

# Collection Development Policy Agricultural Education and Studies

## I. General Purpose

Programs supported by the collection at the undergraduate level are Agricultural Education, Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Studies, and Professional Agriculture (off-campus).

Collection emphasis is on materials specific to agricultural education and extension, and also more broadly on general and mixed agriculture materials not likely to be selected for agronomy, horticulture, animal science, entomology, engineering and technology, economics and business, history, or other specialties within agriculture.

Short range goals for the collection in this area include:

- Creating a searchable database of all ISU agricultural extension publications to enable ease of finding specific publications within our collections.
- Purchasing more graduate-level agricultural education and agriculture-related electronic books to support the off-campus programs.

Long range goals for the collection in this area include:

- Digitizing all the ISU University Extension publications and making them available in an institutional repository.

## II. History

The Department of Agricultural Education and Studies was formed in 1989 from a merger of the Department of Agricultural Education and the Department of Agricultural Studies. Agricultural Education first became a department in 1911. Agricultural Studies administered the Farm Operation Curriculum (diversified production agriculture and general agriculture) with the first B.S. degree granted in 1945. The Farm Operation Curriculum was renamed Agricultural Studies Farm Operation in the mid 1980s, and became Agricultural Studies in 1991. Farm Operations was intended for practicing farmers and at one time offered courses only during winter months, when farmers had more time available for attending classes. The department is a part of the College of Agriculture. It is particularly fitting that the CD Policy be updated in 2011 as this is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the department and many events are planned to focus on the department history.

The Iowa State College Extension Service was created in 1906. It has undergone many name changes over the years: Iowa Agriculture & Home Economics Experiment Station, Iowa State University Agricultural & Home Economics Experiment Station, ISU Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State College Extension Service, and Agronomy Extension Service. The current service is referred to as University Extension or Iowa State University Extension. Each time the name changed, library catalogers created new records so any given series of extension publications can easily be represented by 2-5 records in the Library Catalog, each with a slightly different name for the authoring agency.

Books written about this area of the university include: *75 Years of Service: Cooperative Extension in Iowa* written by Dorothy Schwieder in 1993; *History of Cooperative Agriculture and Home Economics Extension in Iowa --The First Fifty Years*, written by Ralph Bliss in 1960; and *A History of the Extension Service of Iowa State College*, written by Barton Morgan in 1934.

### III. Iowa State University Program

Undergraduates (B.S. degree) have 2 majors available: Agricultural Education & Agricultural Studies. The Agricultural Education major has 2 options: teacher certification and communications. Agricultural Studies majors can be customized to an area of emphasis in farm management, agronomy, horticulture, animal science, agricultural law, agricultural systems and technology or international agriculture. The Agricultural Studies curriculum includes a variety of required and elective courses in the agricultural sciences and economics.

At the graduate level, the Department offers the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural Education, and administers the interdepartmental program in Professional Agriculture (ProAg), leading to the Master of Agriculture (M.Ag.) degree. M.Ag. is an off-campus, non-thesis program that provides holders of bachelor degrees in agriculture (who are actively engaged in farming, agribusiness or education) the opportunity to obtain an advanced professional degree. The majority of the 32 required credits need to be from agricultural economics, agricultural systems technology, agronomy, animal science, and horticulture. The Master of Science degree is available as an off-campus, non-thesis program or as an on-campus program with thesis and non-thesis options. The on-campus M.S. also offers a program certification option which provides students with a teaching certificate.

According to the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan for AES, some of the goals of the department include:

- Provide experiential learning opportunities, on campus, off campus, and internationally, to help students develop professional, interpersonal, communication, and social skills.
- Strengthen and enhance the undergraduate program in agricultural and life sciences education (options: teacher certification and communications), and agricultural studies.
- Expand experiential and active learning opportunities for all graduate students.
- Expand the off-campus Master of Science in Agricultural Education Program and the off-campus Master of Agriculture Program in Professional Agriculture to meet graduate and society needs.
- Participate in interdisciplinary sustainable agriculture programs as a way to experiment with integrated teaching and learning.
- Expand international agricultural and extension education program efforts in the department.
- Promote scholarship on the educational processes (program development, learning, delivery and evaluation) associated with teaching and learning in agriculture and life sciences.

