

APPENDIX 1

Weights, Measures, and Monetary Values

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Weights and Measures

The data for most series in *Historical Statistics of the United States* are expressed in American units. This system of weights and measures was adapted and modified over time from the British Imperial System and is now known as the U.S. Customary System. Table Ap-A presents the official relationships within the U.S. Customary System. It should be noted that the British Imperial System and the U.S. system share many common terms (for example, “gallon” and “bushel”), but the measures are not always equivalent.

At this time, only three countries – Burma (Myanmar), Liberia, and the United States – have not adopted the International System of Units (SI, or metric system) as their official system of weights and measures. The SI (for *Système International*, the French name) was adopted in 1960 by the Eleventh General Conference on Weights and Measures. The key features of the International System are decimalization, a system of prefixes, and a standard defined in terms of invariable physical measures. Table Ap-B presents the standard system of prefixes used in the metric system.

The first U.S. Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson, influenced by a proposal circulating in France, proposed a decimal system for weights, measures, and coinage of the United States in 1790. However, only his proposal for the coinage was adopted when two years later the U.S. mint introduced the world’s first decimal coinage (a dollar of 100 cents). France adopted the decimal metric system in 1795. An international treaty signed by the United States in 1875 established the metric system as an international standard.

The U.S. Customary System has many drawbacks: its nondecimal nature makes it more complex to convert from one unit to another; it uses the same name for different units (e.g., ounce for both weight and liquid capacity, quart and pint for both liquid and dry capacity); and it has three different systems of weights (avoirdupois, troy, and apothecary). Although U.S. law has sanctioned the use of the metric system since 1866, SI has yet to displace the customary system in everyday use. While the United States does not use the metric system in its commercial activities, there is increasing acceptance of the metric system in science, medicine, government, and many sectors of industry. Important equivalencies are provided in Table Ap-C as an aid to users who might wish to convert data in this volume into the International System of weights and measures.

Table Ap-D provides more extensive information on units of measure for agricultural products, which have been sold and transported in a bewildering variety of different shipping containers. Before the middle years of the nineteenth century, most products were sold by volume, not weight. Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution gave Congress the power to establish legal weights and measures, but in practice the legal definition of these measures and the size of containers were left to the states until the

late nineteenth century. It was not uncommon for different states to define a legal measure differently and to define a measure differently when used for different products. As farmers began to have access to weight scales and as products were sold more regularly over long distances, sales increasingly were based on weight. Tradition, however, dictated that quantities and prices continued to be denominated in volume measures (for example, bushels of corn). Conversion factors were used to equate volume measures and weight. At first these conversion factors were informal rules of thumb, but states began to legislate the legal weight of various volumes, crop by crop. Gradually over the nineteenth century, national standards began to emerge for most crops. Generally speaking, dry products are measured by bushels and liquid products are measured by gallons. The standard bushel that evolved in the United States is formally known as the “Winchester bushel” (see Table Ap-A).

Note that, in some cases, units of measure for particular data series may differ from the standard values presented in Tables Ap-A and Ap-D. As always, users should consult the table documentation.

Monetary Values

Many of the series in *Historical Statistics of the United States* give the (average) price of an item or the value of an aggregate such as total expenditure or total value of production. Generally speaking, these values are measured either in market prices of the year to which the data refer or in “real dollars,” which are sometimes called “constant dollars.” In the former case, the interpretation of the data is usually straightforward. The actual price or value of the item in the year it was sold or produced is presented in U.S. dollars. These are called current prices, market prices, or values in current dollars or nominal dollars. These terms are interchangeable. However, users should take notice of the specifics provided in the table documentation for the series in which they are interested.

From year to year, the value of the U.S. dollar has fluctuated, and over time there has been a general tendency for the value of the dollar to fall. It is often desired to make comparisons of the value of some item over time. Consider, for example, the Ford Motor Company, which was incorporated in 1903 by Henry Ford. In October 1908, Ford offered his Model-T for \$850. What would that be equivalent to today? In 1914, Ford began paying his employees five dollars a day, nearly doubling the wages offered by other manufacturers. How much is that in today’s terms?

There is no universally accepted answer to these questions.¹ Determining the relative value of an amount of money in one year

¹ A useful resource is Williamson (2002). Several of the examples given later in this appendix are from this source.

