

4.7 Robinson, Non-Robinson, Persistent, Successful Settlers
1830 - 1841 - 1851

This section of the analysis will examine a number of sample groups taken from the Emily Township agricultural population in 1830, 1841, and 1851. These sample groups include non-Robinson settlers, Robinson settlers, persistent settlers, successful settlers, persistent and successful settlers, and for the year 1851, farmers who grew 300 or more bushels of wheat and settlers who grew less than 100 bushels of wheat. Table 4.10 defines these sample groups.

Table 4.10 Sample Group - Definitions

Population - Emily Township agricultural population (settlers)

Robinson - Robinson settler / descendant

Non-Robinson - Settler other than Robinson

Persistent - 1830 - settled 1820-1825
- 1841 - settled 1820-1828
- 1851 - settled 1820-1828

Successful - 1830 - 15% land cleared - 2 times population mean
- 1841 - 30% land cleared - 2 times population mean
- 1851 - 60% land cleared

Wheat Production 300 or more bushels - successful, relatively wealthy farmer

Wheat production less than 100 bushels - subsistence level farmer

Persistent and Successful - 1830 - settled 1820-25
- cleared 15% of land
- 1841 - settled 1820-28
- cleared 30% of land
- 1851 - settled 1820-28
- cleared 60% of land

The variables examined for each sample group include mean cleared land (%), mean family size, mean livestock numbers, mean farm size, mean years settled, and mean clearing rate. These variables are presented graphically in the form of histograms and illustrate quite nicely the relationships between the sample groups in a particular census year, and changes in variable relationships over time.

Figure 4.38, mean cleared land (%) illustrates the wide gap between the cleared land of the Robinson settlers and non-Robinson settlers in 1830 and 1841. This disparity in cleared land between the two settler groups shifted over time as the gap narrowed in 1841 and was virtually eliminated by 1851. Persistent, successful, and persistent and successful settlers were consistently at the top each year in terms of land cleared. A huge difference between the land cleared by the two wheat-producer groups is evident.

Figure 4.39, mean years settled, shows little difference between Robinson and non-Robinson populations, but it is clear that persistent, successful, and persistent and successful farmers were the longest-settled groups.

Figure 4.40, mean clearing rate, displays the relatively low land-clearing rates (under 1 acre per year) of Robinson settlers in 1830 and 1841, as well as their similarity with non-Robinson settlers' rates by 1851. The successful farmers' clearing rate was consistently the highest, while the persistent farmers' comparatively low rate is apparent, illuminating one area in which persistent and successful settlers appear

Figure 4.38 : Mean Cleared Land (% of Farm)

