Finding Aid to the
Extension Horticulture/Forestry Specialist Records

Extension Horticulture/Forestry Specialist
Extension Horticulture Forestry Specialist Records, 1925-1994
2 linear ft.

OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the University Archives.

Provenance: Records transferred to the University Archives in 1996 (Acc. 189).

Property rights: The University Archives owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: Copyrights to this collection remain with the University Archives.

Citation: [Identification of item]. Extension Horticulture/Forestry Specialist Records, University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

On September 1, 1925, Farm Forestry became a part of the North Dakota Agricultural College Extension Service. This resulted first from the recognition that planting trees would protect farms and fields from the elements. Foresters such as Charles Gillett, North Dakota’s first extension forester, believed that such protection would keep many North Dakotans from moving away due to the harsh climate. Farm Forestry also resulted from the passage in 1924 of the Clarke-McNary Act, which provided funds for teaching, demonstrating, and publicizing tree planting. Farm Forestry’s mission was to inform North Dakota farmers about the value of trees and shelterbelts and to demonstrate planting techniques.
The Extension Forester was made the leader of Farm Forestry, and his headquarters were at the State School of Forestry in Bottineau, North Dakota. Chosen because of its close proximity to the Turtle Mountains, this site offered vast opportunities for studying native forests. However, the Extension Forester’s headquarters were moved to the North Dakota Agricultural College in 1939 so that he could work more closely with fellow extension employees and with agricultural specialists at the college. In 1948, the Extension Forester gained new duties as the Secretary of the North Dakota Farm Safety Committee. It was only during Vernon Quam’s tenure that horticulture duties were added to this position.

Following is the list of Extension Foresters from Farm Forestry’s beginning to the present:

- Charles Gillett  Sept. 1, 1925- Aug. 15, 1928
- L. S. Matthew  Dec. 1, 1928- Sept. 30, 1931
- John Taylor  Oct. 16, 1931- Sept. 30, 1933
- O. W. Hanson  Oct. 16, 1933- April 11, 1934
- D.D. Baldwin  April 4, 1934- Nov. 30, 1935
- Victor Freeman  July 7, 1936- Aug. 18, 1936
- Walter Paul  Oct. 22, 1936- May 12, 1937
- Robert Heintz  July 1, 1967- June 30, 1987
- Vernon Quam  March 10, 1989- Sept. 30, 1995

SCOPE AND CONTENTS

The North Dakota Extension Horticulture/Forestry Specialist records consist of the following series: Programs and Projects, Great Plains Agricultural Council, North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts, North Dakota Centennial Commission, North Dakota State Farm Forestry Committee, Publications, and Subject Files. All of these series are arranged alphabetically therein.

The annual reports of the Forestry Specialist for the years 1925 through 1963 are located in the annual reports series of the NDSU Extension Service (Cooperative Extension Service. Annual Reports, 1916-1980, Boxes 86& 87).

The Programs and Projects Series spans primarily the years 1989-1994. The programs and projects are devoted to promoting and planting trees in North Dakota, the most important of which is the North Dakota Centennial Decade Windbreak Program. It contains thorough records of people who participated in the program’s tree and windbreak planting, as well as annual progress reports. The series also includes participation records from the Windbreak Planting Program that ran 1935-1942. Comparing the two Windbreak Programs could be an especially worthwhile research topic. Another project of importance in this series is the Timber Culture Act Tree Claims in North Dakota Project. Vernon Quam coordinated this project in 1989 to locate and recognize the present-day tree claim owners. About two hundred location entries were submitted, which include the names of the original claimants, copies of their deeds of ownership, and names of current owners.
The **Great Plains Agricultural Council Series** contains goals, background, correspondence, and meeting minutes from its Great Plains Riparian Forest Management Task Force. This task force was created to provide an organized effort among Great Plains states to manage the grasses, forbs, and woody vegetation threatened by human activities such as agriculture and industry. It sought to reduce logging, improve water quality, and restore wildlife habitat. The contents cover the dates 1990-1993.

The **North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts Series** covers the years 1989-1993. It contains the majority of Pierce County Soil Conservation District meeting minutes from those years. Tree planting goals from all counties in 1991 are also included.

The **North Dakota Centennial Commission Series** covers the years 1989-1991. It emphasizes the goals and accomplishments of the Centennial Decade Trees Committee and might be especially valuable if researched in conjunction with the Centennial Decade Windbreak Program.

The **North Dakota State Farm Forestry Committee Series** spans the years 1942-1994. It consisted of professionals associated with forestry in North Dakota. There is unclear documentation regarding who organized this committee and to who it reported. Its goals were to (1) obtain nursery stock from commercial, state, and federal agencies for planting a wide variety of tree species in North Dakota, (2) protect the tree stands by educating the public about fire, livestock, rodents, and insects, and (3) research methods of tree planting and maintenance. The meeting minutes are incomplete, and none are included between 1978 and 1989.

The **Publications Series** contains a variety of works on forestry and tree planting from 1927 to 1995. Highlights include a published article by Charles Gillette, North Dakota’s first forestry specialist, and the *Tree Planting Handbook for the Dakotas*.

