

# Mule South to tractor South - mules, machines, and the transformation of the cotton South

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Description: -

Agricultural innovations -- Southern States -- History  
 Farm tractors -- Southern States -- History  
 Mules -- Southern States -- History  
 Mule South to tractor South - mules, machines, and the transformation of the cotton South  
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## **B. Ellenberg. Mule South to Tractor South: Mules, Machines, by Debra Reid**

Kentucky and Tennessee became centers of mule breeding, shipping ever increasing numbers through the Cumberland Gap after the Civil War. Only about 5,000 tractors were used on Alabama farms in 1930, but that number increased to nearly 46,000 by 1950.

## **B. Ellenberg. Mule South to Tractor South: Mules, Machines, by Debra Reid**

The dynamics of southern class relationships aside, the views represented in the agricultural journals accurately reflect planter thought. During the years that mules predominated, almost anyone who lived or worked in Alabama had some sort of direct or indirect contact with mules. Mules could be, and were, used with the most backward farming tools and techniques, as well as with the more advanced, as the state of southern agriculture in the twentieth century showed.

## **B. Ellenberg. Mule South to Tractor South: Mules, Machines, by Debra Reid**

After describing the surprising slowness of southern farmers to realize the superiority of the mule over the horse for agricultural labor, Ellenberg strives to capture the symbiosis that emerged between animal and man to illuminate why and how the mule became a standard feature in Southern folk culture.

## **Mule South to Tractor South: Mules, Machines, and the Transformation of the Cotton South eBook : Ellenberg, George B.: metrics.learnindialearn.in.au: Kindle Store**

Most Alabama farmers did not raise mules; instead, they purchased them from outside suppliers because it was cheaper and less trouble for the most part to buy a finished working mule.

**...a past in which mules were central...**

The author describes the adoption of the mule as the major agricultural resource in the American South and its later displacement by the

mechanical tractor. Young Man and Mule, ca. The mule's type or category depended upon the type of work they generally performed.

## Mules

It is true that millions are sent out of the cotton belt each year for mules and horses, but this is not the main reason why your attention is called to this subject at this time.

### **...a past in which mules were central...**

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