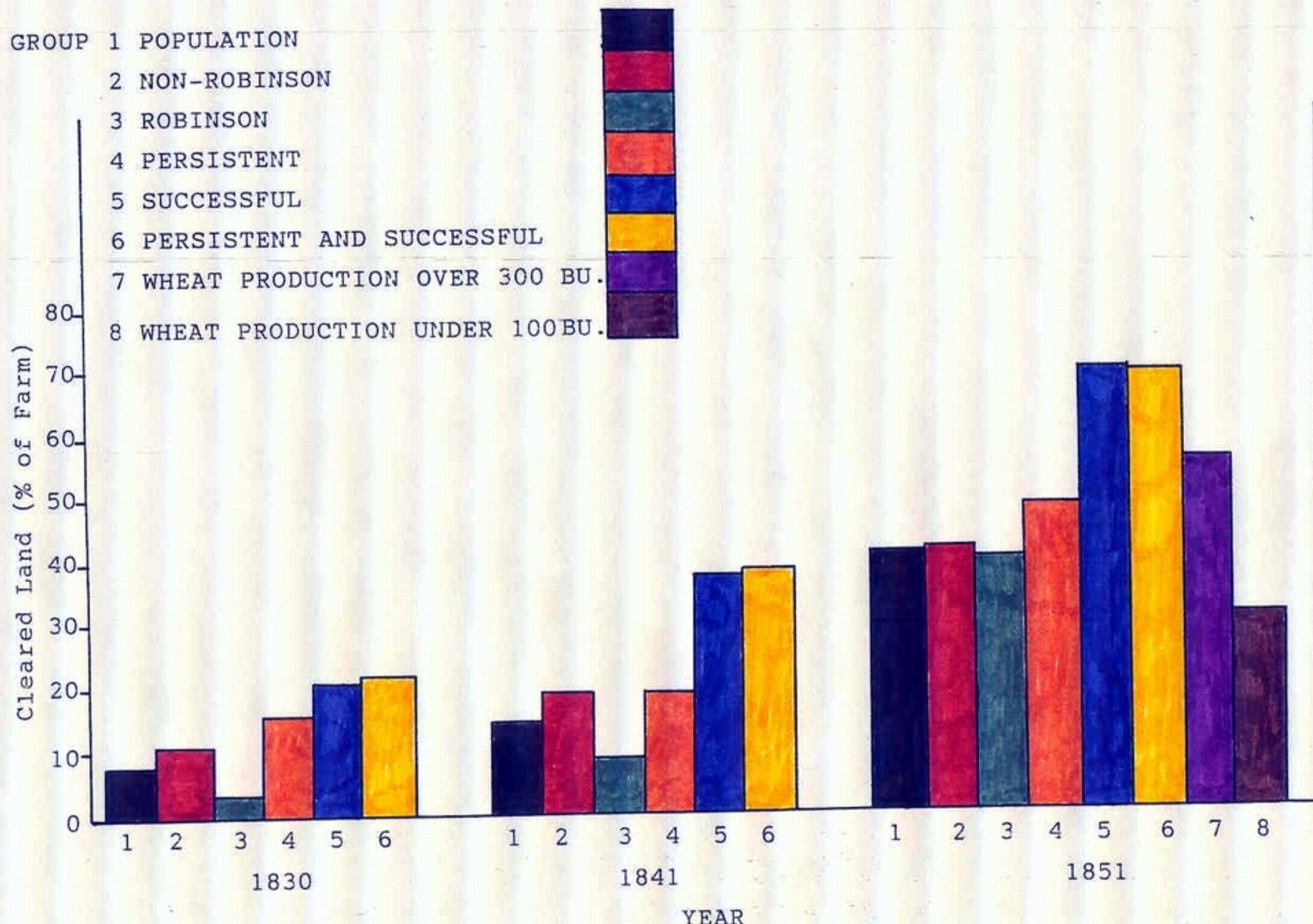


Figure 4.39 : Mean Number of Years Settled

