South Central States were produced there. South Dakota accounted for about 36 percent of the production in the West North Central States. Wyoming and Colorado accounted for over two-fifths of the production in the Mountain States. The Mountain States, with Texas, California, and South Dakota, accounted for 74 percent of the total sheep and lamb production in the country (table 24).

The production of both sheep and wool is concentrated on a relatively small number of farms. Wool production relates only so that shorn on farms and does not include wool obtained in slaughtering plants or elsewhere. The production of wool in 1974 is given in tables 25 and 95.

**Poultry Production**

Through technological advancements in genetics and feed in recent years significant changes have been seen in the production and organization of the poultry industry in the United States. From the mid-sixties to the midsixties, the cost of producing poultry trended downward due to superior feeding, genetic improvements, disease control, management, mechanization, and larger unit sizes. Production costs leveled off in the sixties, as gains in production efficiency offset increases in input cost. However, in recent years, input cost has been rising far faster than production efficiency increases.