Pudukkottai district. In Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli districts, the proportions of marginal farms are 71 per cent and 67 per cent respectively. With regard to the proportion of area operated by the marginal farm, it is also high in Pudukkottai district when compared to the other two districts.

3. In the case of Small operational holders, the percentage number of holdings ranges between 11 and 18 per cent. The proportion of area operated by this group ranges between 21 and 24 per cent.

4. The Semi-medium farms in the districts of Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Pudukkottai represent 10 per cent, 9 per cent and 5 per cent respectively. The proportion of area operated by this group represent 24 per cent each in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli districts and 20 per cent in Pudukkottai district. The medium size farms occupy 2 to 5 per cent in the region covering 16 per cent to 23 per cent of area operated.

5. The large size farms were found to be very negligible in all the districts in this region. In Tiruchirappalli district, the operated area under large size holdings was highest being 10 per cent, followed by Pudukkottai and Thanjavur district with 9 per cent and 7 per cent respectively.

The following table shows that the average size of Operational holdings in the various groups of operational holdings (district-wise), viz., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large in the Coastal region.—

TABLE 23.

Districts.	Average size of operational holdings (hectares.)				
	Groups.				
	Marginal.	Small.	Semi-medium.	Medium.	Large.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Thanjavur	0.39	1.50	2.91	6.17	19.42
Tiruchirappalli	0.39	1.39	2.73	5.80	15.09
Pudukkottai	0.31	1.33	2.71	5.74	18.66

2. The average size of the marginal farm is 0.31 in Pudukkottai district and 0.39 in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli districts.

3. The average size of the large farm is 19.42 hectares in Thanjavur district which is highest in this region, followed by Pudukkottai and Tiruchirappalli districts with 18.66 hectares and 15.09 hectares respectively.

4. The average size of the small farm is least (1.33 hectares) in Pudukkottai district and highest (1.50 hectares) in Thanjavur district. The average size of Semi-medium farm is least (2.71 hectares) in Pudukkottai district and highest (2.91 hectares) in Thanjavur district. The average size of medium farm is lowest (5.74 hectares) in Pudukkottai district and highest (6.17 hectares) in Thanjavur district.

(COASTAL) SOUTHERN REGION.

In this region, the marginal class of operational holders (below 1.00 hectares) form about 72.70 per cent of the total operational holders and their operated area is about 1/4th of the total area. The small farm (1.00 to 2.00 hectares) form about 15 per cent of the total holdings and their operated area is about 22 percent of the total operated area in the region.

2. The Semi-medium farm (2.00 to 4.00 hectares) forms about 8 per cent covering an operated area about 22 per cent. About 3 per cent of the total holdings relate to medium group holdings covering about 20 per cent of the total operated area in the region. The large sized holdings are very low representing only 0.59 per cent with an area of about 10.38 per cent of the total operated area.

3. The percentage of Joint holdings in the region to the total holdings in the region is 0.51 per cent and it covers 0.66 per cent of the total operated holdings in the region.

4. The percentage number of Joint holdings and their area covered by them are furnished under group-wise.

	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Marginal	1.01	1.02
Small	0.60	0.59
Semi-medium	1.33	1.30
Medium	1.72	1.74
Large	5.97	7.43

TABLE 24.

2. The number of operational holdings has increased in Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts, when compared to the last Census and decreased in Kanniyakumari district. But in respect of operated area, it has increased in Ramanathapuram district but decreased in Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts.

3. The average size of operational holding has decreased in Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts, whereas it has very slightly increased from 0.29 to 0.30 hectares in Kanniyakumari district.

The overall area coverage in all the five groups of farmers (district-wise), viz., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large is indicated below:—

Groups.	Districts.											
	Madurai.			Ramanathapuram.			Tirunelveli.		Kanniyakumari.			
	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	(1)	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	(2)	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	(3)	Percentage number of holdings.	Percentage of area.	(4)
Marginal	65.73	22.50	..	71.24	26.39	..	70.94	23.48	95.77	58.61	..	..
Small	19.46	22.88	..	16.44	23.27	..	15.54	19.21	2.79	13.67	..	..
Semi-medium	9.90	22.92	..	8.52	24.02	..	8.38	20.33	0.98	8.98	..	..
Medium	4.23	20.87	..	3.36	19.07	..	4.22	21.72	0.36	7.14	..	..
Large	0.68	10.83	..	0.44	7.31	..	0.92	15.26	0.10	11.60	..	..
TOTAL	100.00	100.00	..	100.00	100.00	..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	..	..

4. The proportion of the number of marginal farms is very high in Kanniyakumari district. In Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts the proportions of marginal farms are 71 per cent in each of the districts and in Madurai it is 66 per cent. The proportion of area operated by the marginal farms is also high in Kanniyakumari district, but in the other districts it is below 27 per cent. In the case of small operational holders, the proportion of the number is below 20 per cent and in particular in Kanniyakumari district it is as low as 2.79 per cent. The proportion of area operated by the small farm in all the districts is found to be below 24 per cent. The proportion of Semi-medium farm is less than 10 per cent in all the districts except Kanniyakumari district in this region and they operated less than 25 per cent of area in all the districts. The proportion of large size farms are very negligible in all the districts in the region. In Tirunelveli district, the operated area under large size holdings was highest being about 15 per cent of the total operated area in that district. From the above analysis it can be seen that the distribution of size of holdings is unique in Kanniyakumari district. This may be due to the fact that in Kanniyakumari district, only paddy and coconut are the two main crops which require intensive cultivation, resulting in smaller holding.

5. The following table shows that the average size of operational holdings in various groups of operational holdings (district-wise), viz., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large in the region :—

TABLE-26.
Average size of operational holding (Hectares.).

District.	Groups.				
	Marginal.	Small.	Semi-medium.	Medium.	Large.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Madurai	0.40	1.38	2.73	5.81	18.68
Ramanathapuram	0.37	1.43	2.84	5.73	16.75
Tirunelveli	0.38	1.40	2.75	5.84	18.81
Kanniyakumari	0.18	1.45	2.70	5.87	35.41

6. In Kanniyakumari district, the average size of the marginal farm is 0.18 ha. and that of the small farm is 1.45 ha. The average size of the large farm is 35.41 ha. which is highest in the region. This is mainly due to the existence of rubber estates. In the other three districts of this region the average size of marginal farm is found to be the least in Ramanathapuram district, i.e., 0.37 hectare and highest (0.40 hectare) in Madurai district. The average size of the small farm is least (1.38 hectares) in Madurai district and highest (1.45 hectares) in Kanniyakumari district. The average size of semi-medium farm is least (2.70 hectares) in Kanniyakumari district and highest (2.84 hectares) in Ramanathapuram district. The average size of medium farm is least (5.73 hectares) in Ramanathapuram district and highest (5.87 hectares) in Kanniyakumari district. The average size of the large farm is lowest (16.75 hectares) in Ramanathapuram district and highest (35.41 hectares) in Kanniyakumari district.

TYPE OF TENURES

The operational holdings are cultivated under three types, viz., wholly owned and self operated, partly owned and partly leased in and wholly leased in. There is some relationship between the type of tenure and productivity of land. Therefore an attempt is made to analyse the area by these three types of farmers according to five major groups of holding size, viz., marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large.

2. The region-wise distribution of holdings and the area under, the three types of cultivation are analysed below in detail. (Table 27).

TABLE-27.

Region.	Wholly owned and self operated.		Partly owned partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Coastal Northern	99.43	99.25	0.19	0.19	0.07	0.11
Inland	99.98	99.98	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Coastal	95.85	94.35	1.15	1.67	2.49	2.35
Southern	98.69	99.08	0.31	0.20	0.93	0.44
STATE	98.47	98.69	0.41	0.46	0.88	0.44

3. The percentage of wholly owned and self operated holdings in coastal Northern region is about 99.43 per cent covering an area of about 99.25 per cent of the total area. It is interesting to note that in the Inland region, the percentage of holdings is 99.98 covering an area of about the same 99.98 per cent of the total operated area. In the coastal region, the percentage of holdings is about 95.85 covering an area of 94.35 per cent of the total operated area. In the Southern region the percentage of holdings is 98.69 and the area covered out of the total operated area is about 99 per cent. The percentage of partly owned and partly leased in holdings is the least in Inland region with 0.01 per cent and highest 1.15 per cent in the coastal region. And again the areas covered by the partly owned and partly leased in holdings is the least in the Inland region with 0.01 per cent of the total area operated and highest 1.67 per cent in the coastal region. The percentage of number of wholly leased in holdings and area have decreased considerably, compared to the previous census.

4. In the following three sub-sections, the above analysis is extended to each of the four regions with comparison among districts in each region.

COASTAL NORTHERN REGION

The number of holdings and total operated area in the region under different types of tenures are indicated as follows (Table 28).

TABLE-28

Region : COASTAL NORTHERN

Tenure Status.	Holdings number and percentage.				Area and percentage.				Per holdings size (In Hectares.).			
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(1)	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(2)	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(3)
Wholly owned and Self operated holdings	12,17,070 (91.82)	13,88,498 (96.23)	19,47,068 (99.74)	(4)	15,14,522 (88.26)	15,22,303 (94.89)	17,37,981 (99.70)	(5)	1.27	1.10	0.89	(6)
Partly owned and Partly leased in holdings	66,599 (5.02)	41,057 (2.84)	3,653 (0.19)	(7)	1,62,018 (9.26)	71,187 (4.44)	3,370 (0.19)	(8)	2.43	1.73	0.92	(9)
Wholly leased in holdings	41,884 (3.16)	13,297 (0.93)	1,458 (0.07)	(10)	43,458 (2.48)	10,815 (0.67)	1,912 (0.11)	(11)	1.04	0.81	1.31	(12)
TOTAL	13,25,553 (100)	14,42,852 (100)	19,52,179 (100)		17,49,998 (100)	16,04,305 (100)	17,43,263 (100)		1.32	1.11	0.87	

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2. The above table shows that the percentage of wholly owned self and operated holdings have steadily increased from the first census to the current census whereas the tenant operated holdings and partly owned and partly leased in holdings have steadily decreased. The same trend is noticed in the extent also. The average size of self operated holdings which decreased from 1.27 ha. in 1970-71 to 1.10 ha. in 1976-77 has further decreased to 0.89 ha. during 1979-80. The same trend is witnessed in the case of partly owned and partly leased in holdings also. The average size of wholly leased in holdings which decreased from 1.04 ha. in 1970-71 to 0.81 ha. in 1976-77 has increased to 1.31 ha. in 1979-80.

3. The average size of holdings in individual districts of the region under three types of tenures are compared below with the corresponding data for the earlier two censuses Table 29.—

TABLE-29.

District	Average size of holdings.											
	Wholly owned and self-operated.				Wholly leased in.				owner-cum-tenant.			
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(1)	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(2)	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(3)
Madras	1.22	0.98	0.74	0.96	0.99	0.86	1.42	0.74	2.50	1.80	0.85	0.94
Chengalpattu	1.22	1.11	0.87	1.07	0.92	0.95	0.62	0.62	2.46	1.64	2.09	0.87
South Arcot	1.38	1.08	1.17	1.07	1.17	0.67	1.06	1.06	2.37	1.76	1.94	1.07
North Arcot	1.38	1.08	1.17	1.07	1.17	0.67	1.06	1.06	2.37	1.76	1.94	1.07

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4. The average size of the self operated holdings shows a declining trend in Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts. It is highest in North Arcot district and lowest in Chengalpattu district. The average size of the wholly leased in holdings ranges from 0.62 ha. in South Arcot district to 1.42 ha. in Chengalpattu district and a mixed trend is noticed when compared with the earlier two censuses. The average size of the owner-cum-tenant holdings has decreased census after census in Chengalpattu district, and in South Arcot and North Arcot districts, though it declined in 1976-77, but increased in 1979-80.

5. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status during 1979-80. (Table 30).

TABLE-30

District.]	Total holdings.		Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.		Holdings having some land otherwise operated.		S. N.				
	Number.		Area.		Number.		Area.		Total area.			Number.		Area.	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)		(11)	(12)	(13)	
Madras	..	100.00	100.00	80.88	82.71	1.62	0.74	0.86	1.60	16.62	13.08	0.88	2.61		
Chengalpattu	..	100.00	100.00	99.21	98.93	0.59	0.54	0.14	0.68	0.20	0.99	0.00	0.00		
South Arcot	..	100.00	100.00	99.21	99.37	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.60		
North Arcot	..	100.00	100.00	99.95	99.93	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01		

6. During the census under review, the estimated percentage of wholly owned and self-operated holdings vary between 80.88 percent and 99.95 percent in all the districts in the region. Similarly the area operated also vary between 82.71 per cent to 99.93 per cent. The holdings under other types of tenure are very few in all the districts except in Chengalpattu district. In Madras district under wholly leased in holdings, the number is about 17 per cent and the area operated is about 13 per cent. In Chengalpattu district, the percentage of wholly owned and self operated holdings have increased from 93 per cent in 1976-77 to 99 per cent in 1979-80 ; the corresponding area also increased from about 92 per cent in 1976-77 to 99 per cent in 1979-80 in this district. In South Arcot district, the percentage of wholly owned and self operated holdings have increased from 95 per cent in 1976-77 to about 99 per cent in 1979-80 ; the corresponding area also increased from about 95 per cent in 1976-77 to 99 per cent in 1979-80. It is interesting to note that in North Arcot district the percentage of wholly owned and self operated holdings have increased from 95.23 per cent in 1976-77 to 99.95 per cent in 1979-80 ; the corresponding area also increased from 94.65 per cent to 99.93 per cent.

7. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Madras district for the various groups of farmers during 1979-80.

It may be seen from the above table that about 84 per cent of the total, wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms with 24 per cent of the area operated by them under wholly owned and self operated holdings about 9 per cent are small farms operating an area of 16 per cent and about 0.4 per cent are large farms operating an area of about 38 per cent under wholly owned and self operated holdings (Table 31).

TABLE 31.
Madras District

Groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Number.	Ar S.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)
Marginal	84.36	24.22	72.73	65.89	78.76	59.01
Small	8.73	16.30	27.27	34.11	18.39	32.80
Semi-Medium	5.27	14.52	0.00	0.00	2.65	8.19
Medium	1.27	6.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Large	0.37	38.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

8. About 73 per cent of the partly owned and partly leased in holdings belong to marginal group and they have operated about 66 per cent of the total area owned and about 62 per cent of the area leased in. About 27 per cent belong to small farm group which own about 34 per cent of area and has leased in 38 per cent of the area. About 79 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings lie in the marginal group and they operated about 59 per cent of the total area wholly leased in the district in this group. About 19 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings belong to small group and they operated about 33 per cent of the total area wholly leased in the district in this group.

9. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Chengalpattu district for the various groups of farmers during 1979-80

TABLE 33.
South Arcot district.

	Gro ups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.	
		Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)
Marginal ..	..	74.44	30.02	33.33	8.12	84.00	57.23
Small ..	..	15.29	24.57	32.18	18.52	12.00	24.50
Semi-medium ..	..	7.35	23.05	24.14	39.18	4.00	18.27
Medium ..	..	2.64	17.29	10.35	34.18	0.00	0.00
Large ..	..	0.28	5.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

12. It can be seen from the above table that about 74 per cent of the total wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms, with 30 per cent of the total area under wholly owned and self operated holdings. About 15 per cent are small farms operating about 25 per cent of the total area in the district. About 7 per cent are semi-medium farms operating about 23 per cent of the total area. About 3 per cent are medium farms operating about 17 per cent of the total area. The proportion of large farms in this category is negligible. About $\frac{1}{3}$ of the partly owned and partly leased in holdings in South Arcot district belong to marginal group and they have an operated area of about 8 per cent of the total area owned and about 16 per cent leased in. About 32 per cent are small farm group which owns about 19 per cent of the area and leased in about 34 per cent of the area. About 24 per cent of the partly owned and partly leased in holdings in South Arcot district belong to the semi-medium group and they operate about 39 per cent of the total area owned and 26 per cent of the area leased in. About 10 per cent are medium group which owns about 34 per cent of the area and leased in about 25 per cent of the area. About 84 per cent of the wholly tenanted holdings lie in the marginal group and they operate about 57 per cent of the total area wholly leased in the district. About 12 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings are small holdings operating on about $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the total area leased in. It is to be noted that the large farms do not lease in any land either wholly or partly in this district also as in Chengalpattu district.

13. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in North Arcot district for the various groups of farmers.

TABLE 34.

North Arcot district.

Groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area Owned.	Area leased.	Number.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)
Marginal ..	68.24	33.54	23.85	8.24	8.00	58.25
Small ..	19.42	24.98	46.25	31.64	35.59	29.13
Semi-Medium ..	9.29	23.92	21.54	31.07	32.04	11.65
Medium ..	2.82	14.68	7.69	28.24	15.74	0.97
Large ..	0.23	2.88	0.77	0.81	8.63	9.00
						70

14. It can be seen from the above table that about 68 per cent of the total wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms, with 34 per cent of the total area under owned and self operated holdings. About 19 per cent are small farms operating about 1/4th of the total area in the district. About 9 per cent are semi-medium farms operating about 24 per cent of the area. About 3 per cent are medium farms operating about 15 per cent of the area. The proportion of large farms in this category is negligible. About 24 per cent of the partly owned and partly leased in holdings in North Arcot district belong to marginal group and they have an operated area of about 8 per cent of total area owned and about 8 per cent of area leased in. About 46 per cent belong to the small farm group which owns about 32 per cent of the area and has leased in about 36 per cent of the area. About 22 per cent belong to the semi-medium farm group which owns about 31 per cent of the area and has leased in about 32 per cent of the area. About 58 per cent of the wholly tenanted holdings lie in the marginal group and they operate about 32 per cent of the total area wholly leased in this district. About 29 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings belong to the small farm group operated on about 37 per cent of the total area leased in. The large farms do not wholly lease in any land in this district.

15. The following table indicates the percentage distribution of area covered under different types of tenancy in the four districts of Coastal Northern region for the different farm groups in the case of owner-cum-tenant holdings :—

TABLE 35.

District.	Size Group.	Area leased in by partly owned and partly leased in holdings in hectares.	For fixed Money (per cent).	For fixed produce (per cent).	For share of produce (per cent).	Usufructuary mortgage (per cent).	Other terms (percent).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Madras	Marginal ..	3.42	34.21	0.00	65.79	0.00	0.00
	Small ..	2.11	79.15	20.85	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total ..	5.53	51.36	7.96	40.68	0.00	0.00
Chongalpattu :							
..	Marginal ..	167.10	0.00	0.00	87.07	12.93	0.00
..	Small ..	212.00	0.00	0.00	98.11	1.89	0.00
..	Semi-Medium	230.15	0.00	0.00	99.46	0.54	0.00
..	Medium ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
..	Large ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
..	Total ..	609.25	0.00	0.00	95.59	4.41	0.00

South Arcot	Marginal ..	9.18	7.63	2.07	83.11	7.19	0.00
	Small ..	19.90	3.42	4.87	91.71	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	15.20	30.72	0.00	69.28	0.00	0.00
	Medium ..	14.77	89.51	0.00	10.49	0.00	0.00
	Large ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total ..	59.02	32.65	1.96	64.27	1.12	0.00
North Arcot	Marginal ..	8.79	14.11	1.36	84.53	0.00	0.00
	Small ..	39.13	4.06	2.94	91.08	0.00	1.92
	Semi-Medium	35.22	11.07	13.03	75.90	0.00	0.00
	Medium ..	17.30	16.42	0.00	82.14	0.00	1.44
	Large ..	9.49	98.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total ..	109.93	17.17	5.50	76.42	0.00	0.91

16. The above table shows that more area is leased in by owner-cum-tenant for fixed money in Madras district than South Arcot and North Arcot districts while the owner-cum-tenants in Chengalpattu have not leased in any land for fixed money. The same pattern is found to exist in the case of operational holdings cultivating for fixed produce. The proportion of farmers who are cultivating for share of produce is greatest in Chengalpattu district followed by North Arcot, South Arcot and Madras districts in that order. Within Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts cultivating for share produce of is more popular. In Chengalpattu district among the various groups of farmers also, the same trend is witnessed in the marginal, small and semi-medium groups of farmers while there are no medium and large size farms in the category of owner-cum-tenant cultivators. In South Arcot district about 1/3rd of the land is cultivated for fixed money.

