



Research
Services

Agricultural Extension Service Annual Reports, 1909–1968, and Related Records

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Background

Annual Reports and other records in Record Group 33, Records of the Agricultural Extension Service, provide general insight into agricultural practices and rural life in the first half of the 20th century *as well as* give information about specific individuals. They document the work done by Agricultural Extension service employees from 1888 to 2000.

The earliest predecessor agency of the Agricultural Extension Service was the Office of Experiment Stations, 1888–1915, established in the Department of Agriculture, to conduct scientific research on more scientific and effective agricultural practices and to disseminate that information to farmers. The Office of Cooperative Demonstration Work (1904–14) and Office of Farm Management (1906–15) assisted in getting information to rural families. The research and information dissemination functions were combined in 1915 into a single “Extension Service” (its name has varied over time) which continues to this day.

Reports Available as National Archives Microfilm Publications (Archives 2)

Each U.S. county had (and still has) an agricultural Extension Agent, who focused on helping farmers learn about and adopt new scientifically based agricultural practices; a Home Demonstration Agent, who helped rural housewives improve their home economics skills; and a “4H” agent devoted to youth education and activities focusing on agricultural and home economics skills they would need as an adult. Each county agent submitted an annual report. Naturally, content varies, depending upon what information the county agent(s) chose to include. Some are more detailed than others. Sometimes photographs were included. These reports are available on NARA microfilm publications listed below, but it is possible that hard copies of the “state” and/or “county” copy of the report are available at *some* state or county archives.

The 1909–1944 annual reports are arranged by state, then chronologically by year. For each year, there are reports from state administrators by subject area, followed by reports from each county.

- T845. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Alabama, 1909–1944* (115 rolls).
- T846. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Alaska, 1930–1944* (2 rolls).
- T847. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Arizona, 1915–1944* (22 rolls).
- T848. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Arkansas, 1909–1944* (106 rolls).
- T849. *Extension Service Annual Reports: California, 1913–1944* (54 rolls).
- T850. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Colorado, 1913–1944* (77 rolls).
- T851. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Connecticut, 1913–1944* (30 rolls).
- T852. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Delaware, 1914–1944* (13 rolls).

- T853. *Extension Service Annual Reports: District of Columbia, 1917–1919* (1 roll).
- T854. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Florida, 1909–1944* (46 rolls).
- T855. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Georgia, 1909–1944* (141 rolls).
- T856. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Hawaii, 1929–1944* (7 rolls).
- T857. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Idaho, 1913–1944* (47 rolls).
- T858. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Illinois, 1914–1944* (82 rolls).
- T859. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Indiana, 1912–1944* (80 rolls).
- T860. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Iowa, 1912–1944* (195 rolls).
- T861. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Kansas, 1913–1944* (186 rolls).
- T862. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Kentucky, 1912–1944* (89 rolls).
- T863. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Louisiana, 1909–1944* (67 rolls).
- T864. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Maine, 1915–1944* (48 rolls).
- T865. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Maryland, 1912–1944* (70 rolls).
- T866. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Massachusetts, 1914–1944* (59 rolls).
- T867. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Michigan, 1913–1944* (77 rolls).
- T868. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Minnesota, 1914–1944* (105 rolls).
- T869. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Mississippi, 1909–1944* (96 rolls).
- T870. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Missouri, 1914–1944* (90 rolls).
- T871. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Montana, 1914–1944* (64 rolls).
- T872. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Nebraska, 1913–1944* (89 rolls).
- T873. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Nevada, 1915–1944* (19 rolls).
- T874. *Extension Service Annual Reports: New Hampshire, 1914–1944* (37 rolls).
- T875. *Extension Service Annual Reports: New Jersey, 1913–1944* (45 rolls).
- T876. *Extension Service Annual Reports: New Mexico, 1914–1944* (30 rolls).
- T877. *Extension Service Annual Reports: New York, 1912–1944* (90 rolls).
- T878. *Extension Service Annual Reports: North Carolina, 1909–1944* (144 rolls).
- T879. *Extension Service Annual Reports: North Dakota, 1912–1944* (68 rolls).
- T880. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Ohio, 1915–1944* (98 rolls).
- T881. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Oklahoma, 1909–1944* (135 rolls).
- T882. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Oregon, 1914–1955* (73 rolls).
- T883. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Pennsylvania, 1914–1944* (44 rolls).
- T884. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Puerto Rico, 1930–1944* (14 rolls).
- T885. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Rhode Island, 1914–1944* (12 rolls).
- T886. *Extension Service Annual Reports: South, 1913–1914* (1 roll).
- T887. *Extension Service Annual Reports: South Carolina, 1909–1944* (91 rolls).
- T888. *Extension Service Annual Reports: South Dakota, 1913–1944* (65 rolls).
- T889. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Tennessee, 1910–1944* (64 rolls).
- T890. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Texas, 1909–1944* (182 rolls).
- T891. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Utah, 1914–1944* (30 rolls).
- T892. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Vermont, 1912–1944* (31 rolls).
- T893. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Virginia, 1908–1944* (82 rolls).
- T894. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Washington, 1913–1944* (45 rolls).
- T895. *Extension Service Annual Reports: West Virginia, 1912–1944* (47 rolls).
- T896. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Wisconsin, 1913–1944* (49 rolls).
- T897. *Extension Service Annual Reports: Wyoming, 1914–1944* (37 rolls).