TABLE Ap-A U.S. Customary System of weights and measures

Length			Volume		
foot	=	12 inches	Dry measure		
yard	=	3 feet	pint	=	16 ounces
furlong	=	660 feet	quart	=	2 pints
mile (statute)	=	5,280 feet	peck	=	8 quarts
Geographic area			bucket	=	2 pecks
acre	=	4,840 square yards	bushel	=	2 buckets
square mile	=	640 acres	bushel	=	2,150.42 cubic inches
section	=	1 square mile	boardfoot (timber)	=	144 cubic inches
township	=	36 sections	cord (firewood)	=	128 cubic feet
Weight			Liquid measure		
Avoirdupois			pint	=	16 ounces
ounce	=	437.5 grains	quart	=	2 pints
pound	=	16 ounces	gallon	=	4 quarts
hundredweight (short)	=	100 pounds	gallon	=	231 cubic inches
hundredweight (long)	=	112 pounds	barrel (beer and wine)	=	31 gallons
ton (short)	=	2,000 pounds	barrel (proof spirits)	=	40 gallons
ton (long)	=	2,240 pounds	barrel (other liquids)	=	31.5 gallons
Troy			barrel (petroleum)	=	42 gallons
ounce	=	480 grains	hogshead	=	63 gallons
pound	=	12 ounces	acre foot	=	43,560 cubic feet
pound	=	0.822857 pounds (avoirdupois)	Shipping capacity		
			ton (gross register)	=	100 cubic feet of enclosed space
			ton (net register)	=	100 cubic feet for cargo and passengers
			ton (shipping)	=	42 cubic feet for cargo

Source

L. J. Chisholm, *Units of Weight and Measure – International (Metric) and U.S. Customary*, U.S. National Bureau of Standards Miscellaneous Publication 286 (1967).

Documentation

The U.S. Customary System uses the following standard units: yard (length), acre (geographic area), pound (weight), bushel (volume, dry measure), and gallon (volume, liquid measure).

There are three systems of weights in the U.S. Customary System: avoirdupois, troy, and apothecary. The avoirdupois system is the most common. The troy system is used primarily for precious metals (for example, gold or silver). Conversion between the avoirdupois and troy systems can be made via the common unit, grains, of which there are 7,000 in an avoirdupois pound and 5,760 in a troy pound. The apothecary system, formerly used by

pharmacists, is a variant of the troy system. In the apothecary system, the ounce (equivalent to a troy ounce) is divided into eight drams of sixty grains each, each dram containing three scruples. There is a parallel apothecary system of liquid measure, in which the fluid troy ounce is divided into eight fluidrams. The apothecary system continued in use into the early twentieth century, but it has been replaced in pharmacy by the use of metric units.

The U.S. Customary System has two units of volume, one for dry measure and one for liquid. Many terms are common to both, but with different meanings.

Many state laws fix the barrel for liquids at 31.5 gallons. Four states set a standard of 42 gallons for liquids.

Measures of shipping capacity are traditionally a measure of the cargo capacity of a merchant ship. Warships are measured by the weight of the volume of seawater they displace.

compared with another is a matter of often-subtle historical judgment, and the appropriate method will depend upon the context of the question. The value of the dollar fluctuates because prices fluctuate. If, on balance, prices rise, the value of the dollar falls. Of course, all prices do not rise or fall in lock-step with one another. The most common method of calculating an equivalent price is to use a price index that represents an average of the prices comprising a bundle of goods and services (see Chapter Cc). A common choice is the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which averages prices paid by urban consumers for a representative basket of goods and services (series Cc1). Price indexes such as the CPI are set equal to 100 in a base reference period. In this case, the base years when the index averages 100 are 1982–1984.

In 1908, the year of the first Model-T Ford, the CPI was 9.235. In 2001, the index number was 177.100 (series Cc1). Thus, average prices as measured by this index rose more than 19-fold ($177.100/9.235 = 19.18$). The \$850 asking price is equivalent to \$16,300 in 2001 ($19.18 * 850 = 16,303$). Before accepting this result, there are several points to consider.

