

# **Farming**

**In 1935, when there were about 127 million Americans, there were six million farms.**

**By 2017 the population had gone up to 325 million, and the number of farms had gone down to two million.**

**Four million had shut down in the space of a single lifetime; many millions of farmers lost their farms. In 1940 the population of Greene County, Iowa, in the center of the Corn Belt, was 16,599. It had fallen to about half that by 2020.**

**Ian Frazier,  
New York Review of Books, February 9, 2023**