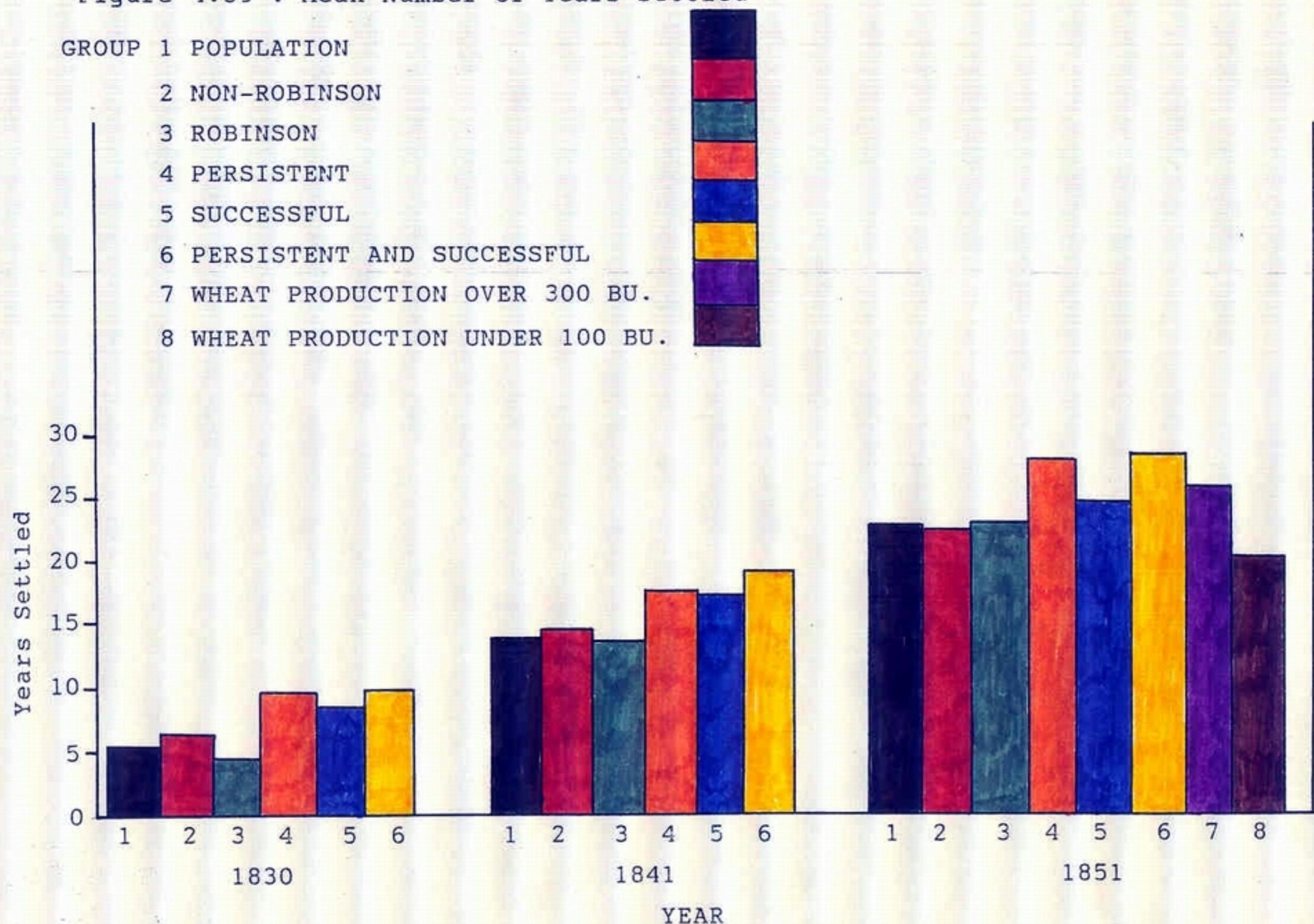
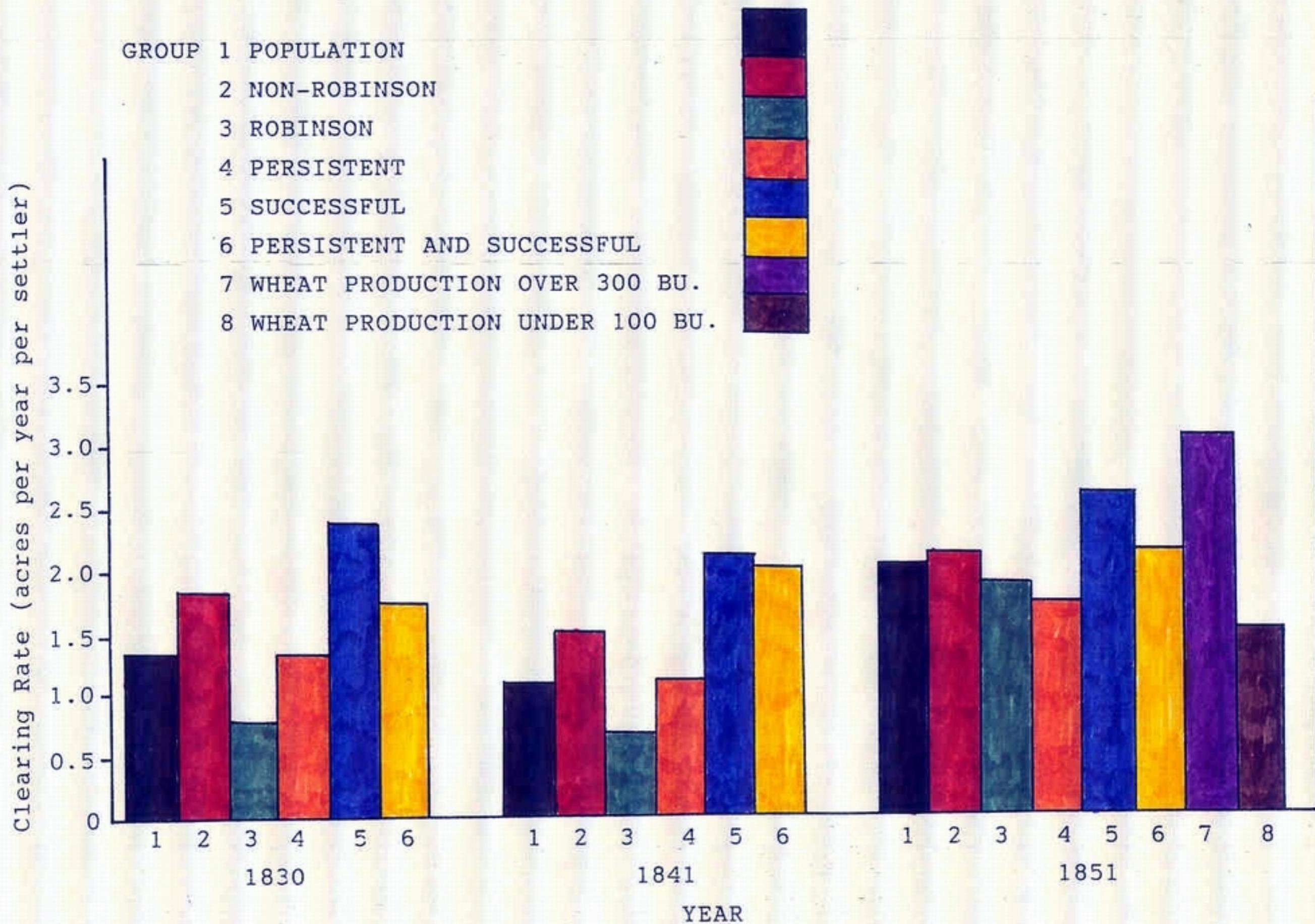


