

## Big Farms in North Dakota

**A** LOT OF INFORMATION ON THE SIZE OF FARMS in this State is provided in the 1940 census. These facts have been carefully worked over by the Research Division of the Farm Credit Administration of St. Paul, and it is with their permission that I am abstracting this information from their Circular 42-1, issued January 5, 1942.

The average size of all farms of 1000 acres or over in North Dakota in 1940 was 1599 acres. Farms of this size made up 27 percent of all land in farms in 1940.

Sioux County had 2095 farms of 1000 acres or over, constituting 64 percent of all farm land in that county. This was the largest percentage of farms of that size in any one county. However, the largest number of large farms within this classification were found in Golden Valley County, with 2559 farms of that size. Walsh County had the lowest percentage of 1000 acre and over farms, namely 7 percent. This accounted for 1402 farms in that county. The smallest total number of such large farms in any county were found in McIntosh County, with only 1231 such farms. North Dakota had 18 percent of its farm land in these large farms in 1920, 16 percent in 1925, 21 percent in 1930, 21 percent in 1935, and 27 percent in 1940. The lowest acreage was 5,550,000 acres in 1925 and the greatest was 10,240,000 acres in such size farms in 1940.

The Research Division of the Farm Credit Administration also compiled from the 1940 census the average value of implements and machinery on farms of 1000 acres or over in each North Dakota county in 1940.

The heaviest investment in machinery on the large farms was, in order of the first 10, as follows:

Pembina County.....	\$6852
Trail County.....	6774
Walsh County.....	6599
Cass County.....	5434
Richland County.....	3732
Ramsey County.....	3644
Cavalier County.....	3616
Towner County.....	3474
Benson County.....	3463
Steele County.....	3458

The lowest investment in machinery on large farms was in Billings County, with \$969, the only county in which the investment was less than \$1000. The lowest investment in machinery on the large farms, ranged in order of the lowest ten, was as follows:

Billings County.....	\$ 969
Sioux County.....	1118
Grant County.....	1144
McIntosh County.....	1172
Logan County.....	1177
Emmons County.....	1326
Dunn County.....	1361
Kidder County.....	1440
Mercer County.....	1466
Bowman County.....	1592

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