In 2009, Iowa State University was ranked 5<sup>th</sup> among the agricultural education programs out of more than 80 universities in the country offering similar degrees. A study asked professionals in the field to rank agriculture education programs on characteristics that include research, faculty and program features. The Top 10 were labeled “distinguished programs” and they are: 1. University of Florida; 2. Texas A & M; 3. Ohio State University; 4. the University of Missouri; 5. Iowa State University; 6. Oklahoma State University; 7. North Carolina State University; 8. Pennsylvania State University; 9. Texas Tech University; and 10. University of Arizona. (Info taken from: “Characteristics of Distinguished Programs of Agricultural Education” – by Robert J. Birkenholz and Jon C. Simonsen of Ohio State University. The study was published in American Association for Agricultural Education Research Conference Proceedings in May 2009. Available:

[http://www.aaaonline.org/uploads/allconferences/AAAE\\_conf\\_2009/papers/22.pdf](http://www.aaaonline.org/uploads/allconferences/AAAE_conf_2009/papers/22.pdf).

The number of enrolled students and degrees granted has varied over the years; however, the numbers are fairly high when compared with other science majors on campus.

**Agricultural Education & Studies Department  
Number of Faculty and Degrees granted<sup>1</sup>:**

	# faculty	BS	MS	PhD
<b>FY2010</b>	11	103	7	2
<b>FY2009</b>	12	100	9	3
<b>FY2008</b>	10	87	5	3
<b>FY2007</b>	12	74	8	7
<b>FY2006</b>	12	97	8	2
<b>FY2005</b>	12	112	7	5
<b>FY2004</b>	11	97	9	2
<b>FY2003</b>	12	107	6	2
<b>FY2002</b>	12	96	11	9
<b>FY2001</b>	13	98	7	4
<b>FY2000</b>	13	105	13	1

It is unfortunate that information from the *Fact Book* does not break the data down further to show how many of the B.S. degrees were Agricultural Education versus Agricultural Studies; however, a special data set run by the ISU Office of Institutional Research covering 1996-2006 showed that the vast majority of the B.S. degrees in AgEdS were in Agricultural Studies. During that 10 year span, Agricultural Studies majors outnumbered Agricultural Education majors almost 4 to 1.

Major	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Totals
Ag Education	17	15	19	20	27	27	39	36	29	34	17	280
Ag Studies	68	77	76	82	78	71	57	71	68	78	80	806

#### IV. Subject Boundaries

Agricultural education is classed in the LC call number range S530-S559. This range is contained within the overall outline for Agriculture (General), S1-S972. Extension publications are classed at S544. Several call number ranges within Agriculture (General) support the work of other academic departments: Economics, S560-S571.5; Agronomy, S583-S667; Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, S671-S760.5; and Agronomy, S900-S972.

Further, the Agricultural Education and Studies Department faculty and students frequently draw upon the literature of the broad discipline of education, so materials are occasionally selected here (LC call number range L-LT) as warranted and requested, to meet departmental teaching and research needs.

#### V. General Collection Guidelines

##### A. Linguistic

Primarily, but not strictly limited to, English language materials.

##### B. Geographical Areas

<sup>1</sup> From the *Iowa State University Fact Book* – available online at: <http://www.ir.iastate.edu/factbk.html>

Emphasis on U.S. and North America but since both agriculture and education are universal topics, and Iowa State University is involved in international programs in agriculture, geographic areas are not restricted to certain countries.