17. The following table shows that the area covered under different types of tenure in the four districts of Coastal Northern region for the different farm groups in the Case of wholly tenanted holdings :—

TABLE 36.

District.	Size Group.	Area leased in by wholly tenanted in holdings (hectares).	For fixed money (per cent).	For fixed produce (per cent).	For share of produce (per cent).	Usufructuary mortgage (per cent).	Other terms (per cent).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Madras	Marginal	49.50	1.58	80.83	17.59	0.00	0.00
	Small	27.52	3.89	89.43	6.68	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	6.87	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	83.89	2.21	85.22	12.57	0.00	0.00
Chengalpattu	Marginal	386.30	0.00	11.33	84.24	4.43	0.00
	Small	305.60	0.00	7.24	89.16	3.60	0.00
	Semi-Medium	494.43	0.00	6.79	87.10	5.11	0.00
	Medium	501.87	0.00	3.59	93.38	3.03	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	1,688.20	0.00	6.96	88.69	4.35	0.00

District.	State Group	Area leased in by wholly leased in holdings (hectares)	For fixed money (per cent).	For fixed produce (per cent).	For share of produce (per cent).	Usufructuary mortgage (per cent).	Other terms (per cent)s
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
South Arcot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Marginal	17.82	0.00	0.00	00.00	0.00	0.00
	Small	7.63	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	5.69	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
North Arcot	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	31.14	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Marginal	34.73	8.47	36.91	54.62	0.00	0.00
	Small	40.21	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	30.04	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
..	Medium	4.06	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	109.04	2.69	11.76	85.55	0.00	0.00

18. Cultivating for share of produce is more popular in Chengalpattu, South Arcot (Cent per cent) and North Arcot districts but in Madras district cultivating for fixed produce is more popular. Within Madras district the semi-medium farms prefer to cultivate for fixed produce only. In North Arcot district the marginal farmers alone prefer to cultivate for fixed produce.

COASTAL REGION.

The percentage of number of holdings and total operated area in this region under different types of tenure are shown below. The actual number and area are not compared with the earlier two censuses figures because, this coastal region was newly formed in 1979-80.

TABLE 37.

Region : Coastal.

Tenure Status	Holding number and percentage.				Area and percentage.				Per holding size (in Hectares)			
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Wholly owned and self operated holdings.	..	..	..	..	..	15,44,058 (96.33)	..	..	15,61,900 (95.96)	..	..	1.01
Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.	..	..	..	..	..	18,590 (1.16)	..	..	27,244 (1.67)	..	..	1.47
Wholly leased in holdings	..	..	..	..	..	40,195 (2.51)	..	..	38,508 (2.37)	..	..	0.96
Total	..	..	..	..	..	16,02,843 (100)	..	..	16,27,652 (100)	..	..	1.07

2. The above table shows the proportion of wholly owned and self operated holdings which forms 96 per cent and the area operated by them is also about 96 per cent.

3. The average size per holding is less than 1 hectare (0.96 ha) in the case of wholly leased in holdings.

TABLE 38.

District.	Average size of holdings.											
	Wholly owned and self operated.				Wholly leased in.				Owner-cum-tenant.			
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
(1)	1.18	1.02	1.03	1.09	1.07	0.95	1.07	0.76	1.03	2.08	1.73	1.43
Thanjavur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tiruchirappalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pudukkottai	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

N.A.—Not available.

4. The average size of the self operated holdings in Thanjavur district which was 1.18 ha. in 1970-71 decreased to 1.02 in 1976-77 and 1.03 in 1979-80. The average size of the self operated holdings in Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai have also decreased. The district average size of holdings show a steady declining trend.

5. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status.

TABLE 39.

District.	Total holdings.		Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.		Holdings having some land otherwise operated.		
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased.	Total Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
hanjavur	..	100.00	89.86	89.26	2.84	2.16	1.78	3.94	6.16	5.66	1.14	1.14
iruchirappalli	..	100.00	98.82	98.77	0.34	0.22	0.27	0.49	0.71	0.61	0.13	0.13
udukkottai	..	100.00	99.73	99.74	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.24	0.24

6. During the year 1979-80, the estimated percentage of wholly owned and self operated holdings is low in Thanjavur district compared to the other districts of the region. But the area operated by partly owned and partly leased in holdings and wholly leased in holdings are higher when compared to the other districts in the region. The area operated by partly owned and partly leased in holdings and wholly leased in holdings is negligible when compared with the area under wholly owned and self operated holdings in Tiruchirapalli and Pudukkottai districts.

7. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holding by tenure and tenancy status in Thanjavur district.

TABLE 40.
Thanjavur District (Percentages)

Groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Number.	Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(7)	(8)
Marginal	72.60	27.21	49.35	16.27	63.96	30.82
Small	15.60	23.11	29.88	28.23	25.60	36.48
Semi medium-	8.38	24.10	16.10	31.22	9.24	23.84
Medium	3.04	18.38	4.13	18.74	1.09	6.03
Large	0.38	7.20	0.54	5.54	0.11	2.83
All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

9. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Tiruchirappalli district for the various groups of farmers during the year 1979-80.

(Table 41)

TABLE 41.
Tiruchjraipalli District (Percentages).

Groups.	Wholly owned and self-operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased.	Per.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(8)
Marginal ..	67.11	22.65	40.85	11.21	15.36	31.78
Small ..	17.55	21.12	35.82	29.06	33.90	26.87
Semi-medium ..	10.07	23.75	18.17	35.62	31.01	20.06
Medium ..	4.52	22.71	4.68	19.50	13.94	16.54
Large ..	0.75	9.77	0.48	4.61	5.79	4.75
All sizes ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

10. In Tiruchirappalli district about 67 per cent of total wholly owned and self-operated holdings are marginal farms operating on an area of about 23 per cent. About 18 per cent are small farms operating on about 21 per cent of the area. About 10 per cent are semi-medium farms operating on about 24 per cent of the total area. About 36 per cent of the total partly owned and partly leased in holdings lie in the small farms group cultivating about 29 per cent of owned area and about 34 per cent of the area leased in. About 71 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings are marginal farms cultivating about 32 per cent of the area wholly leased in. About 18 per cent of the wholly tenanted holdings are small farms cultivating about 27 per cent of the total area of the wholly leased in holdings.

11. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Pudukkottai district :—

TABLE 42.
Pudukkottai District (Percentages)

Groups.	Wholly owned and self-operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.		Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Number.	Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(7)	(8)
Marginal	81.13	35.00	68.00	30.40	93.51	74.33
Small	11.30	20.72	24.00	29.75	3.90	9.66
Semi-medium	5.24	19.64	4.00	18.73	2.59	16.01
Medium	1.97	15.65	4.00	21.12	0.00	0.00
Large	0.36	8.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

12. It can be derived from the above table that about 81 per cent of the total wholly owned and self-operated holdings are marginal farm, covering 35 per cent of the total area. About 11 per cent are small farmers operating on about 21 per cent of the total area. About 5 per cent are semi-medium farms operating on 20 per cent of the total area in the district. About 2 per cent are medium farmers operating an area of 16 percent. About 68 percent of the partly owned and partly leased in holdings in Pudukkottai district belong to marginal group and they have an operated area of about 30 percent of the area under total area owned, about 48 per cent are leased in. About 24 per cent of the holdings belong to the small farm group which owned about 30 percent of the area owned and 46 per cent of the area leased in. About 94 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings are marginal farms and they operated about 74 per cent of the total area wholly leased in, in this district. The large farmers do not lease in any land either partly or wholly in Pudukkottai district.

13. The following table depicts the percentage of area covered under different types of tenancy in the three districts of the coastal region for the different farm groups in the case of owner-cum-tenant holdings.

TABLE 43.

District.	Size Group.	Area leased in by partly owned partly leased in holdings in hectares.	For Fixed Money percent.	For Fixed Produce percent.	For share of produce percent.	Usufructury mortgage percent.	Other terms percent.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Thanjavur	Marginal	..	7.14	51.97	38.99	1.44	0.46
	Small	..	2.93	57.85	37.62	1.38	0.22
	Semi-medium	..	3.34	69.80	25.05	1.81	0.00
	Medium	..	2.37	72.02	24.16	1.26	0.19
	Large	..	0.00	68.75	28.10	3.15	0.00
Total		10,562.71	3.40	63.49	31.33	1.61	0.17
Tiruchirappalli	Marginal	..	15.46	80.06	4.33	0.15	0.00
	Small	..	21.27	64.30	13.97	0.00	0.46
	Semi-medium	..	21.46	55.62	22.16	0.00	0.76
	Medium	..	45.08	25.14	29.78	0.00	00.0
	Large	..	18.35	81.65	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2,198.94	23.58	59.58	16.42	0.02	0.40

Pudukkottai	..	..	..	4.83	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Marginal	..	..	4.58	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Small	..	..	0.14	0.00	0.00	100.00	1.00	0.00
	Semi-medium	..	..	0.50	0.00	0.00	100.00	1.00	0.00
	Medium	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		..	..	10.05	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00

14. The above table illustrates that more area is leased in by owner-cum-tenant for fixed money in Tiruchirappalli district than in Thanjavur district while in Pudukkottai district owner-cum-tenant holders have no leased in any land for fixed money. More land was leased in for fixed produce in Thanjavur district than in Tiruchirappalli district. In Pudukkottai district the entire area leased in is for share of produce only and the area in Thanjavur district is more than in Tiruchirappalli district.

15. The following table shows that the percentage distribution of area covered under different types of tenancy in the three districts of the region for the different farm groups in the case of wholly tenanted holdings.
(H.c. Table 44)

16. The above table amplifies that more area is leased in by wholly tenanted holdings for fixed money in Tiruchirappalli district than in Thanjavur district and within the district also it is more popular than the other types of Tenancy. In Pudukkottai district the cultivators have not leased in any land for fixed money. In Thanjavur district more area is leased in for fixed produce than in Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai districts. The area leased in for share of produce is more in Pudukkottai district than in Thanjavur district and the area is negligible in Tiruchirappalli district.

TABLE 44.

District	Size Group	Area leased in by wholly leased in holdings in hectares.	For Fixed Money per cent.	For Fixed Produce per cent.	For share of produce per cent.	Usufructuary mortgage per cent.	Other terms Per cent.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Thanjavur	Marginal	10,328.67	2.57	44.66	51.25	0.99	0.53
	Small	12,226.87	1.95	50.63	46.38	0.79	0.25
	Semi-medium	7,993.42	1.76	54.91	41.87	0.69	0.77
	Medium	2,022.05	3.15	39.05	55.38	1.66	0.76
	Large	949.50	0.00	55.58	42.25	2.17	0.00
	Total	33,520.51	2.11	49.25	47.23	0.92	0.49
Tiruchirappalli	Marginal	1,573.62	30.90	66.00	2.65	0.15	0.30
	Small	1,330.56	36.32	60.35	2.65	0.08	0.00
	Semi-medium	993.41	66.45	29.94	3.40	0.00	0.21
	Medium	818.53	87.79	11.28	0.93	0.00	0.00
	Large	235.13	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	4,951.25	52.33	45.07	2.39	0.07	0.14
Pudukkottai	Marginal	27.16	0.00	42.60	57.40	0.00	0.00
	Small	3.53	0.00	40.23	59.77	0.00	0.00
	Semi-medium	5.85	0.00	64.96	35.04	0.00	0.00
	Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	36.54	0.00	45.95	54.05	0.00	0.00

INLAND REGION

The number of holdings and total operated area in the Inland region comprising of the districts of Salem, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore, Periyar and The Nilgiris district, under different types of tenures are clearly shown below (H.e. Table 45)

2. The above table reveals that the proportion of wholly owned and self operated holdings during 1979-80 in the Inland region is 99.98 per cent. This indicates that the owner cultivators in this region prefer self operation. The actual number and area are not compared with the earlier censuses figures because, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Pudukkottai districts which were hitherto in the Inland region are now in the other regions due to the formation of the fourth region during 1979-80. (H.e. Table 46)

3. The average size of self operated holdings ranges from 1.24 ha. to 2.26 ha. during 1979-80. Wholly leased in and owner-cum-tenant holdings exists in Coimbatore district only during 1979-80.

4. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status (H.e. Table 47)

5. It is interesting to note that except in Coimbatore district, that the entire area owned is self operated by the cultivators in the other districts of the region, and also that even in Coimbatore district the area operated otherwise is negligible with 0.1 per cent.

6. The following table reveals the percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Salem district for the various groups of farmers. (H.e. Table 48).

TABLE 45.

Region : Inland.

Tenure Status.	Holdings Number and Percentage.				Area and Percentage.				Per holdings size (In hectares)			
	1970-71		1979-80		1970-71		1979-80		1970-71		1979-80	
	(2)	(1)	(4)	(3)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Wholly owned and self operated holdings	19,27,099 (94.86)	23,82,309 (96.91)	13,14,603 (99.99)	33,81,488 (94.27)	34,55,194 (96.07)	21,19,172 (99.98)	1.75	1.45	1.77	1.46	1.54	1.54
Partly owned and partly leased in holdings	42,384 (2.09)	47,146 (1.92)	43 (0.00)	1,26,613 (3.53)	1,07,013 (2.97)	183 (0.01)	2.99	2.27	1.27	1.19	4.26	1.71
Wholly leased in	61,942 (3.05)	28,762 (1.17)	146 (0.01)	78,872 (2.20)	34,160 (0.96)	249 (0.01)	1.27	1.19	1.77	1.46	1.54	1.54
Total	20,31,425 (100)	24,58,217 (100)	13,14,792 (100)	35,86,973 (100)	35,96,367 (100)	20,19,604 (100)						

TABLE 46.

District.	Average size of holdings.																	
	Wholly owned and self operated						Wholly leased in						Owner-cum-tenant.	District average.				
	1970-71		1976-77		1979-80		1970-71		1976-77		1979-80		1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
(1)																		
Salem	1.51	1.31	1.24	1.55	2.16	0.00	2.76	2.51	0.00	1.51	1.34	1.24						
Dharmapuri	1.90	1.65	1.33	1.51	1.27	0.00	3.30	2.31	0.00	1.94	1.65	1.33						
Periyar	..	..	1.60	..	..	0.00	..	..	0.00	..	..	1.60						
Coimbatore	2.75	2.14	2.26	2.30	2.13	1.70	5.00	2.78	4.27	2.78	2.14	2.26						
The Nilgiris	1.59	1.01	1.86	0.82	0.50	0.00	N.A.	2.24	0.00	1.41	1.04	1.8						

(—) Periyar newly formed district from Coimbatore District.

N.A.—Not Available. :

TABLE 47.

District.	Total Holdings.			Wholly owned and self operated			Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.			Holding having some land otherwise operated.			
	Number.	Area.	(2)	Number.	Area.	(5)	Number.	Area.	owned.	Area.	leased.	Total area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)				
Salem	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dharmapuri	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Periyar	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coimbatore	100.00	100.00	99.88	0.22	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Nilgiris	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

TABLE 48.

District : Salem.

Size groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal ..	..	59.54	21.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small ..	..	23.11	27.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Semi-medium ..	..	12.85	28.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medium ..	..	4.20	18.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Large ..	..	0.30	4.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All sizes ..	..	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

7. It can be seen from the above table that about 60 per cent of the total wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms operating on about 22 per cent of the area. About 23 per cent are small farms operating on about 27 per cent of the area. About 13 per cent are semi-medium farms operating on about 28 per cent of the area. About 4 per cent are medium farms operating on about 19 per cent of the area. The rest of the area is operated by the large farms. The area operated otherwise is nil.

8. The following table depicts the percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Dharmapuri district for the various groups of farms during 1979-80.

TABLE 49.

District : Dharmapuri

Size group.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal ..	..	59.48	20.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small ..	..	22.15	24.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Semi-medium ..	..	12.94	28.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medium ..	..	4.94	21.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Large ..	..	0.49	5.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All sizes ..	..	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

9. In Dharmapuri district, about 59 per cent of the total wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms covering about 21 per cent of the total area under cultivation. About 22 per cent of the holdings are small farms with an area of about 24 per cent. About 13 per cent are semi-medium farms operating about 28 per cent of the area. About 5 per cent are medium farms operating on about an area of 21 per cent. The rest of the area is operated by the large farms. The area operated otherwise in this district is also nil as in Salem district.

10. The following table indicates the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Periyar district for the various groups of farms during the year 1979-80.

TABLE 50.

District : Periyar.

Size groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal ..	..	55.73	13.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small ..	..	20.70	18.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Semi-medium ..	..	14.27	24.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medium ..	..	7.81	28.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Large ..	..	1.49	14.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All sizes ..	..	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

11. In Periyar district about 56 per cent of the total wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms with an area of 14 per cent. About 21 per cent of the total holdings are small farms with an area of about 18 per cent. About 14 per cent are semi-medium farms with an area of 25 per cent. About 8 per cent of the total holdings are medium farms operating on an area of about 29 per cent and the remaining area in the district was operated by the large farms. The area operated otherwise in this district is also Nil as in Salem and Dharmapuri districts.

12. The following table shows the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Coimbatore district during 1979-80.

TABLE 51.

District : Coimbatore

Size Groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal ..	..	38.42	8.66	16.28	0.40	0.37	40.41
Small ..	..	25.90	16.71	13.95	5.51	4.68	29.45
Semi-medium ..	..	21.82	26.94	23.26	15.40	15.28	19.86
Medium ..	..	11.84	30.65	41.86	65.02	60.60	10.28
Large ..	..	2.02	17.04	4.65	13.67	19.07	0.00
All sizes ..	..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

13. In Coimbatore district about 38 per cent of the wholly owned self operated holdings are marginal farms with an area of about 9 per cent. About 26 per cent are small farms with an area of 17 per cent. About 22 per cent are semi-medium with an area of 27 per cent. About 12 per cent belong to medium farms and the area operated is 31 per cent. About 2 per cent are large farms operating on an area of about 17 per cent. About 23 per cent of the partly owned and partly leased in holdings are semi-medium farms wherein both the area owned and the area leased in by them are about 15 per cent. About 42 per cent of the total holdings are medium farms wherein the area owned is 65 per cent and the area leased in is 61 per cent. About 20 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings are semi-medium with an area of about 33 per cent and about 10 per cent are medium farms with an area of 31 per cent.

14. The following table shows the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in The Nilgiris district for the various groups of farmers during the year 1979-80.

TABLE 52.

District: The Nilgiris.

Size Groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Marginal..	61.99	10.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small ..	17.30	10.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Semi-medium ..	12.04	14.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medium ..	7.00	17.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Large ..	1.67	47.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All sizes ..	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

15. In the Nilgiris district about 62 per cent of the wholly owned and self operated holding are marginal farms and the total area covered under this category is about 10 per cent. About 17 per cent are small farms with an area of about 10 per cent. About 12 per cent are semi-medium farms are about 14 per cent. The medium farms are about 7 per cent with an area of 18 per cent. The large farms are about 2 per cent but they operated on an area of 48 per cent. It is to be noted that in this district the area operated by large farms during 1976-77 was only 12 per cent. The area otherwise operated is nil in this district also as in Salem, Dharmapuri and Periyar districts. It is interesting to note that while the percentage of area operated by the large farms in Tamil Nadu is decreasing, it is increasing in the Nilgiris district.

