

Department of Agriculture State Documents

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Finding aid written in English

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

Forum Building
607 South Drive
Harrisburg, PA, 17120

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Summary Information

Repository: Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of the State Library

Creator: Pennsylvania. Department of Agriculture

Title: Department of Agriculture State Documents

Identifier: AGRI

Date: 1895 - Present

Date: Majority of material found within 2008 - Present

Physical Description: 81 Megabytes (32 PDF files)

Language of English

Materials:

Scope and Contents

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for promoting the efficient marketing of farm products which encourages, promotes, and protects agriculture and related industries throughout the Commonwealth. Further, the department deals with appropriate investigatory and service problems, providing consumer protection through inspection services that impact the health and financial security of Pennsylvania's citizens. The Department works to control animal and plant diseases as well as insect pests, and to safeguard the public against impure or misrepresented foods, fertilizers and pesticides. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture safeguards the public through targeted investments to grow opportunities and remove barriers; protecting human, animal, environmental, and plant health through regulatory oversight; promotion of and education about Pennsylvania's agriculture products and sectors; and conserving farmland and natural resources for the prosperity of Pennsylvania.

The publications of the Department of Agriculture contain annual reports, budget reports, other reports, and educational guides. Selected topics from these publications include agricultural statistics and economics, entomology, farmland preservation, etc. The bulk of the current material is dated from 2008 to present.

Biographical / Historical

The Department of Agriculture was created in 1895 to encourage the development of agriculture, horticulture, forestry and related industries. A State Board of Agriculture, which had been established in 1876 to investigate subjects relating to improvements in agriculture, continued to function along with the Department in an advisory capacity. Legislation passed in 1919 and 1923 abolished the State Board of Agriculture, the Agricultural Commission and the Livestock Sanitary Board and consolidated regulatory activities pertaining to agriculture within the Department. Functions relating to forestry had been transferred to the Department of Forestry in 1901.

Legacy Agency Names and Related Agencies

Office of the Governor (parent agency), State Board of Agriculture (incorporated agency), Agricultural Commission (incorporated agency), Livestock Sanitary Board (incorporated agency), State Farm Products Show Commission (child agency), State Horse Racing Commission (child agency), State Harness Racing Commission (child agency)

Other Finding Aids

For more information concerning the records of the Department of Agriculture at the Pennsylvania State Archives, please visit:

<https://gencat.eloquent-systems.com/pennsylvania-state-archives/permalink.html?key=class38>.

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Controlled Access Headings

- Agriculture -- Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Politics and government
- Politics and government
- State government publications