

Agricultural Extension Service Annual Reports, 1909–1968

Claire Prechtel–Kluskens
National Archives, Washington DC
April 2011

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.

- 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).

Claire Prechtel-Kluszens, Extension Service Annual Reports, NARA Genealogy Fair, April 2011.

- 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).

Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, Extension Service Annual Reports, NARA Genealogy Fair, April 2011.

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.

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

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

Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, Extension Service Annual Reports, NARA Genealogy Fair, April 2011.

Bibliography—Hardcopy Information Sources

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

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).

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. Paper copy available in our library. This author used Extension Service records at NARA’s regional facility at Fort Worth, TX.

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).

Available for study at these three locations:

Finding Aids Room (Archives I, 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).

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!

—*KG 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 <<http://www.archives.gov/research/guide-fed-records/groups/033.html>>. Links into ARC.

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 <<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/summer/arkansas-extension.html>>. This author used Extension Service records at NARA’s regional facility at Fort Worth, TX.

Prechtel-Kluskens, Claire. —*Extension Service Annual Reports.* NGS Magazine 35: 1 (Jan.–Mar. 2009): 41–45. Online at <<http://mysite.verizon.net/ckluskens/NGSNews2009Jan.pdf>>.

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.)