16. The following table shows the percentage distribution under the area covered in Coimbatore district of the Inland region in the case of owner-cum-tenant holdings since such type of holdings did not exist in the other districts during 1979-80.

TABLE 53.

District.	Size group.	Total area under partly owned and partly leased in holdings in hectares.	For fixed money.	For fixed produce.	For share of produce.	Usufructuary mortgage.	Other terms.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Coimbatore ..	Marginal..	0.27	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small ..	3.41	64.52	0.00	20.82	14.66	0.00
	Semi-medium	11.13	50.31	0.00	28.57	21.12	0.00
	Medium ..	44.15	66.93	12.00	19.37	1.70	0.00
	Large ..	13.89	13.25	0.00	59.61	27.14	0.00
	All sizes ..	72.85	54.17	7.28	28.44	10.11	0.00
Salem Dharmapuri Periyar The Nilgiris.	Marginal..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

17. The above table adduces that in Coimbatore district more area was leased in by partly owned and partly leased in holdings for fixed money the percentage of area being about 54 per cent. The percentage of area leased in for share of produce is about 28 per cent. The percentage of area leased in for fixed produce is about 7 per cent. Within the district the medium farms have leased in for fixed produce while the other types of farms have not leased in any land for fixed produce. The area leased in under usufructuary mortgage is about 10 per cent.

18. The following table indicates the percentage distribution covered by different types of tenancy in Coimbatore district of the Inland region for the different farm groups in the case of wholly leased in holdings since such type of holdings did not exist in the other districts during 1979-80.

TABLE 54.

District.	Size group.	Total area under wholly owned and leased in holdings.	For fixed money.	For fixed produce.	For share of produce.	Usufructuary mortgage.	Other terms.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Coimbatore	Marginal..	35.48	50.68	0.00	2.51	0.00	46.81
	Small ..	55.53	57.77	9.54	2.83	3.30	26.56
	Semi-medium	81.74	91.34	4.53	4.13	0.00	0.00
	Medium ..	76.08	79.32	0.00	20.68	0.00	0.00
	Large ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes ..	248.83	74.38	3.62	8.67	0.73	12.60
Salem	Marginal..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dharmapuri	Small ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Periyar	Semi-medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
The Nilgiris.	Medium ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

19. It may be seen from the above table that in Coimbatore about 74 per cent of the area is found to be leased in by the wholly leased in holdings for fixed money. About 9 per cent of the area is leased in for share of produce and 4 per cent of the area is leased in for fixed produce. About 13 per cent of the area is leased in for other terms. It is to be noted that the large farms in this district have not wholly leased in any land.

SOUTHERN REGION.

The percentage number of holdings and total operated area in this region under different types of tenure are indicated below—

TABLE 55

Region : Southern Region.

Tenure Status:	Holdings number and percentage.			Area and percentage.
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wholly owned and self operated holdings	89.35	94.39	98.76	88.86
Partly owned and partly leased in holdings	3.64	2.85	0.31	5.99
Wholly leased in holdings	7.01	2.76	0.93	5.15
Total ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

TABLE 55—cont.

	Area and percentage.		Per holding size (in hectares).		
	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Wholly owned and self operated holdings	93.69	99.36	1.32	1.13	1.01
Partly owned and partly leased in holdings	4.27	0.20	2.19	1.70	0.64
Wholly leased in holdings	2.04	0.44	0.98	0.84	0.48
Total	100.00	100.00	1.33	1.13	1.00

2. The above table shows that the proportion of the wholly owned and self operated holdings is increasing census after census, while it is decreasing in the cases of partly owned and partly leased in holdings and wholly leased in holdings census after census.

3. The average sizes of the operated area per holding under all the types of tenure, have decreased gradually.

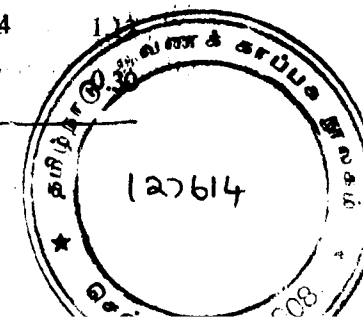
TABLE 56.

District.	Average size of holdings.					
	Wholly owned and self operated.			Wholly leased in.		
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Madurai	1.50	1.32	1.18	0.99	0.72	0.92
Ramanathapuram	1.32	1.21	1.01	1.03	0.93	0.00
Tirunelveli	1.45	1.25	1.16	0.70	0.48	0.46
Kanniyakumari	0.36	0.27	0.30	0.56	0.29	0.61

Average size of holdings—cont.

	Owner-cum-tenant.			District average.		
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Madurai	2.65	2.13	1.92	1.50	1.32	1.18
Ramanathapuram	2.58	2.02	0.00	1.34	1.22	1.01
Tirunelveli	2.20	1.83	0.61	1.42	1.24	1.11
Kanniyakumari	N.A.	1.29	0.00	0.38	0.27	0.36

N.A.—Not Available



4. The average size of self operated holdings has decreased slowly and sparingly in all the districts of the region. The district average size of holdings has decreased in this region except in Kanniyakumari district.

5. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status:—

TABLE 57.

District.	Total holdings.		Wholly owned and self operated holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Madurai :	100.00	100.00	99.67	99.67
Ramanathapuram	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Tirunelveli	100.00	100.00	95.41	97.95
Kanniyakumari	100.00	100.00	99.91	99.87

Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.

	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased.	Total area.
	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Madurai :	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.05
Ramanathapuram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tirunelveli	1.14	0.18	0.43	0.61
Kanniyakumari	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Wholly leased in holdings.

holdings leasing some land otherwise operated.

	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.
	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Madurai :	0.09	0.07	0.21	0.21
Ramanathapuram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tirunelveli	3.43	1.41	0.02	0.03
Kanniyakumari	0.06	0.12	0.03	0.01

6. In Ramanathapuram district the entire area is self operated. In Kanniyakumari and Madurai districts the percentages of area operated by the wholly owned and self operated holdings are 99.87 and 99.67 respectively while it is 97.65 per cent in Tirunelveli district. The area operated otherwise in these districts is negligible.

7. The following table depicts the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Madurai district for the various groups of farmers during 1979-80 :—

TABLE 58.

Madurai district.

Size groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal.. ..	65.74	22.50	32.78	11.35	9.88	72.66	39.91
Small	19.46	22.86	32.78	20.94	27.45	21.60	32.67
Semi-medium	9.89	22.90	25.00	30.89	41.25	3.06	10.23
Medium	4.23	20.88	8.89	31.29	21.41	2.68	17.19
Large	0.68	10.86	0.55	5.53	0.01	0.00	0.00
All sizes:	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

8. In Madurai district about 66 per cent of the total wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms, covering 23 per cent of the total area under cultivation. 19 per cent of small farms and 20 per cent of semi-medium farms operate 23 per cent under each category. 4 per cent of the Medium farms operate an area of 21 per cent. Roughly less than 1 per cent of the large farms operate an area of 11 per cent holdings. Approximately 33 per cent of the total of partly owned and partly leased in holdings are small farms with the cultivated area calculating 21 per cent of the total area owned and 28 per cent of the area leased in. Roughly 1/4th of the holdings belong to semi-medium group cultivating 31 per cent of the total area owned and about 41 per cent of the total area leased in this district. Further 73 per cent of the wholly tenanted holdings are marginal farms operating an area of about 40 percent. About 22 percent of the wholly tenant holdings are small farms and they have operated approximately 33 per cent of the total area wholly leased in, in the district.

9. The following table depicts the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Ramanathapuram district for the various groups of farmers during the year 1979-80 :—

TABLE 59.

Ramanathapuram District.

Size groups.	Wholly owned and self operated holdings.		Partly owned and partly leased in holdings.			Wholly leased in holdings.	
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area owned.	Area leased in.	Number.	Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal	71.24	26.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small	16.44	23.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Semi-medium	8.52	24.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Medium	3.36	19.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Large	0.44	7.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
All sizes	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

11. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Tirunelveli district for the various groups of farmers during 1979-80.—

Tirunelveli district.

12. It can be seen from the above table, that about 70 per cent of the wholly owned and self operated holdings are marginal farms with 23 per cent of the total area. About 16 per cent are small farmers operating about 19 per cent of the total area in the district. About 9 per cent are semimediam farmers operating about 20 per cent of the area. About 4 per cent are medium farmers operating about 22 per cent of the area. The proportion of the large farmers is just a little less than 1 per cent operating an area of 15 per cent of the total area. About 87 per cent of the partly owned, and partly leased in holdings in Tirunelveli district belong to the marginal group and they have operated an area of 55 per cent of the total area owned, and 36 per cent of the area leased in. Roughly 8 per cent of the total holdings belong to the small farmers group which owned about 20 per cent of the area, and 16 per cent of the area leased in. About 92 per cent of the wholly tenant holdings lie in the marginal group and they operated about 56 per cent of the area wholly leased in. About 5 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings are small holdings operating about 15 per cent of the total area wholly leased in.

13. The following table gives the estimated percentage number and area of operational holdings by tenure and tenancy status in Kanniyakumari district for the various groups of farmers during 1979-80.—

Kanniyakumari district.

14. It is seen from the above table that in Kanniyakumari district, about 96 per cent of the wholly owned and self operated holdings belongs to the marginal group and about 3 per cent belongs to the small farm group operating an area of about 58 per cent and 14 per cent of the total operated area under this type of tenure respectively. It is interesting to note that there are no partly owned and partly leased in holdings in this district. About 88 per cent of the wholly lease in holdings are marginal farms operating an area of about 48 per cent in this district.

15. The following table shows the percentage distribution of area covered in the districts of the Southern Region in the owner-cum-tenant holdings :—

TABLE 62.

District.	Size Group.	Total area under partly owned and partly leased holdings.	For Fixed Money (Percent).	For Fixed Produce (Percent).	For Share of Produce (Per cent).	Usufructuary mortgage (Per cent).	Other terms (Per cent).
Madurai ..	Marginal	15.92	0.00	20.10	59.05	20.35	0.50
	Small	44.24	2.28	30.63	51.45	14.01	1.63
	Semi-Medium	66.48	0.00	27.12	51.31	20.94	0.63
	Medium	34.51	0.00	22.26	67.45	10.29	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	161.15	0.63	26.35	55.57	16.70	0.75
Ramanathapuram	Marginal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

District.	Size Group.	Total area under partly owned and partly leased in holdings.	For Fixed Money (Per cent).	For Fixed Produce (Per cent).	For Share of Pro- duce (Per cent).	Usufructuary mort- gage (Per cent).	Other terms (Per cent).
Tirunelveli	Marginal	1,057.56	0.05	74.77	24.20	0.98	0.00
	Small	476.81	0.21	80.43	19.16	0.16	0.04
	Semi Medium	434.29	3.76	78.53	16.88	0.83	0.00
	Medium	263.52	1.19	73.41	25.30	0.10	0.00
	Large	717.35	2.02	91.84	4.49	1.65	0.00
	All sizes	2,949.53	1.20	80.27	17.61	0.91	0.01
Kanniyakumari	Marginal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

16. The above table shows that in Tirunelveli district more area is leased in by owner-cum tenants for fixed produce than on any other terms. In the case of owner-cum-tenants cultivating for share of produce, Madurai district takes the lead. There are no owner-cum-tenant cultivators in Ramanathapuram and Kanniyakumari districts. In Madurai district the medium group of farmers prefer to cultivate for share of produce and there are no large farmers in the category of owner-cum-tenant. Cultivating for usufructuary mortgage is also popular to an extent with the owner-cum-tenant cultivators in Madurai district. In Tirunelveli district the large farmers prefer to cultivate more area for fixed produce than the other groups of farmers.

17. The following table shows the percentage distribution of the area covered under different types of tenancy in the districts of the Southern region for the different farm groups in the case of wholly tenanted holdings :

TABLE 62(u).

District.	Size Groups.	Total area under wholly tenanted holdings.	For Fixed Money (Per cent).	For Fixed Produce (Per cent).	For Share of produce (Per cent).	Usufructuary mort- gage (Per cent)	Other Terms (Per cent).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Madurai	Marginal	191.17	5.13	40.23	51.49	0.97	2.18
	Small	156.48	1.78	18.29	79.52	0.00	0.41
	Semi-Medium	49.02	12.97	76.42	10.61	0.00	0.00
	Medium	82.34	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	479.01	3.96	29.85	64.80	0.39	1.00
Ramanathapuram	Marginal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tirunelveli	Marginal	5,399.82	5.53	61.28	33.14	0.04	0.01
	Small	1,401.30	5.74	83.58	10.68	0.00	0.00
	Semi Medium	1,059.14	5.92	91.00	2.67	0.41	0.00
	Medium	595.12	7.04	87.82	5.14	0.00	0.00
	Large	1,120.32	5.51	91.05	3.44	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	9,575.70	5.70	72.96	21.27	0.07	0.00
Kanniyakumari	Marginal	47.71	0.00	69.38	30.62	0.00	0.00
	Small	15.89	0.00	74.45	25.55	0.00	0.00
	Semi-Medium	6.52	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	29.07	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All sizes	99.19	0.00	81.18	18.82	0.00	0.00

18. In Kanniyakumari and Tirunelveli districts more land is leased in for fixed produce while in Madurai district the wholly tenanted holdings prefer to cultivate for share of produce. The other terms are not popular with the wholly tenanted holdings in this region. In Ramanathapuram district there are no wholly tenanted holdings. In Madurai district the medium farm group prefer to cultivate for share of produce only, while in Kanniyakumari district semi-medium and medium sized holdings prefer to cultivate for fixed produce only.

LAND USES.

The percentage of sown and net cultivated area to the total operated area in each of the region are indicated below :—

TABLE 63.

Serial number and Region.	Percentage of sown area.			Percentage of net cultivate area.		
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Coastal Northern	81.55	83.52	82.80	92.13	95.68	96.22
2 Coastal *	74.01	73.10	80.89	88.62	94.26	94.37
3 Inland	77.21	73.58	77.03	93.33	95.36	96.45
4 Southern *	74.01	73.10	73.52	88.62	94.26	95.23

* Newly formed Regions from the Coastal Southern Region of 1970-71 and 1976-77.

2. The percentages of sown area and net cultivated area are not compared with the preceding two censuses since, the coastal region and the southern region are newly formed during 1979-80. The net sown area is more in the coastal northern region than in the other regions. The other items of utilisation are shown in the table below with percentage of area.

TABLE 64.

Serial number and utilisation.	Coastal Northern.			Coastal*		
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1 Current fallows	10.58	12.15	13.42	14.61	21.15	13.48
2 Uncultivated land excluding fallows.	1.44	0.82	0.98	1.75	0.61	1.18
3 Fallow other than Current fallows.	2.32	0.87	0.72	5.41	1.73	1.17
4 Culturable Waste	2.17	1.73	0.55	2.82	2.70	1.43
5 Land not available for Cultivation.	1.94	0.89	1.53	1.40	0.71	1.85

Serial number and Utilisation.	Inland.			Southern *		
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80
	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1 Current fallows	16.12	21.78	19.42	14.61	21.15	21.71
2 Uncultivated land excluding fallows.	1.45	0.77	0.40	1.75	0.61	1.33
3 Fallow other than Current fallows.	1.76	0.80	0.63	5.41	1.73	1.18
4 Culturable Waste	1.31	2.28	0.76	2.82	2.70	1.34
5 Land not available for Cultivation.	2.15	0.78	1.76	1.40	0.71	0.92

* Newly formed regions from the Coastal Southern Region of 1970-71 and 1976-77.

3. The percentage of area under current fallows is highest in the southern region during 1979-80. The proportion of area under uncultivated land excluding fallows is also highest in the southern region. The proportion of area under fallow other than current fallows is highest in coastal and southern regions. Similarly the proportion of area under culturable waste is also highest in Coastal and Southern regions. The land under non-agricultural uses was more or less same in Coastal Northern, Coastal and Inland regions during 1979-80.

4. The particulars of net sown area and net cultivated area distributed under different size groups, district-wise, in the Coastal Northern region are given in table below :—

TABLE 65.

Region : Coastal Northern.

District.	Size Group.				Net sown area.	Net cultivated area.
(1)	(2)				(3)	(4)
Madras	Marginal	..	..	..	28.21	28.52
	Small	..	..	..	18.43	18.36
	Semi-medium	..	..	..	13.89	13.64
	Medium	..	..	..	6.01	7.05
	Large	..	..	..	33.46	32.43
Chengalpattu	Marginal	..	..	..	36.05	35.46
	Small	..	..	..	21.63	21.98
	Semi-medium	..	..	..	20.30	19.68
	Medium	..	..	..	15.12	15.23
	Large	..	..	..	6.90	7.65
South Arcot	Marginal	..	..	..	30.41	30.19
	Small	..	..	..	24.72	24.76
	Semi-medium	..	..	..	23.08	23.10
	Medium	..	..	..	17.25	17.14
	Large	..	..	..	4.54	4.81
North Arcot	Marginal	..	..	..	34.72	33.84
	Small	..	..	..	24.70	24.97
	Semi-medium	..	..	..	23.78	23.85
	Medium	..	..	..	14.27	14.57
	Large	..	..	..	2.53	2.77

5. It can be seen that the coverage of net area sown is highest in the marginal farm group in Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts while it is highest in the large farm group in Madras district. Similarly the percentage of net cultivated area is also highest in Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts in the marginal group and it is highest in the large farm group in Madras district.

6. The particulars of net sown area and net cultivated area distributed under different size groups, district-wise, in the Inland region are given in table below :—

TABLE 66.

Region : Inland.

District.	Size Group.				Net sown area.	Net cultivated area.
(1)	(2)				(3)	(4)
Salem	Marginal	..	..	..	21.45	21.69
	Small	..	..	..	26.51	27.32
	Semi-medium	..	..	..	28.97	28.36
	Medium	..	..	..	19.32	18.81
	Large	..	..	..	9.75	3.76

District	Size Group						Net sown area.	Net cultivated area.
(1)	(2)						(3)	(4)
Dharmapuri	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	20.23	20.14
			Small	..	..	..	25.08	24.48
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	28.47	28.34
			Medium	..	..	..	20.83	21.15
			Large	..	..	..	5.39	5.89
Periyars	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	16.24	13.80
			Small	..	..	..	21.25	18.60
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	26.76	24.96
			Medium	..	..	..	26.00	28.75
			Large	..	..	..	19.75	13.89
Coimbatore	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	9.34	8.71
			Small	..	..	..	17.89	16.91
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	28.42	26.95
			Medium	..	..	..	29.48	30.58
			Large	..	..	..	14.87	16.85
The Nilgiris	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	10.69	10.42
			Small	..	..	..	10.51	10.27
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	13.42	13.95
			Medium	..	..	..	15.48	17.59
			Large	..	..	..	49.90	47.77

7. It can be seen from the above table that the percentage of net area sown is highest in the semi-medium group in Salem, Dharmapuri, and Periyar districts while it is highest in the medium farm group in Coimbatore district and in the large group in the Nilgiris district. The percentage of net cultivated area is highest in semi-medium group in Salem and Dharmapuri districts whereas it is highest in the medium group in Periyar and Coimbatore district and in the large group in the Nilgiris district.

8. The details of net sown area and net cultivated area distributed under different size groups districtwise, in the Coastal region are furnished below :

TABLE 67.

Region : Coastal.

District.	Size group.						Net sown area.	Net cultivated area.
(1)	(2)						(3)	(4)
Thanjavur	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	26.87	26.98
			Small	..	..	..	24.43	24.36
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	24.57	24.48
			Medium	..	..	..	17.59	17.55
			Large	..	..	..	6.54	6.63
Tiruchirapalli	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	24.86	22.90
			Small	..	..	..	22.62	21.66
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	24.59	24.15
			Medium	..	..	..	20.62	22.20
			Large	..	..	..	7.31	9.09
Pudukkottai	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	54.11	53.56
			Small	..	..	..	23.95	23.96
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	15.14	14.95
			Medium	..	..	..	6.08	6.59
			Large	..	..	..	0.72	0.94

9. It can be seen from the above table that the net sown area covered is highest in the marginal farm group in all the three districts in the region. The percentage of net cultivated area is highest in the marginal farm group in Thanjavur and Pudukkottai districts whereas it is highest in the semi-medium group in Tiruchirapalli district.