Photographs Available on Microfilm (Archives 2)

M1146. *Photographs of Extension and Home Demonstration Activities (Series S), 1920–1954* (13 rolls).

M1147. *Photographs of Extension Service Activities and Personnel (Series SC), 1928–1943* (11 rolls).

Reports Available as Original Records (at Kansas City, Missouri)

Annual Narrative and Statistical Reports, 1945–1968. Arranged by year, then by state. For each year, there are reports from state administrators by subject area, followed by reports from each county. The National Archives Identifier (NAID) listed below may be entered into the National Archives Catalog (<https://catalog.archives.gov>) as a search term.

Contact information: National Archives at Kansas City, 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108, 20740-6001. Phone: 816-268-8000; Fax: 816-268-8038; Email: kansascity.archives@nara.gov. These records are stored offsite. If a researcher would like to view the records in person, please contact National Archives at Kansas at least two business days in advance.

Year	NAID Number	Quantity
1945	NAID 1726755 / MLR Number A1 1001AA	364 boxes
1946	NAID 1726770 / MLR Number A1 1001AB	433 boxes
1947	NAID 1726771 / MLR Number A1 1001AC	454 boxes
1948	NAID 1726775 / MLR Number A1 1001AD	433 boxes
1949	NAID 1726778 / MLR Number A1 1001AE	471 boxes
1950	NAID 1726787 / MLR Number A1 1001AF	451 boxes
1951	NAID 1726792 / MLR Number A1 1001AG	417 boxes
1952	NAID 1726794 / MLR Number A1 1001AH	450 boxes
1953	NAID 1726825 / MLR Number A1 1001AI	472 boxes
1954	NAID 1726827 / MLR Number A1 1001AJ	561 boxes
1955	NAID 1726831 / MLR Number A1 1001AK	445 boxes
1956	NAID 1726834 / MLR Number A1 1001AL	438 boxes
1957	NAID 1726836 / MLR Number A1 1001AM	442 boxes
1958	NAID 1726840 / MLR Number A1 1001AN	427 boxes
1959	NAID 1726851 / MLR Number A1 1001AO	390 boxes
1960	NAID 1726852 / MLR Number A1 1001AP	413 boxes
1961	NAID 1726854 / MLR Number A1 1001AQ	62 boxes
1962	NAID 1726856 / MLR Number A1 1001AR	30 boxes
1963	NAID 1726858 / MLR Number A1 1001AS	25 boxes
1964	NAID 1726859 / MLR Number A1 1001AT	19 boxes
1965	NAID 1726860 / MLR Number A1 1001AU	19 boxes
1966	NAID 1726862 / MLR Number A1 1001AV	21 boxes
1967	NAID 1728687 / MLR Number A1 1001AW	19 boxes
1968	NAID 1728691 / MLR Number A1 1001AX	18 boxes

Photographs Available as Original Records

NARA's Still Picture Reference section has finding aids in its research room (Archives II, 5th Floor) to assist you in locating photographs of interest. Captions of some photographs name the individuals shown; others do not.

