Agricultural Extension Service Annual Reports, 1909–1968

Claire Prechtel-Kluskens
National Archives, Washington DC
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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.

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.

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

T849. Extension Service Annual Reports: California, 1913–1944 (54 rolls).
T862. Extension Service Annual Reports: Kentucky, 1912–1944 (89 rolls).
T865. Extension Service Annual Reports: Maryland, 1912–1944 (70 rolls).
T872. Extension Service Annual Reports: Nebraska, 1913–1944 (89 rolls).

Photographs Available on Microfilm (Archives 2)


Reports Available as Original Records (Archives 2)

Annual Narrative and Statistical Reports, 1945–1968. Arranged by year, then by state. For each year, there are first reports from the state administrators by subject area, then reports from each county. “Because these records are stored offsite, researchers must request the records 48 hours in advance.”

Contact information: Archives II Reference Section (Civilian), National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD, 20740-6001. Phone: 301-837-3510; Fax: 301-837-1752; Email: Archives2reference@nara.gov.

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<th>ARC ID Number</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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There are more textual records; check the Archival Research Catalog (ARC) for more information.

Photographs Available as Original Records

NARA’s Still Pictures Records 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 Records Section, National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD, 20740-6001. Phone: 301-837-0561; Fax: 301-837-3621; Email: stillpixorder@nara.gov
Bibliography—Hardcopy Information Sources


Available for study at these three locations:
Finding Aids Room (Archives I, Room G-28)
Textual Reference Research Room (Archives I, Room 203, binders at east end of the room)
Textual Reference Research Room consultation area (Archives II, 2nd Floor).


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).

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Bibliography—Online Information Sources

Archival Research Catalog (ARC) online at <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/>. Includes the series listed in PI 83 and NC 117 (discussed above).

Order Online at <https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/start.swe?SWECmd=Start>. 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!


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.)
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Roll 9  1931 (Clark & Lincoln Cos.) – 1932 (Churchill & Lyon Cos.)
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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.)