10. A detailed analysis of area distribution under different size classes for individual items, of land utilisation, i.e. net sown area and net cultivated area, in the districts of the Southern region are given below :

TABLE 68.

Region : Southern.

District	Size group.						Net sown area.	Net cultivated area.
(1)	(2)						(3)	(4)
Madurai	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	24.30	22.44
			Small	..	..	..	23.60	22.80
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	23.15	22.94
			Medium	..	..	..	19.65	20.92
			Large	..	..	..	9.30	10.90
Ramanathapuram	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	27.35	26.28
			Small	..	..	..	23.39	23.26
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	23.62	24.15
			Medium	..	..	..	19.11	19.08
			Large	..	..	..	6.53	7.23
Tirunelveli	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	25.23	24.47
			Small	..	..	..	21.84	19.28
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	20.44	20.31
			Medium	..	..	..	19.50	21.64
			Large	..	..	..	12.99	14.30
Kanniyakumari	..	..	Marginal	..	..	..	59.92	59.01
			Small	..	..	..	13.21	13.01
			Semi-medium	..	..	..	9.22	9.09
			Medium	..	..	..	7.34	7.23
			Large	..	..	..	10.31	11.66

11. It can be seen that the coverage of net area sown is highest in the marginal farm group in all the four districts in this region. In Kanniyakumari district the percentage is about 60 per cent. The percentage of net cultivated area is highest in the semi-medium farm group in Madurai district and it is highest in the marginal farm group in the other three districts. The percent of net cultivated area by the marginal farm group is about 59 per cent in Kanniyakumari district.

IRRIGATION STATUS.

Coastal Northern Region.

The following table shows the estimated number of operational holdings and the area by irrigation status (i.e.) whether they have been wholly or partly irrigated and wholly unirrigated by farm groups :

TABLE 69.

Region : Coastal Northern.

Percentage distribution of estimated number of operational holdings by irrigation status.

Size group.	Wholly irrigated holdings.		Wholly unirrigated holdings.		Partly irrigated holdings.		
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total Area.	Irrigated Area.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal	..	76.39	36.73	73.85	34.68	60.65	27.00
Small	...	14.78	24.64	16.84	27.65	19.79	19.55
Semi-medium	..	6.52	20.75	6.98	21.32	13.72	27.29
Medium	..	2.08	13.54	2.12	12.97	5.28	21.82
Large	..	0.23	4.34	0.21	3.38	0.56	5.34
All Sizes	..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

2. It is seen from the above table that about 76 per cent of the wholly irrigated holdings belong to the marginal group, about 15 per cent belong to the small group, about 7 per cent belong to the semi-medium group, 2 per cent belong to the medium group and less than 1 per cent belong to the Large group. The area operated by these groups form about 37 per cent, 25 per cent, 21 per cent, 14 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. The percentage of wholly irrigated holdings is about 74 per cent in the marginal group, 17 per cent in the small group, 7 per cent in the semi-medium group, 2 per cent in the medium group and less than 1 per cent in the large group. The percentage area operated by these groups are respectively 35 per cent, 28 per cent, 21 per cent, 13 per cent and about 3 per cent. The proportion of number and area of wholly irrigated marginal holdings have slightly increased when compared with the previous census while the proportion of number and area of wholly unirrigated marginal holdings have slightly decreased when compared with the previous census. The percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings has advanced from 38 per cent to 61 per cent during the inter-census period with a considerable increase in both the total area and the irrigated area under their operation.

3. A similar analysis is now attempted for each district of the Coastal Northern region comparing the data within the major groups wherever possible.

TABLE 70.

District.	Size group.	Wholly irrigated holdings.		Wholly unirrigated holdings.		Partly Irrigated holdings.		
		(PERCENTAGE)		(PERCENTAGE)		(PERCENTAGE)		
		Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total Irrigated area.	Irrigated area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Madras	Marginal	..	83.23	27.85	58.82	43.35	..	..
	Small	..	10.42	18.05	17.65	34.84	..	..
	Semi-medium	..	4.83	14.13	17.65	3.63	..	..
	Medium	..	1.21	5.73	5.88	18.18	..	..
	Large	..	0.31	34.24	..	..	..	..

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Chengalpattu	..	Marginal	..	79.96	38.05	76.86	33.29	71.93
		Small	..	12.29	21.32	14.63	26.08	12.50
		Semi-medium	..	5.58	20.43	5.88	18.21	10.04
		Medium	..	1.90	14.34	2.27	15.32	4.32
		Large	..	0.27	5.86	0.36	7.10	1.21
South Arcot	..	Marginal	..	77.95	34.29	76.46	36.34	48.34
		Small	..	13.57	24.95	15.50	26.90	25.80
		Semi-medium	..	6.14	21.63	5.97	20.41	17.52
		Medium	..	2.11	14.91	1.85	12.98	7.49
		Large	..	0.23	4.22	0.22	3.37	0.85
North Arcot	..	Marginal	..	65.19	39.15	69.57	33.48	65.64
		Small	..	22.85	29.89	19.28	29.04	17.56
		Semi-medium	..	9.35	19.66	8.60	23.44	12.21
		Medium	..	2.45	9.53	2.39	12.06	4.25
		Large	..	0.16	1.77	0.16	1.98	0.34

4. The percentage number of the wholly irrigated marginal holdings vary between 65 per cent in North Arcot district to 83 per cent in Madras district in the four districts of the region and the percentage operated area vary between 28 per cent in Madras district to 39 per cent in North Arcot district. The percentage of wholly unirrigated marginal holdings vary from 59 per cent in Madras district to 77 per cent in Chengalpattu and South Arcot districts and the percentage operated area vary between 33 per cent in Chengalpattu district and 43 per cent in Madras district. The percentage area of wholly irrigated small holdings vary from 18 per cent in Madras district to 30 per cent in North Arcot district. The percentage area of wholly unirrigated small holdings vary from 26 per cent in Chengalpattu district to 35 per cent in Madras district. There are not partly irrigated holdings in Madras district. The percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings vary from 48 per cent in South Arcot district to 72 per cent in Chengalpattu district. The total area under partly irrigated marginal holdings vary from 17 per cent in South Arcot district to 33 per cent in the North Arcot district and the percentage of partly irrigated area by the marginal holdings vary between 17 per cent in South Arcot district to 39 per cent in North Arcot district. The proportion of partly irrigated small holdings ranges from 13 per cent in Chengalpattu district to 26 per cent in South Arcot district. The percentage of the total area under the partly irrigated small holdings ranges from 14 per cent in Chengalpattu district to 22 per cent in South Arcot district. The share of irrigated area by the partly irrigated small holdings is about 15 per cent in Chengalpattu district, about 22 per cent in South Arcot district and about 17 per cent in North Arcot district. Compared to the previous census 1976-77 the percentage of wholly irrigated marginal holdings in Chengalpattu district have slightly advanced from 75 per cent to 80 per cent, in the Census under review with a corresponding increase in the proportion of area from about 34 per cent to about 38 per cent.

The percentage of wholly unirrigated marginal holdings in Chengalpattu district has decreased from about 82 per cent in 1976-77 to about 77 per cent in 1970-80 with a corresponding decrease in the proportion of the area from about 41 per cent in 1976-77 to 33 per cent in 1979-80. But the percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings have considerably increased from about 42 per cent in 1976-77 to 72 per cent in 1979-80 with a corresponding increase in the irrigated area from 12 per cent in 1976-77 to 19 per cent in 1979-80.

The percentage of wholly irrigated marginal holdings in South Arcot district has slightly increased from 76 per cent in 1976-77 to about 78 per cent in 1979-80, but the percentage area has considerably decreased from 43 per cent in 1976-77 to 34 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage

of wholly unirrigated marginal holdings in South Arcot district has increased from 72 per cent in 1976-77 to 76 per cent in 1979-80. But the area has slightly decreased from 37 per cent in 1976-77 to 36 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings increased from 34 per cent in 1976-77 to 48 per cent in 1979-80. But in the case of small farm group, the percentage number and area of wholly irrigated holdings, wholly unirrigated holdings and the percentage number and total area operated and the area irrigated by partly irrigated holdings have decreased when compared with 1976-77.

In North Arcot district the percentage of wholly irrigated marginal holdings has considerably decreased from 76 per cent in 1976-77 to 65 per cent in 1979-80 but the area has increased from 35 per cent in 1976-77 to 39 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage of wholly unirrigated marginal holdings has decreased from 78 per cent to 70 per cent with a corresponding decrease in the area from 35 per cent to 33 per cent when compared to the previous census. But the percentages of partly irrigated marginal holdings, the total area operated and the area irrigated have considerably increased during 1979-80. The percentage of wholly irrigated small holdings have increased from 14 per cent in 1976-77 to 23 per cent in 1979-80. With a corresponding increase in the area of about 22 per cent in 1976-77 to 30 per cent in 1979-80. Similarly the percentage of wholly unirrigated small holdings has increased from 14 per cent to 19 per cent with a corresponding increase in the area of about 25 per cent to 29 per cent during 1979-80. But in North Arcot district, the percentages of number of partly irrigated small holdings, area operated and the area irrigated have decreased when compared with the previous census 1976-77.

INLAND REGION.

The following table shows the estimated number of operational holdings and the area by irrigation status (i.e.) whether they have been partly or wholly irrigated and unirrigated by farm groups.

TABLE 71.

Region : Inland.

Percentage distribution of estimated number of operational holdings by irrigation status.

Size Group.	Wholly irrigated holdings.		Wholly un-irrigated holdings.		Partly irrigated holdings.		
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total Area.	Irrigated Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Marginal ..	58.41	22.78	58.44	18.93	26.20	6.67	7.07
Small ..	21.91	24.68	23.07	24.26	28.25	16.28	15.52
Semi-medium ..	13.84	27.87	12.91	26.97	26.08	28.70	28.94
Medium ..	5.26	20.30	4.98	19.49	16.24	34.31	34.17
Large ..	0.58	4.37	0.60	10.35	3.23	14.04	14.30
All Sizes :	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

2. It is seen from the above table that about 58 per cent of wholly irrigated holdings belong to the marginal group, about 22 per cent to the small group, about 14 per cent to the semi-medium group, about 5 per cent to the medium group and less than 1 per cent belong to the large group. The area operated by these groups forms about 23 per cent, 25 per cent, 28 per cent, 20 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. The percentage of wholly unirrigated holdings is also 58 per cent in the marginal group as in the case of wholly irrigated holdings. The percentage number of holdings of small, semi-medium, medium and large farms are 23 per cent, 13 per cent, 5 per cent and below 1 per cent respectively. The percentage of area operated by marginal small semi-medium, medium and large groups are 19 per cent, 25 per cent, 27 per cent, 16 per cent and 10 per cent respectively. The percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings is about 26 per cent and the large group 3 per cent. The percentage total area operated by them are 7 per cent, 16 per cent, 29 per cent, 34 per cent and 4 per cent respectively. The percentage area irrigated by them being 7 per cent, 16 per cent, 29 per cent, 34 per cent and 4 per cent respectively.

3. A similar analysis is now attempted for each district of the Inland region comparing the data within the major groups wherever possible.

TABLE 72.

District.	Size group.	Wholly irrigated holdings. percentage.		Wholly un-irrigated holdings percentage.		Partly irrigated holdings percentage.		
		Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total area.	Irrigated area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Salem ..	Marginal ..	63.16	29.00	65.22	24.58	31.96	9.66	10.43
	Small ..	22.67	29.63	21.37	28.45	30.42	20.53	22.97
	Semi-Medium	11.09	26.37	10.21	26.90	25.79	34.76	35.40
	Medium ..	2.89	13.32	2.98	15.95	11.04	30.21	27.10
	Large ..	0.19	1.68	0.22	4.12	0.79	4.84	4.10
Dharmapuri	Marginal ..	65.34	32.34	59.91	20.20	30.17	9.24	12.74
	Small ..	18.63	26.69	23.03	24.83	36.08	24.80	18.99
	Semi-medium	12.34	24.55	12.08	29.22	22.60	28.56	30.36
	Medium ..	3.38	14.63	4.51	20.48	10.02	28.17	27.69
	Large ..	0.31	1.79	0.47	5.27	1.13	9.23	10.22
Periyar: ..	Marginal ..	61.87	22.94	52.77	18.01	24.24	5.30	5.51
	Small ..	21.04	24.46	23.11	24.94	23.88	12.72	13.25
	Semi-medium.	11.91	27.54	15.54	26.93	25.50	25.53	27.11
	Medium ..	4.74	20.62	7.44	23.06	20.60	36.53	36.45
	Large ..	0.44	4.44	1.14	7.60	5.78	19.90	17.68
Coimbatore ..	Marginal ..	34.24	10.05	42.99	13.19	14.24	2.87	2.88
	Small ..	25.94	18.70	29.70	23.13	21.97	9.24	9.10
	Semi-medium.	24.95	32.09	19.09	28.35	31.01	25.04	23.94
	Medium ..	12.98	30.69	7.89	21.09	26.36	40.93	41.61
	Large ..	1.89	8.47	0.96	14.24	6.42	21.92	22.47
The Nilgiris	Marginal ..	50.00	2.26	61.60	10.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small ..	28.85	6.42	17.47	10.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-medium.	9.62	5.66	12.13	13.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium ..	9.61	9.43	7.10	15.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large ..	1.92	76.23	1.70	49.80	0.00	0.00	0.00

4. In Salem district, about 63 per cent of the total wholly irrigated holdings are in the marginal group, about 65 per cent in Dharmapuri district, 62 per cent in Periyar district, 34 per cent in Coimbatore district and 50 per cent in the Nilgiris district. The percentage of area to the total area of wholly irrigated holdings covered under this category in all the five districts are 29 per cent, 32 per cent, 23 per cent, 10 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. The percentage of wholly unirrigated holdings in Salem district is about 65 per cent covering 1/4th of the area and in Dharmapuri district, the percentage number is 60 with an area of 20 per cent. In Periyar district the percentage number is 53 with an area of 18 per cent and in Coimbatore the percentage number is 43 covering an area of 13 per cent. In the Nilgiris district the percentage number is 62 and the area covered being 11 per cent. In Salem district the percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings is 32 per cent and both the area operated and irrigated are about 10 per cent each. In Dharmapuri the corresponding percentages are 30 per cent, 9 per cent and 13 per cent respectively. In Periyar and Coimbatore districts the corresponding figures are 24 per cent, 5 per cent, 6 per cent and 14 per cent 3 per cent and 3 per cent respectively. There are no partly irrigated holdings in the Nilgiris district. The percentage number of wholly irrigated marginal holdings in Salem district has slightly decreased from about 67 per cent in Salem district, during 1976-77 to 63 per cent in 1979-80. The area covered under this category has also slightly decreased from 33 per cent to 29 per cent during the current census. In Dharmapuri district the percentage number of wholly irrigated marginal holdings has slightly decreased from about 66 per cent in 1976-77 to 65 per cent in 1979-80, but the area covered has been slightly increased from 30 per cent in 1976-77 to 32 per cent in 1979-80. The proportion of partly irrigated marginal holdings in Salem district has increased from 27 per cent in 1976-77 to 32 per cent in 1979-80 and the total area covered has also slightly increased from 8 per cent to about 10 per cent when compared with 1976-77. But the area irrigated during both the Census has remained more or less stationary. In Salem district though the percentage number of wholly irrigated, wholly unirrigated and partly irrigated small holdings have slightly increased during 1979-80 when compared with 1976-77, the corresponding areas covered under these categories have not changed significantly. In Dharmapuri district, the percentage of wholly irrigated small holdings has very slightly decreased while the area covered has increased from 24 per cent in 1976-77 to 27 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage of wholly unirrigated small holdings has been slightly decreased from 26 per cent in 1976-77 to 23 per cent in 1979-80 with a corresponding decrease in the area covered from 28 per cent in 1976-77 to 25 per cent in 1979-80. The percentage of partly irrigated small holdings has considerably increased from 28 per cent in 1976-77 to 36 per cent in 1979-80 with a corresponding increase in the total area covered by them from 15 per cent in 1976-77 to 25 per cent in 1979-80 while the area irrigated by them has slightly decreased from 20 per cent in 1976-77 to 19 per cent in 1979-80. The figures relating to Coimbatore and Periyar districts are not compared since Periyar district has been newly formed by bifurcating Coimbatore district.

COASTAL REGION.

The following table shows the estimated number of operational holdings and the area by irrigation status (i.e.) whether they have been partly or wholly irrigated and unirrigated by farm groups.

TABLE 73.

Region : Coastal.

Percentage distribution of estimated number of operational holdings by irrigation status.

Size Group.	Wholly irrigated holdings		Wholly un-irrigated holdings		Partly irrigated holdings		
	Number.		Number.		Number.		Total Irrigated Area.
	Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.	Total Area.	Irrigated Area.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Marginal ..	76.91	34.71	70.18	28.01	40.75	11.26	12.92
Small ..	14.06	23.83	16.60	24.43	25.40	20.20	21.35
Semi-medium ..	6.46	21.61	9.30	24.40	21.27	27.35	28.09
Medium ..	2.30	14.33	3.50	18.07	10.52	28.30	26.15
Large ..	0.27	5.52	0.42	5.09	2.06	12.89	11.49
All sizes: ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

2. It is seen from the above table that about 77 per cent of the wholly irrigated holdings belonging to the marginal group, about 14 per cent to the small group about 6 per cent to the semi-medium group, about 2 per cent to the medium group and less than 1 per cent belong to the large size group. The area operated by these groups forms about 35 per cent, 24 per cent, 22 per cent, 14 per cent and about 5 per cent respectively. The percentage of wholly unirrigated holdings 70 per cent in the marginal group of the wholly unirrigated holdings in the region, operating an area of 28 per cent. The percentage of small, semi-medium, medium and large groups are 17 per cent, 9 per cent, 4 per cent and less than 1 per cent respectively. The corresponding area operated by them are 24 per cent, 24 per cent, 18 per cent and about 5 per cent respectively. The percentage number of partly irrigated holdings is about 41 per cent in the marginal group covering an area of about 11 per cent with an irrigated area of 13 per cent. In the small group the percentage number is about 25 per cent with a total area of 20 per cent and an irrigated area of 21 per cent. In the semi-medium group the percentages are 21 per cent, 27 per cent and 28 per cent, in the medium group the percentages are 11 per cent, 28 per cent and 26 per cent. In the large group the percentage of number of holdings is about 2 per cent with a total area of 13 per cent and an irrigated area of 11 per cent.

3. An analysis is now attempted for each district of the Coastal region. Comparing data within the major groups wherever possible.

TABLE 74.