First, the CPI is only one of many price indexes we might have chosen. Because any price index is only an average of prices for a finite list of goods, indexes will differ from each other, often widely. The CPI uses a list of goods and services purchased in

1993–1995 by urban consumers. Thus, the comparison just calculated represents the value of the Model-T in terms of the consumption goods included in the index. Another alternative would be to use a producer price index that represents the price of inputs that an automobile manufacturer might purchase. A third alternative would be to use a broad index such as the gross domestic product (GDP) deflator (see Table Ca149–158).

Second, when making such calculations over a relatively long time span, the representative bundle of goods will change, both in its make-up and in the inherent quality of the goods and services that are included. In practice, the goods included on the list are changed periodically, and the resulting averages are “spliced” together to form a long continuous series. The automobile purchaser of 1908 could not have purchased many of the goods and services on the 1993–1995 CPI list (frozen orange juice, television sets, modern medicines). You might ask, would you rather have \$16,300 that you could spend on items obtainable in 2001 or \$850 to spend on items obtainable in 1908? Which is a “better” car, the 1908 Model-T or a \$16,300 Ford manufactured in 2001? Interpreting these converted prices is tricky business, and the further one goes into the past, the trickier the task becomes.

An alternative to using a price index to compare values over time is to compare the historical price with the typical wage of a worker

TABLE Ap-B International System of weights and measures

Type of measure	Standard unit
Length	meter
Geographic area	are (100 square meters)
Weight	gram
Volume	liter (1,000 cubic centimeters)

Metric prefix	Power of 10	Equivalent in American usage
tera- (T-)	10 ¹²	trillion
giga- (G-)	10 ⁹	billion
mega- (M-)	10 ⁶	million
kilo- (k-)	10 ³	thousand
hecto- (h-)	10 ²	hundred
deka- (da-)	10	ten
deci- (d-)	10 ⁻¹	tenth
centi- (c-)	10 ⁻²	hundredth
milli- (m-)	10 ⁻³	thousandth
micro- (μ)	10 ⁻⁶	millionth
nano- (n-)	10 ⁻⁹	billionth

Note that “deka” is the U.S. spelling; the SI-approved spelling is “deca.”

Source

U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology, “Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices,” in *NIST Handbook 44 – 2000 Edition*, Appendix C.

Documentation

The Nineteenth General Conference on Weights and Measures in 1991 established a list of metric prefixes that reaches from yotta, at 10²⁴ (one septillion), to yocto, at 10⁻²⁴ (one septillionth). This table presents the most common

metric prefixes, their numerical equivalents expressed as a power of ten, and the standard American usage for naming large numbers. To form a convenient unit of measure, one combines the appropriate prefix with the root name of the fundamental unit (for example, a kilogram is 1,000 grams).

The metric system is also designed to facilitate conversions between units used for length and volume because 1 cubic centimeter equals 1 milliliter. Similarly, volume and mass are linked by means of the following relationship, which holds for water under typical conditions: 1 milliliter equals 1 gram.

TABLE Ap-C Conversion between U.S. and metric units

Length	
inch	= 2.54 centimeters
foot	= 30.48 centimeters
yard	= 0.9144 meters
mile (statute)	= 1.609344 kilometers
mile (nautical)	= 1.852 kilometers
Geographic area	
square foot	= 0.09290304 square meters
square yard	= 0.83612736 square meters
square mile	= 2.58998811 square kilometers
square mile	= 258.998811 hectares
acre	= 0.404685642 hectares
Weight	
pound (avoirdupois)	= 0.45359237 kilograms
short ton	= 0.90718474 tonnes (metric tons)
Volume	
bushel	= 35.2390702 liters
cubic foot	= 0.028316847 cubic meters
gallon	= 3.78541178 liters
42-gallon barrel	= 158.987295 liters
Temperature	
To convert from degrees Fahrenheit to degrees Celsius, subtract 32 and then divide by 1.8.	

Source

U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology, “Specifications, Tolerances, and Other Technical Requirements for Weighing and Measuring Devices,” in *NIST Handbook 44 – 2000 Edition*, Appendix C.

Documentation

The equivalencies for length and weight are exact, as are those for a square foot and square yard; all others are precise to nine digits.