The **Subject Files Series** spans the dates 1928-1985. It primarily contains forestry and tree planting reports and Extension Forestry’s office documents and correspondence. *Historical Appraisal of Extension Work in Forestry in North Dakota, 1925-39* is a valuable description of early shelterbelt and woodlot planting in the state. *Woodlot and Shelterbelt Views and Reviews* is a monthly report of news from the Forestry Specialist. This series is especially valuable as a tool for inquiry into the early history of forestry in North Dakota.
BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/0</td>
<td>Finding aid and historical material</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programs and Projects Series**

1/1 Centennial Tree Crimes Program, 1990
1/2 Centennial Trees Program action plan for Schools, 1992-1993
1/3 Centennial Trees Bowl Project, 1990-1992
1/4 Christmas Tree Recycling Program, 1994
1/5 4-H Roots in Space Program, 1994
1/6 Master Forestry Volunteer Program, 1993

**North Dakota Centennial Decade Windbreak Program**

1/7 General documents, 1989-1993
1/8 Original forms, 1989
1/9 Correspondence, 1989-June, 1990
1/10 Correspondence, July 1990-1992
1/11 Plans of work, 1989-1993
1/12 Work proposals, 1990-1991
1/13 Progress reports, 1989-1992
1/14 Cooperator sites, 1991-1993

**County participants, 1990-1992**

1/15 Adams-Bowman
1/16 Burke-Cavalier
1/17 Dickey-Dunn
1/18 Eddy-Grant
2/1 Hettinger-Logan
2/2 McHenry-McIntosh
2/3 McKenzie-Mercer
2/4 Morton-Oliver
2/5 Pembina-Renville
2/6 Rollette-Stark
2/7 Stutsman-Towner
2/8 Walsh-Williams
2/9 Workshops, 1992
2/10 Senator Burdick’s tree plantings, 1989-1990
2/11 Overhead Copies, 1989
2/12 Project Renovate, 1991-1994
2/13  Living Snow Fence Program, 1989-1990
2/15  4-H Foundation Tree Planting Project, 1991-1992

**Natural Resource Program**

2/16  Correspondence, 1991-1992

**County Reports, 1991-1993**

2/17  Bottineau, Burleigh
3/1   McKenzie
3/2   Historical Background, 1990

**Timber Culture Act Tree Claims in North Dakota Project 1989-1992**

3/3   Correspondence
3/4   Entries
3/5   Entries
3/6   Entries
3/7   General Documents

**Windbreak Planting Program participation, 1935-1942**

3/8   Barnes-Cass
3/9   Cavalier-Griggs
3/10  Kidder-Pierce
3/11  Ramsey-Sargent
3/12  Steele-Ward

**Youth Centennial Tree Project, 1989**

3/13  Site 1 Williston
3/14  Site 2 Dickinson
3/15  Site 3 Hettinger
3/16  Site 4 Mandan
3/17  Site 5 Bismarck
3/18  Site 6 Minot
3/19  Site 7 Devils Lake
3/20  Site 8 Jamestown
3/21  Site 9 Ashley
4/1   Site 10 Lisbon
4/2   Site 11 Fargo
4/3   Site 12 Grand Forks
Site 13 Park River

Great Plains Agricultural Council Series

Great Plains Riparian Forest Management Task Force, 1990-1993

North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts Series

Pierce County Soil Conservation District
- Meeting Minutes, 1989-1993
- Correspondence, 1889-1991
- Plans of Work, 1992-1993
Surveys of County Tree Planting Goals, 1991: Adams-Morton
Surveys of County Tree Planting Goals: Nelson-Ward
Annual Meeting programs, 1989-1991

North Dakota Centennial Commission Series

Centennial Decade Trees Committee, 1989-1991

North Dakota State Farm Forestry Committee Series

Program and Policy Manual, 1951
Meeting Minutes, 1943-1965
Meeting Minutes, 1966-1994

Publications Series

Forests and Forestry in North Dakota, by Charles A. Gillett, 1927
Farm Forestry Facts, 1939 and 1944
Handbook of the Division of Timber Management, by USDA, 1934
Report on a Proposed National Forest in Billings County, North Dakota, by Richard P. Imes, 1908
Tree Planting Handbook for the Dakotas
Windbreak Demonstrator, 1991-1995

Subject Files Series

Extension Forester Office
- General documents, 1928-1960
- Correspondence, 1936-1985

Historical Appraisal of Extension Work in Forestry in North Dakota, 1925-1939
5/15 History and Problems of Tree Planting in the Northern Plains, by M.B. Dickerman, 1960
5/16 Mandan U.S. Field Station’s history
5/17 Woodlot and Shelterbelt Views and Reviews, by C.F. Monroe, 1926
and Charles A. Gillett, 1928

SEPARATIONS RECORD

The following non-archival items have been removed from the NDSU Extension Service. Extension Horticulture/Forestry Specialist records and sent to the section indicated.

Audio Cassettes (University Archives Audio Collection)


Photographs (University Archives Photograph Collection)


312 slides of Extension Forestry Tree Planting, Shelterbelt, Windbreak, and Range and North Dakota Centennial Decade Windbreak Program.

Copyright 2009 by Institute for Regional Studies & University Archives
North Dakota State University Libraries