District.	Size group.	Wholly irrigated holdings.		Wholly Un-irrigated holdings.		Partly irrigated holdings.		
		Number.		Number.		Number.		Total Irrigated area.
		Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.	Area.	area.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Thanjavur ..	Marginal ..	74.72	31.21	80.58	27.20	49.04	11.76	13.48
	Small ..	15.44	24.38	11.33	28.19	24.80	22.93	21.88
	Semi-medium.	7.19	22.94	6.06	26.15	17.86	29.53	29.56
	Medium ..	2.36	15.52	1.74	14.15	7.45	26.21	24.99
	Large ..	0.29	5.95	0.29	4.31	0.85	9.57	10.09
Tiruchirappalli.	Marginal ..	76.46	39.04	65.73	25.72	31.64	10.11	11.45
	Small ..	14.02	24.15	18.91	24.21	26.29	18.00	20.76
	Semi-medium.	6.63	20.45	10.65	25.63	25.30	26.27	27.09
	Medium ..	2.56	12.59	4.23	19.40	13.58	30.47	28.37
	Large ..	0.33	3.77	0.48	5.04	3.19	15.15	12.33
Pudukkottai ..	Marginal ..	82.70	42.56	76.97	38.93	50.71	15.21	15.73
	Small ..	10.74	21.30	12.96	22.48	23.74	20.40	21.06
	Semi-medium	4.52	18.01	7.29	17.50	16.03	24.02	24.95
	Medium ..	1.87	11.98	2.42	15.12	8.04	25.58	23.33
	Large ..	0.17	6.15	0.36	5.97	1.48	14.79	14.93

4. It is seen from the above table that the percentage of wholly irrigated marginal holdings in Thanjavur district is 75 per cent, in Tiruchirappalli district 76 per cent and in Pudukkottai district it is 83 per cent. The percentage of area covered under these categories of farms are 31 per cent, 39 per cent and 43 per cent respectively. The percentage of wholly unirrigated marginal holdings in Thanjavur district is 81 per cent, in Tiruchirappalli district 66 per cent and in Pudukkottai district it is 77 per cent. The corresponding percentages of the area covered are 27 per cent, 26 per cent and 39 per cent respectively. The percentage of partly irrigated marginal holdings is highest in the case of Pudukkottai district, with 51 per cent and lowest in

Tiruchirappalli district the percentage being 32 per cent and in Thanjavur district the percentage is 49 per cent. The total area under partly irrigated marginal holdings in Thanjavur district is 12 per cent and the area irrigated is 13 per cent. In Tiruchirappalli district the total area is 10 per cent while the area irrigated is 11 per cent. The percentage of total area in Pudukkottai district is 15 per cent and the area irrigated is 16 per cent. The percentage of wholly irrigated small holdings in Thanjavur district is about 15 per cent, in Tiruchirappalli district 14 per cent and in Pudukkottai district 11 per cent and the corresponding area covered are 24 per cent each in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli district and 21 per cent in Pudukkottai district. The percentage of wholly unirrigated small holdings in Thanjavur district is 11 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district 19 per cent and in Pudukkottai district 13 per cent. The corresponding area covered being 28 per cent, 24 per cent and 22 per cent respectively.

SOUTHERN REGION.

The estimated number of operational holdings and the area by irrigation status (i.e.) whether they have been partly or wholly irrigated and un-irrigated by farm groups are given in the table below :—

TABLE 75.

REGION : SOUTHERN

Percentage distribution of estimated number of optional holdings by irrigation Status

Size Group.	Wholly Irrigated holdings.		Wholly un-irrigated holdings.		Partly irrigated holdings.		
	Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total Area.	Irrigated Area.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Marginal ..	77.22	36.79	66.75	22.65	54.33	16.84	19.21
Small ..	13.25	23.35	17.73	22.86	20.00	18.48	19.68
Semi-Medium	6.39	18.76	10.20	23.50	15.51	25.22	26.10
Medium ..	2.72	14.55	4.57	20.27	8.64	26.75	24.72
Large.. ..	0.42	6.55	0.75	10.72	1.52	12.71	10.20
All Sizes ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

2. The above table shows that about 77 per cent of the wholly irrigated holdings belongs to the marginal group, about 13 per cent belong to the small group, about 6 per cent belong to the semi-medium group, about 3 per cent belong to the medium group and less than 1 per cent in the large farm group. The area operated by these groups forms 37 per cent, 23 per cent, 19 per cent, 15 per cent and 7 per cent respectively. The percentage of wholly unirrigated holdings, is 67 per cent to the total wholly unirrigated holding in the marginal group in the region. The percentage number of holdings of small, semi-medium, medium and large holdings are 18 per cent, 10 per cent, 5 per cent and less than 1 per cent respectively. The percentage of area operated by the marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large holdings are 23 per cent, 23 per cent, 24 per cent, 20 per cent and 11 per cent respectively. In the case partly irrigated holdings semi-medium group forms about 16 per cent with a total area operated about 25 per cent and the area irrigated being 26 per cent. The percentage of medium group is 9 per cent, total operated area is 27 per cent and the irrigated area is 25 per cent.

3. A similar analysis is now attempted for each district of the Southern region comparing the data within the major groups wherever possible.

TABLE 76.

District.	Size group.	Wholly irrigated holdings.		Wholly un-irrigated holdings.		Partly irrigated holdings.	
		Number.	Area.	Number.	Area.	Number.	Total Area.
Madurai ..	(1)	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(2)						
	Marginal						
	Small						
Ramanathapuram	(1)	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(2)						
	Marginal						
	Small						
Tirunelveli	(1)	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(2)						
	Marginal						
	Small						
Sanniyakumari ..	(1)	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(2)						
	Marginal						
	Small						

4. In Madurai district, about 72 per cent of the wholly irrigated holdings are in the Marginal group, about 74 per cent in Ramanathapuram district and 80 per cent in Tirunelveli district and 98 per cent in Kanniyakumari district. The percentage of area to the total area of the wholly irrigated holdings covered under this category in all the four districts 31 per cent, 37 per cent, 39 per cent and 81 per cent respectively. In Madurai district, the percentage of wholly un-irrigated marginal holdings is about 64 per cent covering an area of 25 per cent in Ramanathapuram district the percentage number is 62 covering an area of 21 per cent, in Tirunelveli the percentage number is 58 per cent with an area of 16 per cent and in Kanniyakumari district the percentage number is 95 per cent covering an area of about 58 per cent. In Tirunelveli district the percentage number of partly irrigated marginal holdings is 63 per cent the total area operated being 24 per cent and the area irrigated is about 29 per cent. In Kanniyakumari district the partly irrigated marginal holdings forms 88 per cent with the total area operated is about 43 per cent and area irrigated is 51 per cent. The percentage number of partly irrigated semi-medium holdings is about 25 per cent with a total operated area of 28 per cent and the irrigated area is 31 per cent in Madurai district. In Ramanathapuram district the corresponding figures are 23 per cent, 29 per cent and 29 per cent respectively.

In Madurai district the medium group forms about 14 per cent with a total operated area of 31 per cent and the area irrigated is 30 per cent. In Ramanathapuram district the corresponding figures in the medium group are almost same.

V. Sourcewise Irrigation.

The pattern of irrigation (with reference to sown area regionwise with the percentage of irrigated area) is shown below :

TABLE 77.

Region.	Sown Area.				Irrigated Area			
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(1)	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	(7)
Coastal Northern	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Inland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Coastal*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southern Region..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1,427,181.47	1,352,811.40	1,446,898.60	(2)	7,67,068.39	719,483.81	900,804.66	(5)
	2,769,619.83	2,673,913.72	1,555,785.39	(3)	819,772.55	783,365.68	547,691.25	(6)
	..	..	1,323,242.44	(4)	..	..	773,579.66	(7)
	1,632,264.72	1,549,385.26	1,694,470.06	..	840,932.12	796,087.36	720,083.12	..
	..	..	..	..	(51.52)	(51.38)	(42.50)	..

*Newly formed region during 1979-80.

2. It is seen from the above table that during the current census the percentage of irrigated area to sown area is highest 62 per cent in the Coastal Northern region and lowest in the Inland Region the percentage being 35.

3. The percentage of distribution of area irrigated under different sources in the four regions in Tamil Nadu for the three consecutive Census years 1970-71, 1976-77 and 1979-80 are furnished below :—

TABLE 78.

Irrigation Source.	Coastal Northern			Inland			Coastal*			Southern Region.			122
	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	1970-71	1976-77	1979-80	
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	
(1)													
Canals	11.81	18.15	13.34	31.37	26.60	30.91	..	..	69.52	55.67	55.22	12.56	
Tanks	49.95	26.21	41.56	17.57	20.52	5.18	..	..	16.70	31.50	30.18	57.19	
Tube wells	4.95	13.79	18.80	0.71	2.16	0.11	..	..	0.51	0.39	1.07	0.11	
Wells	32.44	31.77	34.72	48.97	47.35	62.66	..	..	12.53	12.10	13.81	29.70	
Others	0.85	10.08	1.58	1.38	6.52	1.14	..	..	0.74	0.34	2.76	0.44	

* Newly formed region.

* Newly formed region.

4. In the Coastal Northern Region the percentage of area irrigated by Tanks is 42 per cent while the percentage of area irrigated by wells is 35 per cent. In the Inland Region, the dependance on well irrigation is more, with about 63 per cent and it is less in the case of Tank irrigation with 5 per cent. Irrigation through Canals is predominant in the Coastal Region, the percentage of area irrigated being 70 per cent and it is 13 per cent in the case of well irrigation. In the Southern Region 58 per cent of the area is irrigated by Tanks and 30 per cent of the area is irrigated by wells. In all the four regions, the area irrigated by tube wells and through other sources is negligible.

I. Coastal Northern Region :

Sourcewise percentage coverage of irrigated area in the districts of the region is given below :—

TABLE 79.

Region : Coastal Northern.

District.	Canals.	Tanks.	Tubewells	Wells	Others.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Madras	0.28	80.08	0.74	16.76	2.14
Chengalpattu	3.42	67.01	2.49	26.46	0.62
South Arcot	25.24	25.81	20.26	26.26	2.53
North Arcot	7.75	36.31	0.00	54.65	1.29

2. In Madras district, 80 per cent of the area is irrigated by Tanks and 17 per cent of the area is irrigated by wells. Among the other three districts, Tank irrigation is more prevalent in Chengalpattu district while well irrigation is more predominant North Arcot district. In south Arcot district Canal irrigation is more prominent than in the other two districts.

3. The distribution of coverage of area by different irrigation sources within the districts under various farm groups is indicated below :—

TABLE 80.

Region : Coastal Northern.

District.	Size group.	Canals.	Tanks.	Tubewells.	Wells.	Others.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Madras ..	Marginal ..	40.12	21.42	30.59	49.10	100.00
	Small ..	0.00	18.21	15.07	20.05	0.00
	Semi-medium ..	59.88	11.27	54.34	27.04	0.00
	Medium ..	0.00	6.35	0.00	3.81	0.00
	Large ..	0.00	42.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chengalpattu ..	Marginal ..	34.59	40.36	36.02	28.69	36.98
	Small ..	17.43	20.76	22.26	21.80	20.29
	Semi-medium ..	26.18	19.02	21.73	24.06	20.47
	Medium ..	17.13	13.92	17.76	17.02	15.81
	Large ..	4.67	5.94	2.23	8.43	6.45

District. (1)	Size group. (2)	Canals. (3)	Tanks. (4)	Tubewells. (5)	Wells. (6)	Others. (7)
South Arcot	Marginal	33.86	35.80	19.62	30.94	38.63
	Small	23.87	24.78	21.75	25.93	26.78
	Semi-medium	25.60	21.77	20.83	23.98	27.30
	Medium	14.43	14.32	26.17	16.18	5.97
	Large	2.24	3.33	11.63	2.97	1.32
North Arcot	Marginal	74.76	40.51	0.00	32.05	84.67
	Small	10.64	21.54	0.00	27.98	5.38
	Semi-medium	7.97	23.49	0.00	23.76	5.73
	Medium	4.99	12.91	0.00	13.48	4.04
	Large	1.64	1.55	0.00	2.73	0.18

1. It may be seen from the above statement that the percentage of area covered under canal irrigation in the marginal size farms, is 40 per cent and it is 60 per cent in the case of the semi-medium farms in Madras district. The percentage of the area covered under the tank irrigation varies from 6 per cent in medium farms to 43 per cent in large farms. About 49 per cent of the total area is irrigated by the marginal farms using well irrigation. In Chengalpattu district the marginal farms are found to have the largest coverage of area under all the source-wise irrigation. In South Arcot district, the marginal farms are found to have the largest coverage of area under all the sources of irrigation except by tube wells which is employed by the medium group covering an area of 26 per cent. The marginal farms in the North Arcot district covered largest area under all the sources of irrigation except irrigation by Tubewells as there are no tube wells in operation during the current census. The area covered under other sources by the marginal farms is very high, the percentage being 85 per cent.

II. Inland Region :

A sourcewise per centage coverage of irrigated area in the districts in this region is given below :

TABLE 81.
Region :—Inland.

District. (1)	Canals. (2)	Tanks. (3)	Tubewells. (4)	Wells. (5)	Others. (6)
Salem	11.49	2.61	0.00	85.23	0.67
Dharmapuri	6.89	21.00	0.71	66.08	5.32
Periyar	58.67	3.64	0.00	37.34	0.35
Coimbatore	24.22	3.36	0.00	72.33	0.09
The Nilgiris	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

2. The percentage of area covered under wells is found to be high in Salem district, the percentage being 85 per cent. It is 72 per cent in Coimbatore district, 66 per cent in Dharmapuri district and 37 per cent in Periyar district. In Periyar district the area covered under canal irrigation is 59 per cent. The area covered under Tank irrigation is negligible in the districts of the region except Dharmapuri where it is about 21 per cent. The area covered under Tube wells is negligible in Dharmapuri district and there are no tube wells in the remaining districts of the region.

3. The distribution of coverage of area by different irrigation sources within the districts under various farm groups is given below :—

TABLE 82.

Region—Inland.

District. (1)	Size group. (2)	Canals. (3)	Tanks. (4)	Tubewells. (5)	Wells. (6)	Others. (7)
Salem	Marginal	26.25	29.52	0.00	21.88	35.43
	Small	26.28	25.83	0.00	27.60	21.60
	Semi-medium	28.82	22.60	0.00	29.77	24.74
	Medium	16.38	20.23	0.00	18.18	17.51
	Large	2.27	1.82	0.00	2.57	0.72
Dharmapuri	Marginal	23.28	25.91	6.46	28.29	22.92
	Small	31.14	24.57	1.68	22.52	44.92
	Semi-medium	24.89	29.06	0.00	26.67	13.00
	Medium	13.54	17.02	91.21	18.35	17.10
	Large	7.15	3.44	0.65	4.17	2.06
Periyar	Marginal	21.86	19.18	0.00	10.13	13.22
	Small	22.54	32.08	0.00	17.91	14.61
	Semi-medium	27.43	28.94	0.00	27.34	24.30
	Medium	21.98	15.25	0.00	32.04	23.66
	Large	6.19	4.52	0.00	12.58	24.21
Coimbatore	Marginal	8.53	13.33	0.00	7.04	5.36
	Small	15.66	17.76	0.00	15.24	27.14
	Semi-medium	25.83	35.75	0.00	30.21	9.44
	Medium	35.27	24.05	0.00	34.59	38.43
	Large	14.71	9.11	0.00	12.92	19.63
The Nilgiris	Marginal	2.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Small	6.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-medium	5.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	9.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	76.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

4. The above table indicates that bulk of the canal irrigated area belong to semi medium farms in Salem and Periyar districts; but most of them belong to small farms in Dharmapuri district; most of them belong to medium farm group in Coimbatore district; most of them belong to large farm group in the Nilgiris district. Most of the tank irrigated area belong to the semi-medium farms in Dharmapuri and Coimbatore districts; but most of them belong to the marginal group in Salem district; most of them belong to small farms in Periyar district. Most of the well irrigated area belong to the medium farm group in Periyar and Coimbatore district; but most of them belong to the semi-medium group in Salem district; most of them belong to Marginal farms in Dharmapuri district.

II. Coastal Region :

A sourcewise percentage coverage of irrigated area in the districts of the region is given below :

TABLE 83.

Region Coastal

District.	Canals.	Tanks.	Tube wells.	Wells.	Others.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Thanjavur	97.95	1.21	0.04	0.28	0.52
Tiruchirappalli	40.51	13.53	1.93	42.29	1.74
Pudukkottai	4.00	82.79	0.07	13.14	..

2. The percentage of area covered under canals is found to be very high the percentage being 98 per cent. In Pudukkottai district, the percentage of area covered under Tanks is very high the percentage being 83 per cent. But in Tiruchirappalli district 43 per cent of the area is covered by well irrigation while 41 per cent of the area is covered by canal irrigation. The area covered by Tube wells is negligible in all the three districts, comprised in the coastal region.

3. A sourcewise percentage coverage of irrigated area in the districts in this region is given below :—

TABLE 84.

Region—Coastal.

District.	Size group.	Canals.	Tanks.	Tube wells.	Wells.	Others.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Thanjavur ..	Marginal	..	28.57	27.75	14.94	24.76
	Small	..	24.00	24.75	19.01	20.15
	Semi-medium	..	23.89	26.31	28.99	30.57
	Medium	..	16.94	17.19	30.18	15.82
	Large	..	6.60	4.00	6.88	8.70
Tiruchirappalli ..	Marginal	..	38.13	31.94	33.10	23.54
	Small	..	24.56	23.99	20.24	20.23
	Semi-medium	..	20.61	21.80	22.33	24.92
	Medium	..	12.47	18.05	18.21	22.14
	Large	..	4.23	4.22	6.12	9.17
Pudukkottai ..	Marginal	..	39.03	39.20	96.38	37.79
	Small	..	21.09	21.77	0.00	18.32
	Semi-medium	..	18.58	18.67	1.06	20.66
	Medium	..	9.47	13.22	2.56	16.30
	Large	..	11.83	7.14	0.00	6.93

4. It may be grasped from the above table that canal irrigation is found to be more extensive in marginal farms in all the three districts of the region. Similarly tank irrigation is also found to be more extensive in marginal farms in all the three districts of the region. The percentage of well irrigation is found to be large in semi-medium farms in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli districts, the percentages being 31 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. The percentage of well irrigation is found to be large in marginal farms in Pudukottai district the percentage being about 38 per cent.

IV. Southern Region :

A sourcewise percentage coverage of irrigated area in the districts in these region is given below:

TABLE 85.

Region—Southern Region.

District.	Canals.	Tanks.	Tubewells.	Wells.	Other sources.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Madurai	22.08	26.32	0.20	50.74	0.66
Ramanathapuram	0.00	84.24	0.00	15.76	0.00
Tirunelveli	14.72	57.06	0.16	27.25	0.81
Kanniyakumari	41.03	58.61	0.01	0.27	0.08

The percentage of area covered under canals in Kanniyakumari district is about 41 per cent and it is more than in the other districts. But actually the area covered under Tank irrigation is more than canal irrigation in Kanniyakumari district which is about 59 per cent. The percentage of area covered by tanks is very high in Ramanathapuram district the percentage being 84 per cent and the remaining area is covered by wells which shows that this district is prone to drought whenever the monsoon fails. In Madurai district the percentage of area covered by wells is more than in the other districts with 51 per cent.

