

In addition, there are many families living in the villages who do not operate farm land but depend heavily on agriculture for employment and sustenance. Using 1960 Census data for the 32 *municipios* that comprise the Project area, and the above estimate of the total population of the families of farm operators, there were estimated to be 13,300 landless rural families in the area in 1967.

Size of Holdings

The average farm size, as mentioned earlier, was estimated to be 2.7 ha. The amount of land per farm operator varied considerably as shown below.

Amount of Land Operated	Percentage of Farmers
.50 ha or less	9.2
.51 - 1.00	17.5
1.01 - 1.50	18.7
1.51 - 2.00	10.7
2.01 - 2.50	12.3
2.51 - 3.00	8.4
3.01 - 3.50	4.4
3.51 - 4.00	6.4
4.01 - 5.00	4.4
5.01 - 7.50	4.0
7.51 - 10.00	2.8
10.00 or more	1.2

Type of Land Tenure

The prevalence of different land-holding systems in the area is indicated by the following data from the 1967 survey:

Land Holders	Percent of Farm Operators	Hectares Operated Per Farmer	Percent of Total Area
Ejidatarios	38.2	2.05	31.9
Private holders	27.5	2.74	30.3
Ejido-private	33.5	2.76	37.2
Rented	0.4	3.00	0.5
On shares	0.4	0.20	0.1
	100.0	2.47	100.0

Of special interest is the frequency of combined private and ejidal holdings. *Ejidatarios* are farmers who received land from the government as a result of the agrarian reform. They have the use of the land while they live, but they cannot sell it. Also, private holders value their land very highly and sell only under exceptional circumstances. Consequently, the land market in the area is essentially frozen.

Farmers commonly have several parcels at various locations on different kinds of soils and at varying distances from the farmstead, as shown below.

No. of Parcels per farmer	Percentage of Farmers
1	16.7
2 or 3	52.5
4 or 5	21.2
6 or 7	5.6
8 or 9	4.0
10 or more	0.0



The average farm size in the project area is about 2.7 ha. Approximately 90% of the farms have 5 ha. or less.