Background on the agricultural surveys

As a land grant institution, the Massachusetts Agricultural College developed a range of initiatives over the years to apply the research expertise of its faculty to the improvement of the state’s agriculture. During the presidencies of Henry Hill Goodell (1886-1905) and Kenyon Butterfield (1906-1924), in particular, the College’s Experiment Stations and Extension Service flourished, sponsoring basic research in livestock and poultry management and the state’s major crops, and offering education and consultation for Massachusetts farmers.
Contents of Collection

Organized by the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at Massachusetts Agricultural College (and its successors Massachusetts State College and UMass Amherst) and carried out in conjunction with other college departments and state and federal agencies, the surveys comprising this collection examined critical sectors in the agricultural economy of the state. The surveys examined factors such as land use, business and farm management, dairy farming and cost of milk production, tobacco and onion production, and poultry and livestock disease. The collection includes some supplemental statistical information and aerial photographs.

Collection inventory

Tobacco and Onion Surveys 1910-1911 Box 1

Hampshire County and individual towns.

Towns

. . . Amherst  Box 1
. . . Deerfield  Box 1
. . . Hadley  Box 1
. . . Hatfield  Box 1
. . . South Deerfield  Box 1
. . . Southwick  Box 1
. . . Sunderland  Box 1
. . . Westfield  Box 1

Farm Management Surveys

Conducted by USDA Bureau of Plant Industry and Office of the Secretary

Counties
. . . Barnstable Co. 1919 Box 1
. . . Bristol Co. 1915-1917 Box 1
. . . Essex Co. (Newburyport and Rowley) 1914-1916, 1921 Box 1
. . . Franklin Co. 1915-1916 Box 2
. . . Hampden Co. 1915 Box 2
. . . Hampshire Co. 1915 Box 2
. . . Norfolk Co. 1916-1917 Box 2
. . . Plymouth Co. 1915-1916, 1921 Box 2

Towns
. . . Acushnet 1921 Box 3
. . . Bolton, Berlin, and Stowe 1913, 1915 Box 1
. . . Boxboro 1920-1923 Box 3
. . . Easton 1915 Box 1
. . . Falmouth 1921 Box 3
. . . Granville 1920-1921 Box 3
. . . Hancock 1923 Box 3
. . . Heath 1922-1923 Box 3
. . . Littleton 1920-1923 Box 4
. . . Marlboro 1916-1917 Box 2
. . . Petersham 1913, 1915 Box 2
. . . Sheffield 1920-1923 Box 4/5
. . . Shelburne 1921-1922 Box 5
. . . Sterling and Pratt Junction 1913-1917 Box 2

Farm Management Surveys
Barnstable County--Falmouth 1921 Box 6
Berkshire County--Hancock 1923 Box 6
Berkshire County--Sheffield 1920-1921, 1923 Box 6
Essex County--Andover 1921 Box 6
Franklin County--Heath 1922-1924 Box 6
Franklin County--Shelburne 1921-1923 Box 6
Hampden County--Granville 1922 Box 7
Hampshire County--Granby 1923 Box 7
Middlesex County--Boxboro 1920-1923 Box 7
Middlesex County--Littleton 1920-1923 Box 7
Plymouth County--Middleboro 1921 Box 7
Miscellaneous, uncompleted 1921 Box 7

Business Surveys - Connecticut Valley Farms 1929
   Towns: Amherst, South Deerfield, Sunderland.

Surveys # 1-149 Box 8
Surveys #150-299 Box 9
Surveys #300-345 and non-used Box 10
Dairy Farm Business Surveys - Business Analysis and Cost of 1933-1934
Milk Production
conducted by: Dept. of Farm Management, Mass. State College.

Dairy Survey List
Summary Cards
Detailed Survey Record

Land Use Planning Survey 1938
Conducted by: Mass. State College, Harvard University, and USDA.

Towns
. . . Charlton and Grafton
. . . Mendon, North Brookfield, Northboro, Petersham, Sutton, Winchendon

Livestock Disease Survey 1940-1941
Counties
. . . Barnstable
. . . Berkshire
. . . Bristol
. . . Dukes
. . . Essex
. . . Franklin
. . . Hampden
. . . Hampshire
. . . Middlesex
. . . Nantucket
. . . Norfolk
. . . Plymouth
. . . Suffolk
. . . Worcester

Cost of Milk Production and Farm Management Study 1943-1944
Survey Record of Dairy Farm Businesses

. . . Counties
. . . Barnstable
. . . Berkshire
. . . Bristol
. . . Essex
. . . Franklin
. . . Hampden

. . . Counties
. . . Counties
Hampshire  
Middlesex  
Norfolk  
Plymouth  
Worcester  

Poultry Survey 1950-1951  
Aerial Photographs 1952, 1965  
Towns  
Agawam  
Chicopee  
East Hampton  
East Longmeadow  
Granby  
Hadley  
Hampden  
Holyoke  
Longmeadow  
Ludlow  
Munson  
Northampton  
Palmer  
South Hadley  
Southwick  
Springfield  
Warren  
West Springfield  
Wilbraham  

Base map, negatives and unidentified  

Residue  

Administrative information  

Access  

Copyright and Use  

The collection is open for research. Individual names
contained in the field surveys should be used with discretion.

**Language:**

English

**Provenance**

Acquired from John Foster, 1989.

**Processing Information**

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**Search terms**

**Subjects**
- Agriculture--Massachusetts--20th century
- Dairy industry--Massachusetts--20th century
- Farm life--Massachusetts--20th century
- Poultry--Massachusetts--20th century
- Tobacco--Massachusetts--20th century

**Names**
- Massachusetts Agricultural College. Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
- Massachusetts State College. Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
- University of Massachusetts Amherst. Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

**Genre terms**
- Photographs