3. The distribution of coverage of area by different irrigation sources within the districts under various farm groups is indicated below :—

TABLE 86

Region : Southern Region,

District.	Size Group.	Canals.	Tanks.	Tubewells.	Wells.	Others.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Madurai ..	Marginal	..	33.77	37.03	0.00	19.08
	Small	..	28.08	24.20	0.00	21.58
	Semi-medium	..	21.83	20.94	0.00	25.73
	Medium	..	11.69	14.12	49.91	24.66
	Large	..	4.63	3.71	50.09	8.95
Ramanathapuram	Marginal	..	0.00	49.80	0.00	36.23
	Small	..	0.00	22.80	0.00	27.64
	Semi-medium	..	0.00	17.88	0.00	20.73
	Medium	..	0.00	8.41	0.00	13.81
	Large	..	0.00	1.11	0.00	1.59

2. It is seen from the above table that about 78 per cent of the gross cropped area in the marginal group is under food crops and only 22 per cent of the area is covered by non-food crops. Thus, it is seen that the marginal farms are mainly concentrating on food crops, especially because they are cultivating for living and not for business. Out of the total irrigated area belonging to the marginal holdings, about 89 per cent is irrigated under food crops, only 11 per cent is covered under the non-food crops whereas out of the total unirrigated area belonging to this group, nearly half of the area devoted to food and half to non-food crops. About 73 per cent of the total gross cropped area is under the food crops in the small farms and balance of 27 per cent is under non-food crops. Of the total irrigated area under small farms about 89 per cent is covered under to this group, about half of the area devoted to food and half to non-food crops. In semi-medium size holdings, about 3/4th of the gross cropped area comes under food crops and the remaining 1/4th under non-food crops. Of their total gross cropped irrigated area, about 86 per cent is covered under the food crops and 14 per cent by the non-food crops. About 55 per cent of their unirrigated area comes under food crops and about 45 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 71 per cent of the total gross cropped area comes under the food crops and 29 per cent under non-food crops in the medium farms. In the medium group, about 84 per cent of the irrigated area is grown with food crops and about 16 per cent with non-food crops, whereas out of the total unirrigated area nearly half of the area is covered by food crops under food crops and the balance comes under the non-food crops in the large farms. About 83 per cent of the area to gross irrigated area is grown with food crops in the large farms and the remaining 17 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 57 per cent of unirrigated area to area comes under the non-food crops. Exactly 75 per cent of the total area to gross cropped total area is grown with food crops in all sizes, and 25 per cent comes under food crops. About 87 per cent of the irrigated area to the total gross cropped area comes under food crops in all sizes and about 13 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 52 per cent of the unirrigated area to the gross cropped area is grown with the food crops whereas about 48 per cent of the area comes under non-food crops.

3. The following table presents the inter se per centage of the area under food crops and non-food crops under the two categories of irrigated and un-irrigated separately.

TABLE 88

Region : Coastal Northern.

Size-Groups	Food Crops (Per cent)			Non-food Crops (Per cent)		
	Irrigated	Un-irrigated	Total	Irrigated	Un-irrigated	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal ..	36.59	29.03	34.73	29.78	28.79	29.12
Small ..	19.90	22.31	20.50	17.51	24.68	22.33
Semi-medium	24.38	26.67	24.94	26.44	23.91	24.74
Medium ..	14.75	17.26	15.37	19.92	18.77	19.14
Large ..	4.38	4.73	4.46	6.35	3.85	4.67
All Sizes ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

4. Out of the total irrigated area under food crops about 37 per cent belong to the marginal group, about 20 per cent belong to the small group, about 24 per cent belong to the semi-medium holdings, about 15 per cent belong to medium holdings and the balance belong to the large size holdings. In the case of the total unirrigated area under food crops, 29 per cent belong to the marginal group, about 22 per cent belong to small farms, about 27 per cent belong to semi-medium size holdings about 17 per cent belong to medium farms and about 5 per cent belong to the large size holdings. Similarly in the case of irrigated non-food crops and un-irrigated non-food crops also, almost the same distribution is found among the various size groups of operational holders.

5. The following table gives the district-wise proportion of cropped area under food crops and non-food crops.

TABLE 89.

Region : Coastal Northern.

District	Food crops		Non-food Crops	
	Irrigated (Per cent)	Un-irrigated (Per cent)	Irrigated (Per cent)	Un-irrigated (Per cent)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Madras	62.41	100.00	37.59	0.00
Chengalpattu	87.89	65.72	12.11	34.28
South Arcot	85.67	62.75	14.33	37.25
North Arcot	88.77	36.16	11.23	63.84

6. The ratios of the area between the irrigated food crops and irrigated non-food crops and unirrigated food crops and non-food crops are 88:12 and 66:34 respectively in Chengalpattu district. The corresponding ratios in South Arcot and North Arcot districts are 86:14, 63:37 and 89:11, 36:64 respectively.

7. The following table gives the size group-wise cropped area under important items of food crops and non-food crops, expressed as percentages in the following table:

TABLE 90.

Region : Coastal Northern.

Size Groups.	Food and non-food crops.									
	Paddy		Cholam		Cumbu		Sugarcane		Groundnut	
	(2) Irrigated (per cent)	(3) Un-irri- gated (per cent)	(4) irrigated (per cent)	(5) Un-irri- gated (per cent)	(6) Irrigated (per cent)	(7) Un-irri- gated (per cent)	(8) Irrigated (per cent)	(9) Un-irri- gated (per cent)	(10) Irrigated (per cent)	(11) Un-irri- gated (per cent)
(1)										
Marginal	36.12	22.90	34.72	26.04	33.81	34.23	33.08	100.00	30.80	23.42
Small	20.37	24.60	25.43	30.52	16.90	26.32	18.32	0.00	14.32	25.85
Semi-medium	24.52	30.65	27.76	25.66	30.87	22.23	25.72	0.00	28.09	24.25
Medium	14.38	16.09	9.80	14.35	15.05	14.38	19.42	0.00	20.14	18.42
Large	4.61	5.76	2.29	3.43	3.37	2.84	3.46	0.00	6.65	3.06
All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

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8. It can be seen from the above table that Paddy cultivation under irrigated conditions varies between 14 per cent to 36 per cent in the first four size groups and it is far less in the last size group being about 5 per cent. But un-irrigated paddy cultivation is distinctly highest in the semi-medium size group with about 31 per cent of the total un-irrigated area under paddy in this region. Irrigated cholam cultivation is very high in the marginal group in this region, whereas unirrigated Cholam cultivation is highest in the small holdings group. Irrigated Cholam cultivation in the marginal group of holdings form about 35 per cent of the total area under irrigated Cholam whereas unirrigated Cholam cultivation forms only about 31 per cent in the small holdings group. Cholam cultivation under both irrigated and un-irrigated condition by the large group is negligible the percentages of the area in these categories being about 2 and 3 per cent respectively. The marginal farmers cultivated 34 per cent of the total area under irrigated Cumbu and the semi-medium holdings group about 31 per cent. Under un-irrigated conditions about 34 per cent of the area is by marginal farms and about 26 per cent of the area to the total un-irrigated area under Cumbu is cultivated by small farms. Out of the total irrigated area under Sugarcane, the share of marginal holdings is about 33 per cent, the Small holdings is about 18 per cent, the semi-medium holdings is about 26 per cent and the medium group is about 19 per cent. But in the case of un-irrigated area under Sugarcane which is negligible the entire area is covered by the marginal holdings. The proportion of irrigated Groundnut area varies between 14 per cent and 31 per cent in the first four size classes in this region. But, only about 7 per cent of the area under irrigated Groundnut is cultivated by large size holdings. About 28 per cent of the area under un-irrigated Groundnut is cultivated by the marginal group, about 26 per cent by the small farms, about 24 per cent by the semi-medium holdings and about 18 per cent by the medium holdings, But the area under un-irrigated groundnut is negligible in the case of large size holdings.

9. The following table shows the interse percentages of total area under important items of food crops in the districts of the region.

TABLE 91.
Region : Coastal Northern.
Total area under Crop (Percentage).

District.	Size group.	Total area under Crop (Percentage).				
		Paddy.	Cholam.	Cumbu.	Sugarcane	Groundnut.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Madras	Marginal	43.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	Small	25.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Semi-medium	18.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Medium	11.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Large	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	All Sizes	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Chengalpattu	Marginal	31.45	34.94	40.44	47.17	29.09
	Small	19.20	9.45	28.47	11.43	15.33
	Semi-medium	30.40	26.11	14.58	17.73	32.74
	Medium	13.10	17.14	14.93	17.96	16.44
	Large	5.85	12.36	1.58	5.71	6.40
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
South Arcot	Marginal	28.06	29.62	34.51	24.13	25.76
	Small	23.33	26.13	22.82	22.34	22.46
	Semi-medium	24.06	26.91	24.87	26.56	24.22
	Medium	18.19	14.51	14.62	21.08	20.78
	Large	6.36	2.83	3.18	5.89	6.78
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
North Arcot	..	Marginal	..	47.72	24.41	30.37	37.82	31.65
		Small	..	19.08	34.02	29.46	16.27	24.03
		Semi-medium	..	19.95	24.98	23.98	25.93	24.23
		Medium	..	11.73	13.18	13.99	18.41	18.39
		Large	..	1.52	3.41	2.20	1.57	1.70
		All Sizes	..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

10. It can be seen from the above table that in all the districts of the Coastal Northern Region, the marginal farms grow more paddy, the percentages varying from 28 to 48 per cent. The percentage of coverage in the small farms ranges from 19 to 26 per cent, semi-medium farms from 19 to 30 per cent, medium farms from 12 to 18 per cent and the large size farms nil in Madras district to 6 per cent in South Arcot district. Under Cholan crop the percentage of area covered by the marginal farms in Chengalpattu district is about 35 per cent, in South Arcot district about 30 per cent and in North Arcot district the area covered is about 24 per cent. The percentage of area covered in small farms ranges from 9 per cent in Chengalpattu district to 34 per cent in North Arcot district. But the percentage of area covered by semi-medium farms found to vary between 25 and 27 per cent. In medium farms the percentages vary from 13 per cent in North Arcot district to 17 per cent in Chengalpattu district. In the case of large size holding the area covered is 12 per cent in Chengalpattu district and 3 per cent each in South Arcot and North Arcot districts. In Madras district, cultivation of Cholan, Cumbu and Sugar-cane is not undertaken by the cultivators. Under Cumbu crop the percentage of area covered by the marginal farmers varies from 30 per cent in North Arcot district to 40 per cent in Chengalpattu district. In the farms, the percentage of coverage varies from 15 per cent to 25 per cent. In semi-medium farms the percentage of coverage of Cumbu crop is found to be 14 per cent in North Arcot District and about 15 per cent each in Chengalpattu and South Arcot districts. Under Sugarcane crop, the percentage of coverage in Chengalpattu and North Arcot districts are 47 per cent and 38 per cent respectively in the marginal farms whereas the percentage by small farms in South Arcot district is 22 per cent while 11 per cent and 16 per cent of the area are covered, in Chengalpattu and North Arcot districts respectively. Similarly the Semi-Medium farms in South Arcot district covered about 27 per cent of the total area under Sugarcane in the district whereas about 18 per cent of the area is covered in Chengalpattu district and 26 per cent in North Arcot district. In the medium farms in South Arcot district the coverage is 21 per cent. In Chengalpattu and North Arcot district the coverage is about 18 per cent each. In the case of large farms the coverage is about 6 per cent each in Chengalpattu and South Arcot districts whereas it is less than 2 per cent in North Arcot district. Though the area under Groundnut in Madras district is negligible the entire area is cultivated by the marginal farmers. The percentage of coverage of area under Groundnut crop in marginal size class in Chengalpattu, South Arcot and North Arcot districts are found to be 29 per cent, 26 per cent and about 32 per cent respectively. In small size holdings, the percentage of area of Groundnut is found to be 15 per cent in Chengalpattu district, 22 per cent in South Arcot district and 24 per cent in North Arcot districts. In Semi-medium size holdings the percentage of the area covered is 33 per cent in the medium size groups the percentage of area covered is 16 per cent in Chengalpattu district, about 21 per cent in South Arcot district and about 18 per cent in North Arcot district. The large size farms grow less area of Groundnut; the percentage ranges from 2 per cent in North Arcot district to 7 per cent in South Arcot district.

Inland Region :

The following table gives percentage of cropped area under the various size groups for the Inland Region :

TABLE 97.

Size Group	Gross Cropped area.						Food Crops.						Non-food Crops.					
	Irrigated.			Un-irrigated.			Irrigated.			Un-irrigated.			Irrigated.			Un-irrigated.		
	(Hectare).			(Hectare).			(Hectare and per cent.)			(Hectare and per cent.)			(Hectare and per cent.)			(Hectare and per cent.)		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
Marginal	..	1,19,675.83	1,76,543.13	2,96,218.96	94,946.31	1,31,924.98	2,26,871.29	24,729.52	44,618.15	69,347.67	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small	..	1,89,546.65	2,74,477.70	4,64,024.35	1,43,198.86	2,16,126.69	3,59,325.55	46,347.79	58,351.01	1,04,698.80	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Semi-medium	..	2,02,124.47	3,21,502.45	5,23,626.92	1,50,500.51	2,16,030.53	3,66,531.04	51,623.96	1,05,471.92	1,57,095.99	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Medium	..	1,86,003.12	2,81,752.24	4,67,755.36	1,15,816.55	2,10,412.09	3,26,228.54	70,116.57	71,340.15	1,41,526.72	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Large	..	52,237.05	1,22,926.18	1,75,163.23	35,564.69	59,493.85	95,058.54	16,672.36	63,432.33	80,104.69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All Sizes	..	7,49,587.12	1,17,7201.70	19,26,788.82	5,40,026.92	8,33,988.14	13,74,015.06	2,09,560.20	3,43,213.56	5,52,773.76	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

2. It is seen from the above table that about 77 per cent of the gross cropped area is covered by food crops and only 23 per cent of the area is under non-food crops. Out of the total irrigated area belonging to the marginal holdings, about 79 per cent of the area is under food crops and 21 per cent of the area is covered by non-food crops. Out of the total un-irrigated area belonging to this group nearly 3/4 th of the area is covered by food crops and the remaining 1/4th of the area is covered by non-food crops. About 77 per cent of the total gross cropped area under small farms area under small farms, about 76 per cent is covered under food crops and 24 per cent under non-food crops. About 79 per cent of the area is covered under food crops and 21 per cent under non-food crops in the small farms. In semi-medium size holdings, exactly 70 per cent of the total gross cropped area comes under food crops and the balance of 30 per cent is covered by non-food crops. Of their total gross cropped irrigated area about 74 per cent is covered under food crops and 26 per cent by the non-food crops. About 67 per cent of their in-irrigated area comes under food crops and about 33 per cent comes under non-food crops. In the medium group, about 70 per cent of the total gross cropped area comes under food crops and 30 per cent under non-food crops. About 62 per cent of the irrigated area is grown with food crops and about 38 per cent with non-food crops in medium size holdings. About 75 per cent of the un-irrigated area comes under food crops and the balance comes under non-food crops. About 54 per cent of the total gross cropped area comes under the food crops and the balance comes under the non-food crops in the large farms. About 68 per cent of the irrigated area to the total gross cropped irrigated area comes under crops in the large farms and the remaining area is grown with non-food crops. About 48 per cent of the un-irrigated area by the gross cropped un-irrigated area comes under the food crops in the large size group and the remaining area comes under the non-food crops. About 71 per cent of the irrigated area to the total gross cropped area comes under food crops in all sizes and about 29 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 72 per cent of the irrigated area to the total irrigated area comes under food crops and the remaining area comes under non-food crops in all sizes. About 71 per cent of the un-irrigated area to the total un-irrigated area comes under food crops and the remaining 29 per cent of the area comes under non-food crops in all sizes.

The following table presents the interse percentage of the area under the food crops under the two categories of irrigated and un-irrigated separately.

TABLE 93.

Size Groups.	Food Crops (Per cent)				Non-food Crops (Per cent)			
	Irrigated.		Un-irrigated.		Irrigated.		Un-irrigated.	
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	Total.	Total.
Marginal ..	17.58	15.82	16.51	11.80	13.00	12.55		
Small ..	26.52	25.91	26.15	22.12	17.00	18.94		
Semi-medium ..	27.87	25.90	26.68	24.63	30.73	28.42		
Medium ..	21.45	25.23	23.74	33.49	20.79	25.60		
Large ..	6.58	7.14	6.92	7.96	18.48	14.49		
All Size ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00		

Region : Inland.

4. Out of the total irrigated area under food crops, about 18 per cent belong to the marginal holdings, about per cent belong to the small group, about 28 per cent belong to the semi-medium holdings, about 21 per cent belong to the medium holdings and the balance belong to large size holdings. It is found that out of the total un-irrigated area under food crops only about 16 per cent belong to the marginal group, 26 per cent each in the case of small and semi-medium holdings, about 25 per cent belong to the medium group and the balance to the large size holdings. Out of the total irrigated area under non-food crops about 12 per cent belong to the marginal group, 22 per cent belong to the small holdings, about 25 per cent belong to the semi-medium farms, about 33 per cent belong to medium farms and only about 8 per cent belong to the large size holdings. But in the case of un-irrigated non-food crops about 13 per cent of the un-irrigated area to the total un-irrigated area belong to marginal farms, about 17 per cent belong to small farms, about 31 per cent belong to semi-medium group, about 21 per cent belong to the medium size group and the balance of about 18 per cent belong to the large size holdings.

5. The following table gives the district-wise proportion of cropped area under food crops and non-food Crops.

TABLE—94.

Region : Inland. :

District.	Food Crops.		Non-food crops. :	
	Irrigated	Un-irrigated	Irrigated	Un-irrigated
	(Per cent)	(Per cent).	(Per cent).:	(Per cent).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Salem	81.46	60.46	18.54	39.54
Dharmapuri	84.39	82.39	15.61	17.61
Periyar	65.44	73.13	34.56	26.87
Coimbatore	63.41	76.01	36.59	23.99
The Nilgiris	56.07	30.30	43.93	69.70

6. The ratios of the area between the irrigated food crops and irrigated non-food crops and un-irrigated food crops and non-food crops are 81:19 and 60:40 respectively in Salem district. The corresponding ratios in Dharmapuri, Periyar, Coimbatore and The Nilgiris districts are 84:16, 82:18 and 65:35, 73:27 and 63:37, 76:24 and 56:44, 30:70 respectively.

7. The following table gives the size group-wise cropped area under important items of food crops and non-food crops, expressed as percentages in the following table.

TABLE—95.

Region Inland.

Size Groups.

Paddy Cholelu

Food and non-food crops. (Per cent)

C. nut.

Irrigated. Un-irrigated. Irrigated. Un-irrigated. Irrigated. Un-irrigated. Irrigated. Un-irrigated.

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11)

Marginal

Small

Semi-medium

Medium

Large

All Sizes

21.92 30.74 18.02 16.05 19.17 11.99 13.72 27.04 26.56 25.35 10.22

29.79 18.62 22.98 23.04 24.60 61.80 27.04 26.56 12.54 33.40 4.62

24.19 22.17 28.00 27.10 27.65 10.42 26.56 25.35 12.54 26.34 21.75

18.73 22.75 23.55 25.32 21.32 7.33 25.35 7.26 100.00 100.00 100.00

5.37 5.72 7.45 8.49 7.26 4.05 7.33 4.05 4.05 4.05 4.62

100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00

15.00 19.53 39.10 21.75 4.62 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00 100.00

8. It is seen from the above table that paddy cultivation under irrigated conditions varies from 19 per cent to 30 per cent in the first four size classes and it is far less in the last size class being about 5 per cent. Similarly Paddy cultivation under un-irrigated conditions also ranges from about 19 per cent to 31 per cent in the first four size groups and it is far less in the last size group with about 6 per cent. Cholan cultivation under irrigated conditions ranges from 10 per cent to 27 per cent whereas under un-irrigated condition it ranges from 7 per cent to 28 per cent. Out of the total area under irrigated Cumbu, about 28 per cent of the area cultivated by the semi-medium farms and on the whole about 3/4th of the area is covered by small, semi-medium, medium farms. Almost a similar pattern of cultivation exists in the case of un-irrigated Cumbu. Out of the total irrigated area under Sugarcane, about 27 per cent of the area is cultivated by each of the small and semi-medium holdings and about 25 per cent by medium holding. The un-irrigated area under Sugarcane is negligible, but the highest Proportion of the area cultivated belongs to the small group. The proportion of irrigated ground-nut area varies from 10 per cent in the large size group to 33 per cent in the medium group in this region. But about 39 per cent of the total area under un-irrigated Groundnut is cultivated by semi-medium farms, about 22 per cent by medium farms, about 20 per cent by small farms, about 15 per cent by marginal farms and the balance of about 5 per cent by large size holdings.

9. The following table shows the interse percentages of total area under important items of food crops in the districts of this region.

TABLE 96.
Region : Inland.