### C. Types of Materials Collected

Publications from agricultural extension service programs in each state are automatically added to the collection if they are free of charge. In recent years, many of these are becoming available free on the web. [Note: Extension websites often charge to supply paper copies of publications but the PDF version is often available free.] USAIN maintains a guide to extension publications at: <http://usain.org/extensionpubs.html>

There are only a few major journals that focus specifically on agricultural education and extension; all major journals are selected as the budget allows. Access to literature is provided through several large online databases in agriculture and education, primarily AGRICOLA, AGRIS, CAB Abstracts, and ERIC. The department has provided links to the following journals on their website as the most important resources:

[Agriculture & Human Values - Ethics](#)  
[Journal of Extension](#)  
[Journal of Agricultural Education](#)  
[Journal of Southern Agricultural Education Research](#)  
[Career & Technical Education Research](#)  
[North American College & Teachers of Agriculture Journal](#)  
[Journal of International Agricultural & Extension Education](#)  
[Journal of Educators](#)

*Agricultural Education Magazine* is a popular journal that AgEdS faculty publish in somewhat regularly.

Textbooks are selected at the school and college levels as needed and requested by faculty, since these texts are important tools in the education process. Popular and general interest books relating to agriculture are selected as the budget permits and to the extent that they are not likely to be chosen for a specific department or discipline such as agronomy, animal science, food science, history, or economics.

### D. Format of Materials Collected

The emphasis has traditionally been on the print format for books and serials, with some microforms (primarily government documents or old newspapers). In the last 5 years, focus has changed to purchase more electronic formats wherever possible to assist with access by distance education students and off-campus researchers. Department students and faculty make use of ISU Library's ERIC document collection on microfiche and full-text online. The ISU Library website provides access to important Internet resources in agricultural education/extension, agriculture, and education.

## VI. Specific Collection Guidelines

**Agricultural Education:** Collect at undergraduate, graduate, and research levels to support degree programs through Ph.D. as well as faculty research needs.

**Agricultural Extension:** Collect materials to support undergraduate curriculum (B.S. degree), plus faculty research interests.

**Agricultural Studies:** Collect materials as needed to support undergraduate curriculum (B.S. degree), to the extent not selected for other academic departments and programs.

**Professional Agriculture:** Collect materials as needed to support undergraduate and graduate curricula (B.S., M.Ag. degrees), to the extent not selected for other academic departments and programs.

## **VII. Detailed Subject Areas**

Agricultural Education: Historical development, leadership, guidance, teaching methods, planning and developing programs, distance learning, adult education, instructional technology, organizational issues, research methods, evaluation, curriculum development, administration, philosophy, international agriculture.

Agricultural Extension: Extension and international agriculture, communications, presentation for agricultural audiences, programming, organizing agricultural information, agricultural extension education, technology transfer, extension education in developing countries.

Agricultural Studies: farm management, agronomy, horticulture, animal science, agricultural law, agricultural systems and technology, international agriculture.

Professional Agriculture: Agricultural social sciences and economics, agricultural systems technology, agricultural workers in business and industry.

## **VIII. Other Resources Available**

Currently published ISU Extension publications are available free on the web from the University Extension Store. Print copies of all current and historical ISU Extension publications are available in the University Archives. Most have not been individually cataloged although there are title level records for each series. In the past, the library was probably only given 1 copy of each publication so it went to Archives. There is also a very outdated finding aid for these at the Help & Information Desk. According to Archives staff, we should always assume that we have the ISU Agricultural Extension publications and refer any researchers needing them directly to Archives.

## **IX. Cross-References to Collection Policies**

[Agronomy](#)

[Education](#)

[University Archives Collections Policy](#)

**X. Creation Date** – June 2000.

**XI. Revision History** – last updated July 2011

## **XII. LC Classes**

Agriculture (General): S 1 – S 972

Agricultural Education: S 530 – S 559

Agricultural Experiment Stations: S 539.5 – S 542.3

Agricultural Extension: S 544 – S 545.53

Farm Management: S 560 – S 565

Sustainable Agriculture: S 494.5 .S86

**XIII. Bibliographer Name** – Lorrie Pellack