Note that in the United States, petroleum is sold by barrel; in international trade, it is sold by weight. The standard weight of a 42-gallon barrel of Arabian light crude oil is 136 kilograms. Petroleum products vary in density, so this weight should be considered an approximation.

at the same time or with per capita income. At the \$5 for an 8-hour day that Ford offered workers in 1914, they would have had to work for 170 days before earning \$850. Before this raise, the majority of workers had been earning \$2.34 per 9-hour day (Raff 1988). At that rate, over 360 days of work would be required to equal the Model-T. In 2001, a worker earning the federal minimum wage (\$5.15 per hour) would make only \$7,000 (before tax) in 170 days and \$15,000 in 360 days, still not enough to cover the price of a \$16,300 automobile.

Begun in 1817, the Erie Canal was completed in 1825 at an approximate cost of \$7 million. This waterway is regarded as one of the most important transportation investments of the nineteenth century (see Chapter Df). How does its cost compare with transportation projects of recent times? Using the CPI, it would be about \$100 million, sufficient for only a few miles of interstate highway.

This calculation, however, trivializes the vast size of the undertaking represented by the Erie Canal project. An alternative to using a price index is to estimate the fraction of GDP accounted for by the project. Our estimate of GDP for 1825 is about \$1 billion (series Ca10); thus, the canal cost 0.7 percent of an entire year's output. In 2001, GDP was more than \$10 trillion, and 0.7 percent of that amount is \$70 billion. As a comparison, the fiscal year 2001 budget of the U.S. Department of Transportation was approximately \$60 billion.

References

- Raff, Daniel M. G. 1988. "Wage Determination Theory and the Five-Dollar Day at Ford." *Journal of Economic History* 48 (June): 387-99.
- Williamson, Samuel H. 2002. "What Is the Relative Value?" *Economic History Services*, at the EH.net Internet site.

TABLE Ap-D Conversion of crop units to pounds

Commodity	Unit	Approximate net weight in pounds	Commodity	Unit	Approximate net weight in pounds
Alfalfa seed	Bushel	60	Cottonseed oil	Gallon	7.7 ¹¹
Apples	Bushel	48	Cowpeas	Bushel	60
Apples	Northwest boxes	44 ¹	Cranberries	Barrel	100 ¹⁴
Apricots	Brentwood lug	24 ²	Cream - 40 percent butterfat	Gallon	8.38
Artichokes	Carton	20-25	Cucumbers	Bushel	48
Asparagus	Crate	30	Eggplant	Bushel	33
Avocados	Lug	12-15 ³	Eggs - average size	Case, 30 dozen	47
Bananas	Folding box	40 ⁴	Figs - fresh	Box	6 ¹⁵
Barley	Bushel	48	Flaxseed	Bushel	56
Beans - lima, unshelled	Bushel	28-32	Flour - various	Bag	100
Beans - lima, dry	Bushel	56	Garlic	Carton	10
Beans - other, dry	Bushel	60	Grapefruit - California and Arizona	Box	67 ^{16, 17, 18}
Beans - other, dry	Sack	100	Grapefruit - California desert valleys and Arizona	Carton	32 ¹⁹
Beans - snap	Bushel	28-32	Grapefruit - California, other than desert valleys	Carton	33.5 ¹⁹
Beets - bunched	1/2 crate; 2 dozen bunches	36-40	Grapefruit - Florida	13/5 bushel boxes	85
Beets - topped	Sack	25	Grapefruit - Florida and Texas	1/2 box mesh bag	40
Broccoli	Wirebound crate	20-25	Grapefruit - Texas	12/5 bushel boxes	80
Broomcorn	Bale	333.3	Grapes - Eastern	12-quart basket	18-20
Brussels sprouts	Carton	25	Grapes - Western	Lug	28 ²⁰
Buckwheat	Bushel	48	Grapes - Western	4-basket crate	20 ²¹
Butter	Box	64	Hempseed	Bushel	44
Cabbage	Bag	50	Hickory nuts	Bushel	50
Cabbage	Flat crate (1.75 bushel)	50-60	Honey	Gallon	11.84
Cabbage	Carton	53	Honeydew melons	2/3 carton	28-32
Cabbage	Wirebound crates	50 ⁵	Honeydew melons	Jumbo crates	44 ²²
Cabbage	Western crates	80 ⁶	Hops	Bale, gross	200
Cantaloupe	Jumbo crates	83 ⁷	Horseradish roots	Bushel	35
Cantaloupe	Crate	40	Horseradish roots	Sack	50
Carrots - bunched	Carton	55	Kale	Carton or crate	25
Carrots - topped	Burlap sack	74-80	Lard	Tierce	375
Carrots - without tops	Bushels	50	Lemons	Box	76 ^{18, 23}
Cauliflower	W.G.A. crate	50-60	Lemons	Carton	38 ¹⁹
Cauliflower	Fiberboard box	23-35	Lentils	Bushel	60
Celery	Crate	60 ⁸	Lettuce	Fiberboard box; carton	38-55
Cherries	Campbell lug	16 ⁹	Lettuce - hot-house	24-quart basket	10
Cherries	Lug	20	Lettuce - iceberg	Carton	43-52
Clover seed	Bushel	60	Limes	Box	88
Coffee	Bag	132.3	Limes - Florida	Box	80
Corn - ear, husked	Bushel	70 ¹⁰	Linseed oil	Gallon	7.7 ¹¹
Corn - meal	Bushel	50	Malt	Bushel	34
Corn - oil	Gallon	7.7 ¹¹	Maple syrup	Gallon	11.02
Corn - shelled	Bushel	56	Milk	Gallon	8.6
Corn - sweet corn	Wirebound crate	50	Millet	Bushel	48-60
Corn - syrup	Gallon	11.72			
Cotton	Bale, gross	500 ¹²			
Cotton	Bale, net	480 ¹²			
Cottonseed	Bushel	32 ¹³			