District.	Size Group.	Total area under Crop (Percentage):				
		Paddy.	Cholan.	Cumbu.	Sugarcane.	Ground-nut.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Salem	Marginal	18.72	20.91	24.10	17.52	13.75
	Small	56.09	30.23	27.85	43.03	19.09
	Semi-medium	20.28	29.92	29.06	21.93	48.59
	Medium	12.88	16.22	16.49	15.55	16.37
	Large	2.03	2.72	2.50	1.97	2.20
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Dharmapuri	Marginal	27.05	17.48	18.59	18.55	19.48
	Small	27.14	37.92	21.22	27.12	24.90
	Semi-medium	24.36	23.59	35.07	34.43	29.95
	Medium	17.90	14.87	20.15	16.95	21.76
	Large	3.55	6.14	4.97	3.04	3.91
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Periyar	Marginal	25.31	5.76	14.09	12.77	15.04
	Small	23.21	20.18	20.73	19.71	17.70
	Semi-medium	26.07	25.49	24.68	24.74	22.82
	Medium	20.18	27.51	28.88	32.73	36.37
	Large	5.23	11.06	11.62	10.05	8.07
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Coimbatore	Marginal	11.97	14.64	10.98	7.72	10.02
	Small	14.08	11.49	26.39	26.02	11.74
	Semi-medium	28.34	30.00	22.66	26.77	30.83
	Medium	29.87	32.76	24.28	28.56	31.67
	Large	15.74	11.11	15.69	10.93	15.74
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
The Nilgiris	Marginal	31.33	100.00	20.00	33.70	0.00
	Small	16.15	0.00	28.00	30.04	0.00
	Semi-medium	18.15	0.00	20.00	9.52	0.00
	Medium	21.99	0.00	32.00	16.12	100.00
	Large	12.33	0.00	0.00	10.62	0.00
	All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

10. It can be seen from the above table that the marginal farms in the Nilgiris district grow more paddy than the other size classes in the district, the percentage being about 12 per cent. The percentages of area covered under marginal farms in Salem, Dharmapuri and Periyar districts are 19 per cent, 27 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. The percentages of area covered in the small farms ranges from 14 per cent to 46 per cent, semi-medium farms 18 per cent to 28 per cent, medium farms 13 per cent to 30 per cent and in the large farms from 2 to 16 per cent in these districts. Under the Cholan Crop, the entire area in the Nilgiris district is covered by marginal farms and in the other districts it ranges from 15 per cent to 21 per cent. In the small farms the percentages range from 11 per cent to 38 per cent. About 30 per cent each in Salem and Coimbatore districts, about 24 per cent in Dharmapuri and about 25 per cent in Periyar district is covered by the semi-medium group under Cholan cultivation. In the medium group the percentages of area covered is found to vary from 15 per cent to 33 per cent and in the large group from 3 per cent to about 11 per cent. Under Cumbu crop, the percentages of area in marginal group ranges from about 11 per cent to about 24 per cent. About 28 per cent each in Salem and the Nilgiris districts, about 21 per cent each in Dharmapuri and Periyar districts and about 26 per cent in Coimbatore district is covered by the small farms under Cumbu cultivation. In the semi-medium farms the percentages of area covered ranges from 20 per cent to about 35 per cent, medium farms from 16 per cent to 32 per cent and in the large farms from Nil in the Nilgiris district to 16 per cent in Coimbatore district. Under Sugarcane crop the percentages of area covered in the marginal size farms is found to vary between 8 per cent in Coimbatore district and 34 per cent in the Nilgiris district. In the small size farms, in the districts of the region, the percentage of coverage is found to be between 20 per cent in Periyar district and 43 per cent in Salem District. In the semi-medium farms it is found to vary between 10 per cent in the Nilgiris district and 34 per cent in Dharmapuri district. The percentage of coverage in the medium size class is found to be between 16 per cent each in Salem and in the Nilgiris district and 33 per cent in Periyar district. In the large size farms, the percentage of coverage is found to vary between 2 per cent in Salem district and 11 per cent each in Coimbatore and in the Nilgiris districts. Under Groundnut crop the entire area is covered by the medium group in the Nilgiris district. The percentage of coverage in the marginal farms vary from 10 per cent in Coimbatore district to 19 per cent in Dharmapuri district, in small farms from 12 per cent to 25 per cent, in semi-medium farms from 23 per cent in Periyar district to 49 per cent in Salem district, in medium group from 16 per cent to 36 per cent except in the Nilgiris district where it is cent percent and in the large farms from 2 per cent in Salem district to 16 per cent in Coimbatore.

III. Coastal Region :

The following table gives the percentage of cropped area under the various size groups for the coastal Region:—

4. 2 147-33—19

TABLE 97.
Region—Coastal.

Size/Group.	Gross cropped area.			Food Crops.			Non-food crops.		
	Irrigated (Hectares).	Un-irrigated (Hectares).	Total. (Hectares).	Irrigated. (Hectares and Percentage)	Un-irrigated. (Hectares and Percentage)	Total. (Hectares and Percentage)	Irrigated. (Hectares and Percentage)	Un-irrigated (Hectares and Percentage)	Total. (Hectares and Percentage)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Marginal	313,672.90	153,106.98	466,779.88	303,871.36 (96.87)	106,175.58 (69.35)	410,046.94 (87.85)	9,801.54 (3.13)	46,931.40 (30.65)	56,732.94 (12.15)
Small	231,712.82	170,335.84	402,048.66	220,091.47 (94.98)	126,197.67 (74.09)	346,289.14 (86.13)	11,621.35 (5.02)	44,138.17 (25.91)	55,759.52 (13.87)
Semi-medium	224,674.87	190,212.60	414,887.47	204,432.81 (90.99)	144,270.72 (75.85)	348,703.53 (84.05)	20,242.60 (9.01)	45,941.88 (24.15)	66,183.94 (15.95)
Medium	153,445.20	157,133.44	310,578.64	143,472.12 (93.50)	121,704.03 (77.45)	265,176.15 (85.38)	9,973.08 (6.50)	35,429.41 (22.55)	45,402.49 (14.62)
Large	57,119.84	47,008.50	104,128.34	52,967.22 (92.73)	33,355.45 (70.96)	86,322.67 (82.90)	4,152.63 (7.27)	13,653.04 (29.04)	17,805.67 (17.10)
All Sizes	980,625.63	717,797.36	1,698,422.99	924,834.98 (94.31)	531,703.45 (74.07)	1,456,538.43 (85.76)	55,790.66 (5.69)	186,093.90 (25.93)	241,884.56 (14.24)

2. It is seen from the above table that about 88 per cent of the total gross cropped area in the marginal size group is under food crops and about 12 per cent of the area is covered by non-food crops. It is seen that the marginal farms are mainly growing food crops. About 97 per cent of the irrigated total gross cropped irrigated area under food crops and only 3 per cent is covered under the irrigated non-food crops. About 69 per cent of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area is covered under the food crops by these holdings and 31 per cent is covered under the non-food crops. About 86 per cent of the total gross cropped area is under the food crops in the small farms and the balance of 14 per cent is under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area, about 95 per cent is under food crops and 5 percent under non-food crops in the small size farms. About 74 per cent of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area comes under the food crops in the small size farms and the balance of 26 percent area comes under the non-food crops. In the semi-medium group of the total gross cropped area about 84 percent comes under the food crops and the balance of 16 per cent comes under the non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area, about 91 per cent of the area comes under food crops and the remaining 9 per cent comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area about 76 per cent of the area comes under food crops and the remaining 24 per cent under non-food crops. Under the medium size holdings, about 85 per cent of the total gross cropped area comes under food crops and the balance of 15 per cent of the area comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area, 93.5 per cent of the area comes under food crops and only 6.5 percent of the area comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area 77 percent of the area comes under food crops and the remaining 23 percent under non-food crops. In the large size holdings, of the total gross cropped area, about 83 percent comes under the food crops and the balance of 17 percent comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area 93 percent comes under food crops and the balance 7 percent comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area 71 percent comes under food crops and the remaining 29 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 86 percent of the area to the total gross cropped area is grown with food crops whereas about 14 percent of the area to the total gross cropped area comes under non-food crops in all sizes. About 94 per cent of the irrigated area to the total gross cropped irrigated area comes under food crops and the only about 6 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 74 percent of the un-irrigated area to the total gross cropped un-irrigated area comes under food crops and about 26 percent of the area comes under non-food crops in this region. It is to be noted that the percentages of the area covered under food crops in both the irrigated and un-irrigated conditions are more when compared with the other three regions.

3. The following table presents the interse percentage of the area under food crops and non-food crops under the two categories of irrigated and un-irrigated separately.

TABLE 98.
Region : Coastal.

Size/Groups.	Food Crops (Per cent.)			Non-food crops (Per cent.)		
	Irrigated.	Un-irrigated.	Total.	Irrigated.	Un-irrigated.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Marginal	32.86	19.97	28.15	17.57	25.22	23.45
Small	23.80	23.73	23.77	20.83	23.72	23.06
Semi medium	22.10	27.13	23.94	36.28	24.69	27.36
Medium	15.51	22.89	18.21	17.88	19.04	18.77
Large	5.73	6.28	5.93	7.44	7.33	7.36
All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

4. Out of the total irrigated area under food crops, about 33 per cent belong to the marginal group, about 24 per cent belong to the small holdings, about 22 per cent belong to the semi-medium farms, about 16 per cent belong to the medium holdings and the balance 6 per cent belong to the large size holdings. But in the case of un-irrigated area under food crops, about 20 per cent belong to the marginal group about 24 per cent belong to the small holdings, about 27 per cent belong to the semi-medium farms, about 23 per cent belong to the medium holdings and the balance belong to the large size class. In the case of un-irrigated food crops more area is covered by the semi-medium farms the percentage being about 36 per cent and about 21 per cent belong to the small holdings. In the case of un-irrigated non-food crops about 25 per cent each belong to the marginal and semi-medium holdings and about 24 per cent belong to the small holdings.

5. The following table gives the district-wise proportion of the cropped area under food crops and non-food crops:—

TABLE-99.

Region : COASTAL

District.	Food Crops.		Non-food Crops.	
	Irrigated.	Un-irrigated.	Irrigated.	Un-irrigated.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(IN PER CENT.)				
Thanjavur	97.25	69.54	2.75	30.46
Tiruchirappalli	84.87	82.83	15.13	17.17
Pudukkottai	97.74	44.25	2.26	55.75

6. The ratio of the area between the irrigated food crops and irrigated non-food crops and also between the un-irrigated food crops and un-irrigated non-food crops are 97 : 3 and 70 : 30 respectively in Thanjavur district. the corresponding ratios in Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai districts are 85 : 15, 83 : 17 and 98 : 2, 44 : 56 respectively.

7. The following table gives the size group-wise cropped area under important items of food crops and non-food crops expressed as percentages, for the Coastal Region :—
(H.E. Table No. 100).

TABLE 100.

Region—Coastal.

Size/Groups	Food and non Food Crops									
	Paddy			Chokum			Cumbu		Sugarcane	
	Irrigated Percentage	Un-irrigated Percentage	Irrigated Percentage	Irrigated Percentage	Un-irrigated Percentage	Irrigated Percentage	Irrigated Percentage	Un-irrigated Percentage	Irrigated Percentage	Un-irrigated Percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Marginal	..	33.32	26.13	22.37	25.18	19.99	26.44	12.34	16.88	27.72
Small	..	23.91	21.74	21.57	24.00	21.18	24.98	15.93	21.83	23.90
Semi-medium	..	21.83	22.17	28.23	24.70	26.74	26.27	16.33	44.65	24.64
Medium	..	15.35	18.89	18.86	19.48	22.76	15.77	55.40	10.89	17.87
Large	..	5.59	11.07	8.97	6.64	9.33	6.54	0.00	5.75	5.87
All Sizes	..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

TABLE 101.
Region : Coastal.

District	Size group	Total area under crop (Percentage)				
		Paddy	Cholam	Cumbu	Sugarcane	Groundnut
(1) Thanjavur	(2) Marginal	(3) 30.20	(4) 89.90	(5) 41.67	(6) 12.31	(7) 26.65
	Small	24.69	0.00	25.85	33.43	32.09
	Semi-Medium	22.97	1.69	19.75	30.72	31.32
	Medium	16.13	8.41	12.35	12.49	7.99
	Large	6.01	0.00	0.38	11.05	1.95
Tiruchirappalli	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Marginal	38.73	24.74	18.63	29.26	18.80
	Small	22.43	23.72	20.28	22.21	18.71
	Semi-medium	20.20	25.28	25.60	24.88	36.05
	Medium	14.40	19.29	24.56	19.04	20.21
Pudukottai	Large	4.24	6.97	10.93	4.61	6.23
	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Marginal	39.88	27.80	62.93	83.24	32.19
	Small	21.09	24.76	1.89	2.64	20.96
	Semi-medium	18.12	20.86	28.02	13.39	19.41
	Medium	13.76	21.68	4.76	0.73	17.82
	Large	7.15	4.90	2.40	0.00	9.62
	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

8. It can be seen from the above table that paddy cultivation under irrigated conditions vary between 15 per cent and 33 per cent in the first four size groups and it is far less in the last size group being 6 per cent. The cultivation of un-irrigated paddy ranges from 11 per cent in the large group to 26 per cent in the marginal group. Irrigated Cholam cultivation is high in the semi-medium group in this region the per cent being about 28 per cent. In the other size groups the percentage of coverage ranges from 9 per cent in large farms to 22 per cent in the marginal farms. Under un-irrigated Cholam the percentage of coverage ranges from 7 per cent in the large size holdings to 25 per cent in both the marginal and semi-medium farms. Out of the total area under irrigated Cumbu, about 27 per cent of the area is cultivated by the semi-medium farms, about 23 per cent by the medium holdings, about 21 per cent by the small farms, about 20 per cent by the marginal group and the remaining area by the large size holdings. More or less the same trend is noticed in the case of un-irrigated Cumbu also. Out of the total area irrigated under sugarcane crop, both the marginal and semi-medium group cultivated about 26 per cent each, the share of small holdings is about 25 per cent, medium holdings is about 16 per cent and large holdings is about 7 per cent. Out of the total un-irrigated area under Sugarcane, about 55 per cent belong to the medium group, about 16 per cent each to the small and semi-medium farms, about 12 per cent belong to the marginal farms and it is nil in the case of large farms in this region. The share of irrigated groundnut cultivation by the semi-medium group is more, the percentage being about 45 per cent. The percentages of the area covered by the other four size classes ranges from about 6 per cent in the large group to 22 per cent in the small farms. But in the case of un-irrigated groundnut about 28 per cent of the area is cultivated by the marginal group, about 25 per cent by the semi-medium holdings, about 24 per cent by the small holdings, about 18 per cent by the medium holdings and the balance by the large size group.

9. The following table shows the interse percentages of total area under important itmes of food crops in the districts of this region :—

10. It is seen from the above table that in all the districts of the Coastal Region, the marginal farms grow more paddy, the percentage varying from 30 to 40 per cent. The percentage of coverage in the small farms ranges from 21 to 25 per cent, semi-medium farms from 18 to 23 per cent medium farms from 14 to 16 per cent and the large size farms from 4 to 7 per cent. Under Cholam crop, Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai districts the marginal farms covered about 25 per cent and 28 per cent respectively under Cholam crop. The percentages of area covered by the small farms in Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai districts are 24 per cent and 25 per cent respectively where as in Thanjavur district it is nil. The percentages of area covered under semi-medium holdings is found to vary between 2 per cent in Thanjavur district to 25 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district. In the medium size holdings it ranges from 8 per cent to 22 per cent. Under Cumbu crop, the percentage of area covered by the marginal group is found to be more with 63 per cent in Pudukkottai district while the percentages are 42 and 19 in Thanjavur and Pudukkottai districts respectively. But in the case of small farms the percentages of the area covered under Cumbu crop vary between 2 per cent in Pudukkottai district to 26 per cent in Thanjavur district. In the semi-medium farms the percentages vary between 20 per cent and 28 per cent and in the medium farms from 5 per cent in Pudukkottai district to 25 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district. Under Sugarcane crop the percentage of the area covered by the marginal farms is found to be very high the percentage being about 83 per cent, whereas only 12 per cent of the area in Thanjavur district and 29 per cent of the area in Pudukkottai district are covered by the marginal farms. In the small farms the percentages of coverage ranges from 3 per cent in Pudukkottai district to 33 per cent in Thanjavur district, in the semi-medium farms from 13 per cent in Pudukkottai district to 31 per cent in Thanjavur district, in the medium farms about less than 1 per cent in Pudukkottai district to 19 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district. Under Groundnut crop, the percentage of area covered by the marginal farms vary between 19 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district and 32 per cent in Pudukkottai district, in the small farms between 19 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district and 32 per cent in Thanjavur district, in the semi-medium farms between 19 per cent in Pudukkottai district and 36 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district, in the medium farms between 8 per cent in Thanjavur district and 20 per cent in Tiruchirappalli district and in the large farms between 2 per cent in Thanjavur district and 10 per cent in Pudukkottai district.

IV. Southern Region :

The following table gives the percentage cropped area under the various size groups for the Southern Region :—

TABLE 102.

Region : Southern.

Size Group.	Gross cropped area.			Food Crops.			Non-Food crops.		
	Irrigated. (Hectare).	Unirrigated. (Hectare).	Total. (Hectare).	Irrigated. (Hectare and Percentage).	Unirrigated. (Hectare and Percentage).	Total. (Hectare and Percentage).	Irrigated. (Hectare and Percentage).	Unirrigated. (Hectare and Percentage).	Total. (Hectare and Percentage).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Marginal ..	3,13,910.74	2,26,346.89	5,40,257.63	2,87,120.15 (91.47)	1,47,176.20 (65.02)	4,34,296.35 (80.39)	26,790.59 (8.53)	79,170.69 (34.98)	1,05,961.28 (19.61)
Small ..	2,11,349.65	2,25,705.62	4,37,055.27	1,88,787.60 (89.33)	1,50,925.72 (66.87)	3,39,713.32 (77.73)	22,562.05 (10.67)	74,779.90 (33.13)	97,341.95 (22.27)
Semi-Medium ..	1,90,625.95	2,68,013.60	4,58,639.55	1,41,195.05 (74.07)	1,86,079.03 (69.43)	3,27,274.08 (71.35)	49,430.90 (25.93)	81,934.57 (30.51)	1,31,365.47 (28.65)
Medium ..	1,45,246.50	2,37,904.09	3,83,150.59	1,22,394.43 (84.27)	1,48,913.76 (62.59)	2,71,308.19 (70.81)	22,851.87 (15.73)	88,990.33 (37.41)	1,11,842.40 (29.19)
Large ..	59,931.86	1,18,554.37	1,78,486.23	50,779.89 (84.73)	65,408.68 (55.17)	1,16,188.57 (65.10)	9,151.97 (15.27)	53,145.69 (44.83)	62,297.66 (34.90)
All Sizes ..	9,21,064.70	10,76,524.57	19,97,589.27	7,90,277.12 (85.80)	6,98,503.39 (64.88)	14,88,780.51 (74.53)	1,30,787.58 (14.20)	3,78,021.18 (35.12)	5,08,808.76 (25.47)

2. It may be seen from the above table that about 80 per cent of the total gross cropped area in the marginal size group is under food crops and about 20 per cent of the area is covered by non-food crops. About 91 per cent of the irrigated area to the total gross cropped irrigated area is under food crops and only about 9 per cent of the area is under non-food crops. About 65 per cent of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area is covered under food crops and 35 per cent is covered under non-food crops. About 78 per cent of the total gross cropped area is covered under food crops in the small farms and the balance of 22 per cent is covered under non-food crops. About 89 per cent of the irrigated area to the total gross cropped irrigated area comes under food crops and the remaining 11 per cent is covered under non-food crops. About 67 per cent of the un-irrigated area to the total gross cropped un-irrigated area is covered under food crops and about 33 per cent comes under non-food crops. In the semi-medium group, of the total gross cropped area, about 71 per cent of the area comes under food crops and about 29 per cent comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area about 74 per cent belong to food crops and the balance of 26 per cent belong to non-crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area about 69 per cent belong to food crops and the balance of 31 per cent belong to non-food crops. Under the medium size holdings, about 71 per cent of the total gross cropped area comes under food crops and about 29 per cent of the area comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area, 84 per cent of the area is covered under food crops and the balance of 16 per cent is covered under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area about 63 per cent comes under food crops and about 37 per cent comes under non-food crops. In the large size holdings, of the total gross cropped area about 65 per cent of the area comes under food crops and the remaining 35 per cent comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area about 85 per cent of the area comes under food crops and the balance of 15 per cent comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area 55 per cent of the area comes under food crops and about 45 per cent comes under non-food crops. About 3/4th of the area to the total gross cropped area comes under food crops in all sizes and the balance of 1/4th comes under non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped irrigated area about 86 per cent is covered by food crops and the balance of 14 per cent is covered by non-food crops. Of the total gross cropped un-irrigated area about 65 per cent is covered under food crops and about 35 per cent is covered under non-food crops.