Figure 4.40 : Mean Clearing Rate (acres per year per settler)



to differ. The clearing rate of the 300 bushel-plus wheat farmer was more than twice that of his under 100 bushel-producing neighbors.

Mean farm size (Figure 4.41) illustrates a strong relationship between successful farmers and smaller average farm size. There is no indication of a close relationship between persistent and successful settlers in terms of farm size. With an average farm size of almost 125 acres, the top wheat-producer clearly dominated the less-than-100-bushel farmer.

Livestock numbers (Figure 4.42) show the comparatively low figures for the Robinson population in 1830 and 1841, as well as their similarity with non-Robinson livestock totals in 1851. In rank order, the groups with the most livestock held were persistent and successful settlers, successful farmers, and then persistent settlers, until 1851, when the persistent group had surpassed the successful group. With an average of forty-three animals, the 300 bushel-plus wheat farmer of 1851 had almost three times the number of animals the minor wheat-producer held.

There appears to be significant differences in family size between Robinson and non-Robinson settler groups in all three census years (Figure 4.43). Persistent and successful settlers had the largest families in 1830 and 1841. The relatively high figure of 7.3 family members for the top wheat-producers of 1851 may indicate the presence of a laborer or servant that has been enumerated with the family.

The linear correlation coefficients of the sample groups

Figure 4.41 : Mean Farm Size (acres)