Notes appear at end of table

TABLE Ap-D Conversion of crop units to pounds *Continued*

Commodity	Unit	Approximate net weight in pounds	Commodity	Unit	Approximate net weight in pounds
Molasses	Gallon	11.74	Rice – rough	Barrel	162
Mustard seed	Bushel	58–60	Rutabagas	Bushel	56
Oats	Bushel	32	Rye	Bushel	56
Olive oil	Gallon	7.6 ¹¹	Sesame seed	Bushel	46
Olives	Lug	25–30	Shallots	Crate	20–35
Onions	Sack	50	Sorghum grain	Bushel	56 ²⁰
Onions – green bunched	Carton, 24 dozen bunches	10–16	Sorgo seed	Bushel	50
Oranges – California and Arizona	Carton	37.5 ¹⁹	Sorgo syrup	Gallon	11.55
Oranges – California and Arizona	Box	75 ^{16, 18}	Soybean oil	Gallon	7.7 ¹¹
Oranges – Florida	Box	90	Soybeans	Bushel	60
Oranges – Florida and Texas	Box	90 ²⁴	Spinach	Bushel	18–20
Oranges – Texas	Box	85	Strawberries	24-quart crate	36
Parsnips	Bushel	50	Sugarcane syrup	Gallon	11.45
Peaches	Bushel	48	Sunflower seed	Bushel	24
Peaches	Lug box	20 ²⁰	Sunflower seed	Bushel	32
Peaches – California	Fruit box	18 ²⁵	Sweet potatoes	Bushel	55 ²⁹
Peanut oil	Gallon	7.7 ¹¹	Sweet potatoes	Crate	50
Peanuts – unshelled, Runners	Bushel	21	Tangerines – Arizona and California	Box	75
Peanuts – unshelled, Spanish	Bushel	25	Tangerines – Florida	Box	95
Peanuts – unshelled, Virginia type	Bushel	17	Tobacco – Burley	Hogshead	975
Pears – California	Bushel	48	Tobacco – Cigar-leaf	Case	250–365
Pears – Other	Bushel	50	Tobacco – Cigar-leaf	Bale	150–175
Pears – Western	Box	46 ²⁶	Tobacco – Dark air-cured	Hogshead	1150
Peas – dry	Bushel	60	Tobacco – Flue-cured	Hogshead	950
Peas – green, unshelled	Bushel	28–30	Tobacco – Kentucky and Tennessee fire-cured	Hogshead	1500
Peppers – green	Fiberboard carton	30–34	Tobacco – Maryland	Hogshead	775
Peppers – green	Bushel	25–30	Tobacco – Virginia fire-cured	Hogshead	1350
Peppers – green	1 1/2 bushel carton	28	Tomatoes	Crate	60
Pineapples	Carton	40	Tomatoes	2-layer flat	21
Plums and fresh prunes	Carton and lug	28	Tomatoes	Lug box	32 ²⁰
Plums and fresh prunes	1/2-bushel basket	28–30	Tomatoes – hot-house	12-quart basket	20
Plums and fresh prunes – California	4-basket crate	28–34 ²⁷	Turnips – bunched	Crate	70–80 ⁶
Potatoes	Bushel	60	Turnips – topped	Sack	50
Potatoes	Barrel	165	Turpentine	Gallon	7.23
Potatoes	Box	50	Walnuts	Sack	50
Potatoes	Bag	100	Watermelons	Average or medium size	25
Rice – milled	Pocket or bag	100	Wheat	Bushel	60
Rice – rough	Bushel	45			
Rice – rough	Bag	100			