3. The following table presents the interse percentage of the area under food crops and non-food crops under the two categories of irrigated and un-irrigated separately :—

TABLE 103.

Region. Southern

Size Groups.	Food crops (Per cent):		Non-Food crops (Per cent):	
	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.
Marginal	36.33	21.07	20.48	20.94
Small	23.89	21.61	17.25	19.78
Semi-Medium	17.87	26.64	37.79	21.68
Medium	15.49	21.32	17.48	23.54
Large	6.42	9.36	7.00	14.06
All Sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
		Total.		Total.
		29.17		20.83
		22.82		19.13
		21.98		25.82
		18.22		21.98
		7.81		12.24
		100.00		100.00

4. Out of the total irrigated area under food crops, about 36 per cent belong to the marginal farms, about 24 per cent belong to the small farms, about 18 per cent belong to the semi-medium farms, about 15 per cent to the medium farms and the balance to the large farms. Of the total un-irrigated area under food crops about 21 per cent belong to each of marginal and medium farms, about 22 per cent belong to small farms, about 27 per cent belong to the semi-medium group and the balance belong to the large size group. Out of the total irrigated area under non-food crops about 38 per cent of the area belong to the Semi-medium, and medium farms. Out of the total un-irrigated area under non-food crops about 26 per cent belong to the semi-medium group, about 22 per cent belong to the medium group, and about 21 per cent belong to the marginal group.

5. The following table gives the district-wise proportion of cropped area under food and non-food crops.

TABLE 104.

Region. Southern

Districts.	Food crops.		Non-food crops.	
	Irrigated (Per cent).	Unirrigated. (Per cent).	Irrigated. (Per cent).	Unirrigated. (Per cent).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Madurai	80.97	68.77	19.03	31.23
Ramanthapuram.. ..	91.19	70.79	8.83	29.21
Tirunelveli	83.51	58.01	16.49	41.99
Kanniyakumari	96.75	37.50	3.25	62.50

6. The ratio of the area between the irrigated food crops and irrigated non-food crops and also between the irrigated non-food crops and un-irrigated non-food crops are 81 : 19 and 69 : 31 respectively. The corresponding ratios in Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts are 91 : 9, 71 : 29, 84 : 16, 58 : 42, 97 : 3, 37.5 : 62.5, respectively.

7. The following table gives the size group-wise cropped area under important items of food crops and non-food crops, expressed as per centage, for the Southern Region :—

TABLE 105.

Region : Southern.

Size Groups.	Food and non-food crops.									
	Paddy.		Cholam.		Cumbu.		Sugarcane.		Groundnut.	
	Irrigated. Per cent.	Unirrigated. Per cent.	Irrigated. per cent.	Unirrigated Per cent	Irrigated Per cent.	Unirrigated Per cent.	Irrigated. Per cent.	Unirrigated. Per cent.	Irrigated. Per cent.	Unirrigated. Per cent
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Marginal ..	40.12	21.10	27.00	22.04	18.07	14.48	22.75	20.14	13.03	20.01
Small ..	25.31	21.39	20.85	22.93	22.04	18.28	24.99	42.10	11.58	18.26
Semi-Medium ..	15.38	25.16	22.65	27.69	25.44	35.42	31.43	19.37	49.97	33.37
Medium ..	12.84	22.24	23.27	19.04	26.83	22.03	15.56	18.39	19.98	21.48
Large ..	6.35	10.11	6.23	8.30	7.62	9.78	5.27	0.00	5.44	6.88
All Sizes ..	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

8. It is seen from the above table that Paddy cultivation under irrigated conditions vary between 13 per cent and 40 per cent in the first four size classes and only about 6 per cent in the last size class. The cultivation of un-irrigated paddy in the first four size classes ranges from 21 per cent in the marginal size group as well as small size group to 25 per cent in the semi-medium group; it is about 10 per cent in the large size group. Irrigated Cholan cultivation ranges from 21 per cent in the small size group to 27 per cent in the marginal group in the first four size classes and it is only about 6 per cent in large size holdings. Under un-irrigated Cholan the percentage vary between 19 per cent in the medium group and 28 per cent in the semi-medium group among the first four size classes and it is about 8 per cent in the large size holdings. Out of the total irrigated area under Cumbu about 27 per cent of the area is cultivated by the medium farms followed by the semi-medium farms with about 25 per cent and the small farms with 22 per cent. Un-irrigated Cumbu cultivation is high in the semi-medium group with 35 per cent and the percentage of area in marginal, small and medium farms are 14 per cent, 18 per cent and 22 per cent respectively. Out of the total irrigated area under Sugarcane crop, the semi-medium holding cultivate about 31 per cent whereas in the remaining four size classes, the percentage coverage ranges from 5 per cent in the large size holdings to 25 per cent in the small size holdings. Out of the total un-irrigated area under Sugarcane, the share of small holdings is 42 per cent, marginal holdings 20 per cent, semi-medium holdings 19 per cent, medium holdings 18 per cent and in the large size group it is nil. Nearly half of the total area under irrigated groundnut is cultivated by the semi-medium group and the percentages in the remaining four size classes ranges from 5 per cent in the large farms to 20 per cent in the medium farms. The proportion of un-irrigated groundnut varies from 18 per cent in the small group to 33 per cent in the semi-medium group in the first four size classes and it is about 7 per cent in the large size holdings.

9. The following table shows the interse per centage of total area under important items of food crops and o non-food crops in the districts of this region :—

TABLE 1106.

Region : Southern

District.	Size/Group.	Total area under crop (percentage).				
		Paddy.	Cholan.	Cumbu.	Sugarcane.	Groundnut.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Madurai	Marginal	39.06	24.24	16.81	22.52	21.09
	Small	25.99	23.34	20.98	21.89	18.10
	Semi-medium	18.53	23.47	27.08	33.90	28.34
	Medium	11.97	21.33	28.34	16.15	24.25
	Large	4.45	7.62	6.79	5.54	8.22
	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Marginal	31.93	20.99	18.27	26.11	16.76
Manathapuram	Small	24.83	30.13	18.54	34.36	21.62
	Semi-medium	19.06	20.97	31.67	21.15	39.79
	Medium	17.14	20.25	23.61	13.73	18.82
	Large	7.04	7.66	7.91	4.65	3.01
	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Marginal	37.61	19.90	11.95	13.51	18.40
	Small	26.27	17.59	17.77	36.21	11.45
Tirunelveli	Semi-medium	12.87	38.40	39.28	32.92	19.45
	Medium	13.05	15.24	19.12	14.36	12.82

TABLE 106—cont.

Region : Southern

District	Size Group	(Total area under crop percentage)				
		Paddy	Cholam	Cumbu	Sugarcane	Groundnut
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Kanniyakumari	Large	10.20	18.87	11.88	3.00	5.97
	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Marginal	71.45	46.30	10.09	10.00	39.56
	Small	13.43	10.00	50.00	0.00	25.08
	Semi-medium	77.84	53.70	10.00	10.00	15.07
	Medium	15.13	10.00	10.00	10.00	18.95
	Large	2.15	9.00	10.00	10.00	11.34
	All sizes	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

10. It can be seen from the above table that in all the districts of the Southern Region, the marginal farms grow more paddy the percentage ranging from 32 per cent in Ramanathapuram district to 71 per cent in Kanniyakumari district. The percentage coverage in the small farms ranges from 13 per cent to 26 per cent in Semi-medium farms ranges from 8 per cent to 19 per cent, in medium farms from 5 per cent to 17 per cent and in the large size farms ranges from 2 per cent to 10 per cent. Under Cholam crop the percentage of total area covered under the marginal size group is found to vary between 20 per cent in Tirunelveli district and 46 per cent in Kanniyakumari district. The percentages in Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts are found to be 21 and 24 per cent respectively. The percentage of area covered under Cholam crop in the small farms ranges from 18 per cent in Tirunelveli district to 30 per cent in Ramanathapuram district and in Kanniyakumari district the small farms have not cultivated Cholam crop. In the semi-medium group the percentage ranges from 21 per cent in Ramanathapuram district to 54 per cent in Kanniyakumari district. In the medium farms the percentage ranges from 15 per cent to 21 per cent. No area is covered under medium farms and large farms in Kanniyakumari district. In the large size farms it is about 8 per cent each in Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts and about 9 per cent in Tirunelveli district. Under Cumbu, the percentage of area covered in all the districts except Kanniyakumari is found to vary between 12 per cent in Tirunelveli district to 18 per cent in Ramanathapuram district in the marginal size group. In the small size group the percentage vary from 18 per cent in Tirunelveli district to 21 per cent in Madurai district. In the semi-medium farms the percentages of the area covered in Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts are 27 per cent, 32 per cent and 39 per cent respectively. In the medium size group the percentages are found to vary between 19 per cent in Tirunelveli district and 28 per cent in Madurai district. In the large size holdings the percentages vary from 7 per cent to 12 per cent. Under Sugarcane crop, the percentage of area covered in all the districts except Kanniyakumari district is found to vary between 14 per cent in Tirunelveli district and 26 per cent in Ramanathapuram district in the marginal group. In the small size farms the percentages of area covered found to vary between 22 per cent in Madurai district and 36 per cent in Tirunelveli district. In the semi-medium farms the percentages are found to range from 21 per cent in Ramanathapuram district to 34 per cent in Madurai district. In the medium farms the percentages are found to be 14 per cent each in Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts and 16 per cent in Madurai district. In the large size class the percentages range from 3 per cent to 6 per cent. The percentage of coverage of area under groundnut crop by the marginal holdings found to range from 17 per cent in Ramanathapuram district to 40 per cent in Kanniyakumari district. The percentage covered in Madurai, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts are 21 per cent and 18 per cent respectively. In the small size holdings, the percentages of area covered in Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari districts are 18 per cent, 22 per cent, 13 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. In the semi-medium group the percentages are found to vary between 15 per cent in Kanniyakumari district to 49 per cent in Tirunelveli district. The percentages in Madurai and Ramanathapuram districts are 28 per cent and 40 per cent respectively. In the medium size holdings the percentages are found to vary between 9 per cent in Kanniyakumari district to 24 per cent in Madurai district. In the large size class it is found to vary between 3 per cent in Ramanathapuram district and all 11 per cent in Kanniyakumari district in this region.

CHAPTER IV.

PROBLEMS AND PERSPECTIVE.

Agricultural Planning involve setting up of certain targets of production, identification of various resources, devising measures required for achieving these targets, and drawing up a programme and time table for working towards these targets. The most essential pre-requisite of planning is information which is mainly supplied by statistics of land, of farmers, of livestock of the current production level, of the general economic and agricultural situation and of potentialities for increasing production by the use of irrigation, fertilizers etc., or by changing farming patterns to encourage each crop and mixed farming. Such information is equally important for implementation of the plan, i.e., for optimum distribution of resources according to need, for different programmes, different regions and different types of farmers and to measure the programme of planned development. Agricultural Census supplies such vital information. The census gives information of characteristics of operational holdings, the structure of agriculture and social economic and institutional factors inhibiting production.

2. The link between agricultural census and agricultural planning is so close that the census deserves to be made an integral part of planning itself and assigned high priority. The role of agricultural census in economic planning need hardly be stressed especially in India with a predominantly agricultural economy.

3. The Agricultural Census was taken in Tamil Nadu on a complete enumeration basis in 1970-71, the second time it was conducted in Tamil Nadu in 1976-77 partly by complete enumeration and partly by a sample survey. The third census under report was taken in Tamil Nadu in 1979-80 on a complete enumeration basis.

4. The village Karnams were the primary workers for the first and second Agricultural Censuses in the State. Since the hereditary system of appointment of village officers was abolished and new Village Administrative Officer's were not in position, the services of the staff of the Revenue and Survey Department were utilised for the field work of Third Census. Initially the staff of Revenue and Survey Departments refused to undertake the field work. On highlighting the importance of the Agricultural Census and on persuasion, the staff of Revenue and Survey Department undertook the retabulation work. The statistical staff and the Special Duty Collectors toured the Districts intensively and imparted necessary training in filling up the various forms. Since the Survey and Revenue staff were new to this type of work, they have to be trained often. With the active co-operation and assistance of the statistical staff in the field, the Survey and Revenue staff have successfully completed the field work of the census.

5. Though the field work was completed the tabulation of data could not be proceeded with, since the staff of the Department was busy with the work relating to Backward Classes Commission. Again there was delay while the tabulation work was in progress due to certain unforeseen circumstances. However, the tabulation work was completed and results furnished to Government of India.

6. As was done during the Second Agricultural Census, an Input Survey was also carried out during the census under report. Data on inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, inventory of Agricultural implements and Livestock and Agricultural credit were gathered by enquiry method. Wide publicity was given in the press before the survey was carried out so as to clear off the suspicion lying in the minds of the cultivators and educate them to provide accurate information during enquiry. The data collected were tabulated and results furnished to Government of India; numerous tables prescribed by them.

CHAPTER V.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.

The aim of this chapter is to present a consummate picture of the Agricultural Census (1979-80) which is a rather difficult task due to the mass and variety of data thrown up by this census. Still an attempt has been made to condense the data and compare then with those of the previous Census, 1976-77 wherever possible.

SECTION A.

(i) (a) Number and area of Operational Holdings :

2. The Agricultural Census 1979-80 reveals that there were about 7.1 million individual holdings, 53,910 joint holdings and 6,857 Institutional holdings in Tamil Nadu. The total number of holdings were 7.2 million as against 6.1 million during 1976-77. The total operated area was 7.7 million hectares during the year 1979-80 as against 7.6 million hectares during the year 1976-77. There had been a considerable increase in the number of holdings but only a slight increase in the operated area.

(b) Structure of Operational Holding :

3. During the year 1979-80, 70 per cent of total operational holdings were marginal farms with an operating area forming about 25 per cent to the total operated area in the State. This was slightly different during the year 1976-77; (i.e.) 65 per cent of operational holders operated on about 21 per cent of the total operated area. The small holders formed 18 per cent operating on 21 per cent of area during 1976-77; but during the year 1979-80, 17 per cent were small holders operating on about 22 per cent of operated area. During the year 1979-80 0.6 per cent holdings were large farms with 9 per cent of operated area; whereas in 1976-77, 0.8 per cent were large farms with 10 per cent of the operated area. On the whole, the structure of operational holdings has changed a little, the preponderance of marginal farmers still continuing to be the dominant feature of the operational holdings.

4. The average size of large holdings during 1979-80 was 18.0 hectares compared to 17.30 hectares in 1976-77.

(ii) Type of Tenures :

5. The percentage of wholly owned and self operated holdings slightly increased during the year 1979-80, compared to that of previous census whereas the percentage of 'partly leased in' and 'wholly leased in' holdings decreased. The same trend is noticed in the corresponding operated area. This may be attributed to the impact of land ceiling and tenancy laws which aim to confer ownership rights on the cultivating tenants. About 70 per cent of the wholly owned and self operated holdings were marginal farms operating on about 25 per cent of the total area occupied by wholly owned and self operated holdings. About 17 per cent of the wholly owned and self operated holdings were small farms operating on about 22 per cent of the total area. About 61 per cent of the total partly owned and partly leased in holdings were marginal farms. About 74 per cent of the wholly leased in holdings were marginal farms operating on about 36 per cent of the total area.

6. About 6 per cent of the total area under partly-owned and partly leased in holdings were leased in for fixed money, about 62 per cent for fixed produce, 30 per cent for share of produce. About 8 per cent of the area leased-in by the wholly tenanted holdings were for fixed money, about 52 per cent for fixed produce and 39 per cent for share of produce.

(iii) Land Utilisation :

7. The land use pattern slightly changed from the previous census to the Census under review. The net area sown slightly increased during the year 1979-80. The area under current fallows, area under fallow other than current fallows and the area under culturable was also slightly decreased during 1979-80. But uncultivated area excluding fallow and the area not available for cultivation slightly increased during 1979-80.

8. About 19 per cent of the total fallow lands in the State was kept fallow by semi-medium farmers, 25 per cent by medium farmers and 20 per cent by the large farmers.

9. The marginal group possessed about 14th of the total land not available for cultivation. The small group and the medium group each possessed about 19 per cent of this type of land. In the semi-medium group the percentage was 24 per cent and in the large group the percentage of land not available for cultivation was about 13 per cent.

(iv) Irrigation :

10. Out of the total wholly irrigated holdings, 75 per cent belonged to the marginal group cultivating an area of only 34 per cent. 15 per cent were small farms operating on 24 per cent of the area. Out of the total wholly unirrigated holdings in the State 66 per cent were marginal holding covering an area of about 24 per cent; 19 per cent belonged to the small farm group and the area operated was also 24 per cent as in the case of marginal holdings, when compared to 1976-77 Census, the area under wholly irrigated holdings and wholly unirrigated holdings among the various size group have been slightly changed in terms of comparative percentage.

(v) Source-wise Irrigation :

11. Of the total irrigated area during the year 1979-80, canals accounted for 31 per cent, tanks about 32 per cent wells about 33 per cent and tubewells 3 per cent. During the year 1976-77, the canal irrigated area was about 33 per cent but it had been slightly decreased to 31 per cent in 1979-80. But, on the other hand, the tank irrigated area which was 25 per cent in 1976-77 has increased to 32 per cent in 1979-80. This was due to the increase in the capacity of the tanks because of desilting operations carried out in Tamil Nadu. The well irrigated area which was 30 per cent in 1976-77 has increased to 33 per cent in 1979-80. This was due to the increase in the number of wells during 1979-80 when compared to 1976-77, since the Government of Tamil Nadu have liberally sanctioned loans for digging new wells by the farmers. It was also found that tank irrigation was most popular among the marginal holdings in Tamil Nadu.

12. During 1979-80, in Tamil Nadu as a whole the average area irrigated by a well (with or without pumpset) was 0.84 hectare; this average was exceeded by the average in all the size classes except the marginal size operational holdings. The State average area irrigated by a tubewells was 0.66 hectare and the average in the marginal holdings alone is lesser than this average. It is also of interest to note that a well, on the average, irrigated more area in the semi-medium group than in the marginal and small farm groups.

13. Of the total net area sown in Tamil Nadu, 49 per cent was under irrigation during 1979-80. The area irrigated more than once was 65 per cent as against 126 per cent of gross cropped area. The percentage of cropped area in the marginal small and large size groups was slightly less than the State average whereas in the semi-medium and medium groups, it was higher than the State averages.

(vi) Cropping pattern :

14. During 1976-77, the percentage of gross cropped area to the total operated area was about 86 per cent but during 1979-80, the area increased to 98 per cent. In this State the ratio under food crops and non-food crops was 76 : 24. This was slightly different in 1976-77, the ratio being 80:20. In spite of the slight increase in the number of holdings and the operated area, the cropped area under food crops has slightly decreased.

