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Finding Aid to the Department of Botany Records

Department of Botany

Department of Botany records, 1920-1954

1 linear ft.

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OVERVIEW

Links: [College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources records, 1892-present](#)
Finding Aid to the [Biological Sciences Department, 16.4.1](#)

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

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Department of Botany Records, University Archives, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

HISTORY

In the “*First Annual Catalogue*,” May 1892, there is a listing for the Department of Botany and Zoology. Botany courses were mandatory for the freshmen, junior and senior years. (pp. 27-29). In the 1905-1906 Bulletin, botany became one of four course grouping offered: biology, botany, zoology, physiology, and bacteriology. As of the 1909-1910 Bulletin, although still listed under biology, botany was now called the Division of Botany. Fourteen courses were offered, from elements of botany to plant pathology (pp. 52-55). As of the 1916-1917 Bulletin, botany, still within the Department of Biology, was listed as the

Division of Botany and Plant Pathology. As of the 1926-1927 Bulletin, although still together, plant pathology changed to plant physiology and the listing read: Department of Botany and Plant Physiology. In the 1942-1943 Bulletin (Fifty years after the first Bulletin), we find botany listed as the Department of Botany, with four professors, and twenty courses listed, including: general botany; plant pathology; agrostology; ecology; identification; and history of botany (pp. 72-73). As of the 1954-1955 Bulletin, botany was once again with plant pathology, under the heading of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, in the School of Applied Arts and Sciences. As of the 1960-1962 Bulletin, botany was listed as a single entity as the Department of Botany, in the School of Arts and Sciences and plant pathology was listed as the Department of Plant Pathology, in the School of Agriculture. In the 1976-1978 Bulletin, botany, which was now in the College of Science and Mathematics, is listed as Botany – Biology. One hundred years after the *First Annual Catalogue*, botany and biology are still listed together, although as separate concentrations. “Botany offers instruction in the major areas of plant science. . . . An undergraduate major prepares the students for graduate work or professional employment. Botany joins with zoology in offering an undergraduate major in biological sciences. Graduate work in plant science is offered at both the M.S. and Ph.D. levels.” (1992/1994 NDSU Bulletin, p. 84)

The 2002-2004 NDSU Bulletin lists botany as an individual department within the College of Science and Mathematics. The Botany website (as of 10/02) describes the program as: “The undergraduate program in botany at North Dakota State University is designed for students seeking a better understanding of plants and eventual careers in the plant sciences. The Department of Biological Sciences offers instruction in a number of different areas for majors and for students interested in the applied field of plant sciences. The botany curriculum allows students to become knowledgeable in botany and to pursue individual interests through elective course work. The introductory courses also are of interest to nonmajors seeking a more limited background in science. A science as broad in scope as botany requires basic knowledge in other disciplines such as chemistry, zoology, physics and mathematics for a complete understanding of plants. These are provided in the curriculum.”

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The collection has two series: correspondence and departmental records. The vast majority of the correspondence series (1930-1954) consists of outgoing departmental correspondence dealing with professional matters, internal matters, and replies to various questions sent in by the general public. The departmental records series (1920-1946) consists reports, inventories, position listings and applications, material and publication requests, the plant science club and various projects.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

BOX 1

- 1A Finding Aid
- 1 Correspondence, 1930
- 2 Correspondence, 1937

- 3 Correspondence, 1938
- 4 Correspondence, 1939
- 5 Correspondence, 1940
- 6 Correspondence, 1941
- 7 Correspondence, 1941
- 8 Correspondence, 1942
- 9 Correspondence, 1942
- 10 Correspondence, 1943
- 11 Correspondence, 1943
- 12 Correspondence, 1946
- 13 Correspondence, 1946
- 14 Correspondence, 1947
- 15 Correspondence, 1947
- 16 Correspondence, 1949
- 17 Correspondence, 1951
- 18 Correspondence, 1952

BOX 2

- 1 Correspondence, 1952
- 2 Correspondence, 1952
- 3 Correspondence, 1952
- 4 Correspondence, 1954
- 5 Departmental requests for publications, 1940, 1942
- 6 North Dakota Farm Population Estimates, 1937
- 7 The Minnesota plan for Seed Distribution
- 8 Germination of wheat and appearance of sprouted grains in thrashed seed, O.A. Stevens
- 9 Water Requirements of Agricultural Crops, Some Weeds, and Other Crop Plants, E.A. Helgason
- 10 Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Assistance Request
- 11 Water Bloom as Cause of Livestock Poisoning in North Dakota, 1946
- 12 List of References to Boron Literature, American Potash Institute
- 13 Systematic and Range Botany
- 14 National Youth Administration Project Applications, 1936-1940
- 15 Collection of Plant Disease Specimens and Collection of Weed Seeds
- 16 Weed Collections
- 17 Herbarium Inventory
- 18 Employment, Applications and Correspondence, 1932-1941
- 19 Plant Science Club, 1932-1935
- 20 Junior Range Examiner, 1920, 1937
- 21 Investigative Committee, Grazing and Forest Service, 1924-1938
- 22 Palatability Lists, 1922-1927
- 23 Special Equipment Fund, 1933-1936
- 24 Teachers Aid Fund, 1935-1937
- 25 Teachers Aid, 1932-1937