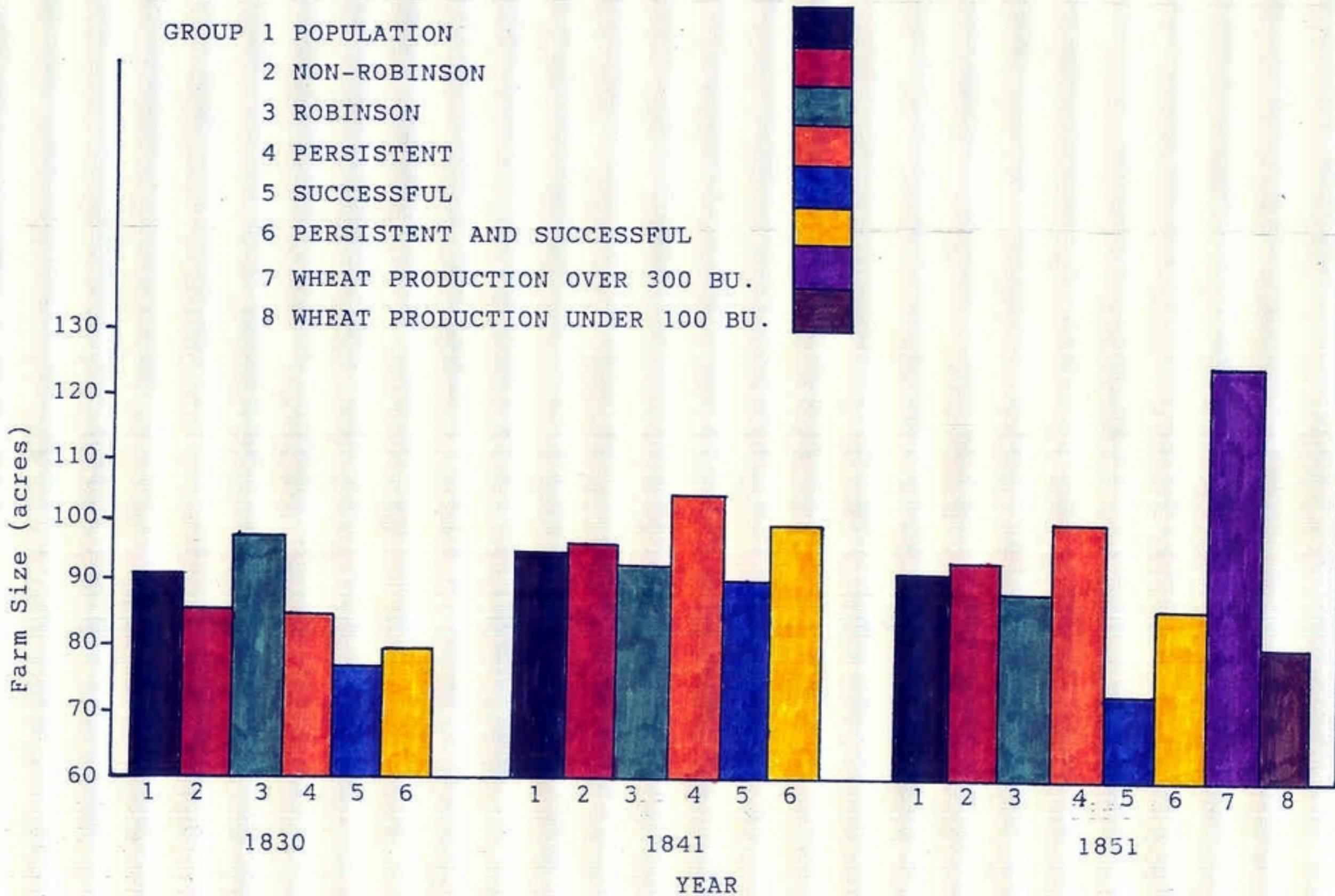


Figure 4.42 : Mean Total Livestock