Contact information: Still Picture Reference, National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD, 20740-6001. Phone: 301-837-0561; Fax: 301-837-3621; Email: stillpix@nara.gov.

Bibliography

National Archives Catalog online at <https://catalog.archives.gov>. Includes information about all record series accessioned by the National Archives as well as digital images of materials that have been digitized.

Order Online at <https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline>. Click on "Microfilm" tab. Enter state name and extension into search box (such as Ohio extension). Click "Search." Click on microfilm publication title. Click on "View Important Publication Details" to get to the roll list. Save time! Determine which rolls you want to view before you go to Archives 2 to look at the microfilm!

SAMPLE MICROFILM PUBLICATION ROLL LIST

T873, *Extension Service Annual Reports: Nevada, 1915–1944* (19 rolls). (In Nevada, some agents had charge of more than one county).

Roll 1	1915 (Truckee – Carson Proj.) – 1920 (Director)
Roll 2	1920 (State Club Ldr.) – 1922 (State Club Ldr.)
Roll 3	1922 (Co. Agt. Ldr.) – 1923 (Churchill & Pershing Cos.)
Roll 4	1923 (Clark Co.) – 1925 (Co. Agt. Ldr.)
Roll 5	1925 (Churchill Co.) – 1927 (Churchill Co.)
Roll 6	1927 (Clark & Lincoln Cos.) – 1929 (Publicity)
Roll 7	1929 (Director) – 1930 (H. Demon. Ldr.)
Roll 8	1930 (Churchill Co.) – 1931 (Churchill & Lyon Cos.)
Roll 9	1931 (Clark & Lincoln Cos.) – 1932 (Churchill & Lyon Cos.)
Roll 10	1932 (Clark & Lincoln Cos.) – 1933 (Churchill & Lyon Cos.)
Roll 11	1933 (Clark & Lincoln Cos.) – 1934 (Clark & Lincoln Cos.)
Roll 12	1934 (Douglas & Ormsby Cos.) – 1935 (Elko Co.)
Roll 13	1935 (S. Eureka Co.) – 1936 (Washoe Co.)
Roll 14	1936 (White Pine Co.) – 1938 (Publications)
Roll 15	1938 (Director) – 1939 (Clark Co.)
Roll 16	1939 (Douglas Co.) – 1940 (Elko Co.)
Roll 17	1940 (Eureka Co.) – 1941 (Humboldt Co.)
Roll 18	1941 (Lincoln Co.) – 1943 (Clark Co.)
Roll 19	1943 (Douglas & Ormsby Cos.) – 1944 (White Pine Co.)

RG 33, Records of the Extension Service. *Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives of the United States* (Washington: National Archives and Records Administration, 1995). Online version at <https://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/033.html>. Provides an overview of organizational history and records created.

Brown, D. Clayton. "Prosperous Farms and Happier Homes: Arkansas Agricultural Extension Service, 1911–1966." *Prologue: Quarterly of the National Archives and Records Administration* 30: 2 (Summer 1998): 136–145. Online at www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/summer/arkansas-extension.html. The author used Extension Service records at NARA's regional archives at Fort Worth, TX.

Claire Kluskens, "Agricultural Extension Service Annual Reports, 1909–1968," page 5 (March 2020 edition)

Prechtel–Kluskens, Claire. "Extension Service Annual Reports." *NGS Magazine* 35: 1 (Jan.–Mar. 2009): 41–45. Online at <https://twelvekey.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/ngsmagazine2009-01.pdf>. Gives examples of information found in these reports.

Legacy Finding Aids listed below include information about record series accessioned up to their publication dates. Although outdated, they are still very useful introductions to the records and are available for study at these three locations: (1) Finding Aids Room (Archives I, Room G-28); (2) Textual Reference Research Room (Archives I, Room 203, binders at east end of the room); (3) Textual Reference Research Room consultation area (Archives II, 2nd Floor).

Baugh, Virgil E., comp., Preliminary Inventory 83, *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Extension Service* (1955).

Primas, James E., and Virgil E. Baugh, comps., *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Federal Extension Service Supplementary to National Archives Preliminary Inventory No. 83, NC 117* (June 1965).