¹ Approximate inside dimensions are 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 18 inches.

² Approximate inside dimensions are 4 $\frac{5}{8}$ by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

³ Approximate dimensions are 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

⁴ Approximate inside dimensions are 13 by 12 by 32 inches.

⁵ Inside dimensions vary. Common sizes are 13 by 13 by 22 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches, and 13 by 15 $\frac{1}{8}$ by 23 inches.

⁶ Approximate inside dimensions are 13 by 18 by 21 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

⁷ Approximate inside dimensions are 13 by 13 by 22 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

⁸ Approximate inside dimensions are 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 16 by 20 inches.

⁹ Approximate inside dimensions are 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 14 inches.

¹⁰ The standard weight of 70 pounds is usually recognized as being about 2 measured bushels of corn, husked, on the ear, because it required 70 pounds to yield 1 bushel, or 56 pounds, of shelled corn.

¹¹ This is the weight commonly used in trade practices, the actual weight varying according to temperature conditions.

¹² For statistical purposes the bale of cotton is 500 pounds gross weight or 480 pounds net weight. Prior to August 1, 1946, the net weight was estimated at 478 pounds. Actual bale weights vary considerably, and the customary average weights of bales of foreign cotton differ from that of the American square bale.

¹³ This is the average weight of cottonseed, although the legal weight in some states varies from this figure of 32 pounds.

¹⁴ The cranberry barrel contains 5,826 cubic inches.

¹⁵ Approximate inside dimensions are 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 11 by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

¹⁶ Approximate inside dimensions are 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 24 inches.

¹⁷ Beginning with the 1993–1994 season, net weights for California desert valley and Arizona grapefruit were increased from 64 to 67 pounds, equal to the California other area net weight, making a 67 pound net weight apply to all of California.

¹⁸ In California and Arizona for 1942–1953, the net weights as used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture were 77 pounds for oranges, 79 pounds for lemons, and 65 pounds for desert valley grapefruit. Grapefruit in California areas other than the desert valleys averaged 68 pounds. The weights effective 1954 reflected the shift from the “box” to the half-box carton as the container used.

¹⁹ Approximate inside dimensions are 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ by 10 $\frac{11}{16}$ by 16 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches for oranges or lemons, and 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 10 $\frac{11}{16}$ by 16 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches for grapefruit.

²⁰ Approximate inside dimensions are 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

²¹ Approximate inside dimensions are 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 16 by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

²² Approximate inside dimensions are 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 16 by 21 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

²³ Approximate inside dimensions are 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ by 13 by 25 inches.

²⁴ Approximate inside dimensions are 12 by 12 by 24 inches.

²⁵ Approximate inside dimensions vary. A common size is 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

²⁶ Approximate inside dimensions are 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 18 inches.

²⁷ Inside dimensions vary and range from 4 by 16 by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches to 6 by 16 by 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches.

²⁸ Includes both sorghum grain (kafir, milo, hegari, and so forth) and sweet sorghum varieties.

²⁹ This average of 55 pounds indicates the usual weight of sweet potatoes when harvested. Much weight is lost in curing or drying, and the net weight when sold in terminal markets may be less than 55 pounds.

Sources

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Statistical Reporting Service, *Agricultural Statistics* (1967), pp. v–viii; and National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Statistics, 2000*, pp. iv–ix.