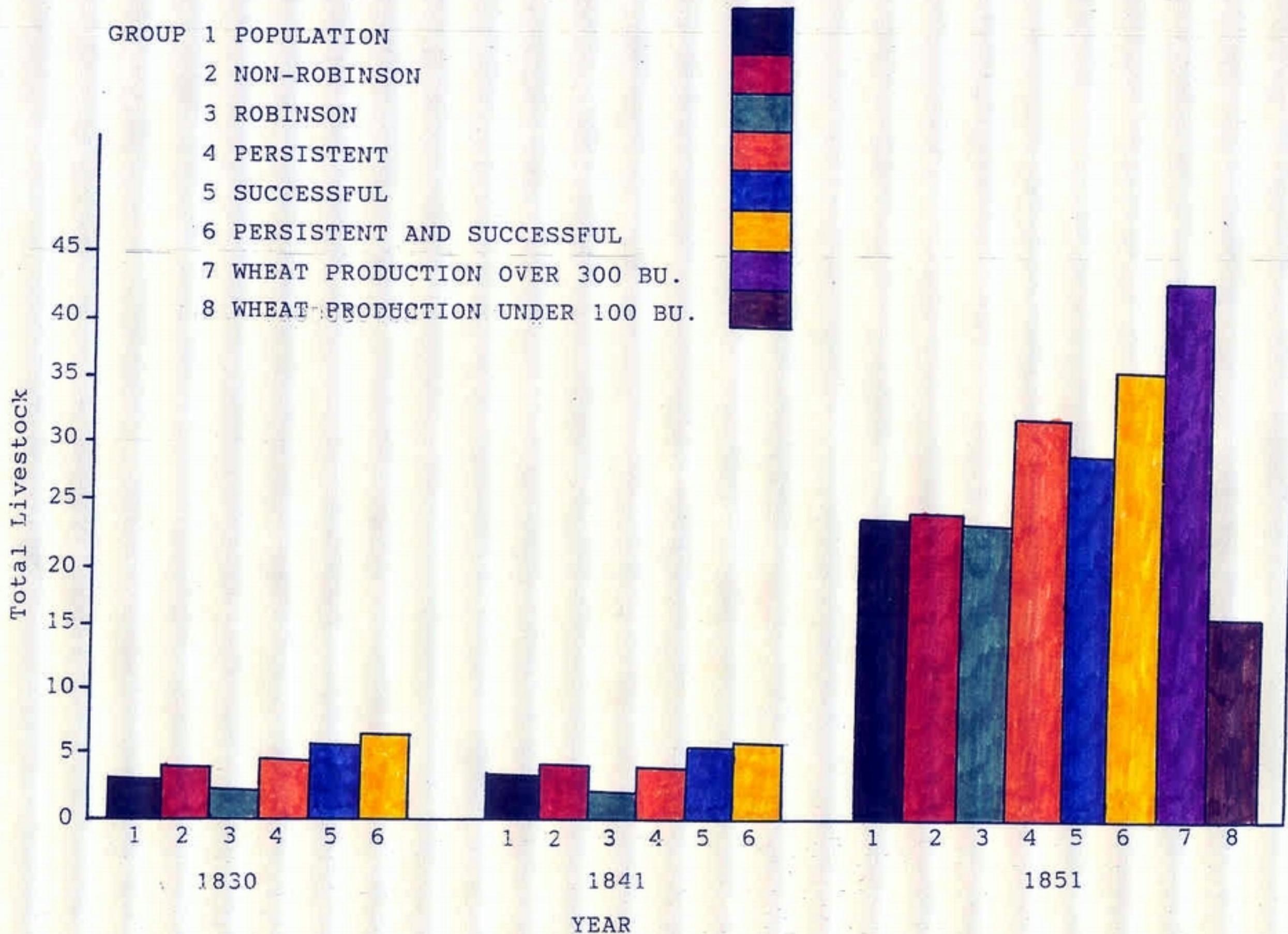


Figure 4.43 : Mean Family Size

