

organization with whom the producer contracts. This is true whether the owner be a resident or an absentee. Less frequently sales are made of the fruit on the tree. In a few instances the producer picks, packs and markets his own fruit.

Almost one-half of the absentee owners reported that they themselves determine the harvesting and marketing agency through which their fruit is sold and almost another one-half reported that the caretaker determines the agency. Only 5 percent of the total number reported that they and the caretaker together determine the agency through which the fruit is sold.

Based upon the replies of 417 absentee owners, the selling agency settles directly with the owner in about 70 percent of the instances; and through the caretakers in the other 30 percent.

### SIZE OF PROPERTIES AND AGE OF TREES

Properties ranged in size from less than one acre to over 200 acres, the more usual sizes were around 5 acres, 10 acres, and 20 acres, with those around 10 acres predominant. Frequently all of the land was in grove, which was especially true for those properties of around 10 acres or less. Occasionally less than one-half of the land was in grove, but this usually occurred on the properties of larger acreages.

The number of absentee owners whose acreage of property fell within the specified acreage groups in 1929 is shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1.—SIZE OF PROPERTIES OF 466 ABSENTEE OWNERS, 1929<sup>1</sup>.

Size groups	Number of groves
Less than 3 acres.....	29
3 to 7 acres.....	90
8 to 12 acres.....	225
13 to 17 acres.....	22
18 to 22 acres.....	53
23 to 27 acres.....	8
28 to 32 acres.....	12
33 to 37 acres.....	4
38 to 42 acres.....	8
43 to 47 acres.....	3
48 to 52 acres.....	3
Over 52 <sup>2</sup> acres.....	9

<sup>1</sup>The acreage of 11 properties was not reported.

<sup>2</sup>Includes 4 properties of over 100 acres, 2 of which were over 200 acres.

The age of trees ranged from those just planted in 1929 to over 30 years, and are fairly evenly distributed among the different