Inventory of the Ben Madson Papers,

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Creator: Madson, B. A. (Ben Adolph), b. 1887.
Title: Ben Madson Papers
Date (inclusive): 1920-1956
Extent: 0.5 linear feet

Abstract: Ben Madson (1887-1974) served as Professor of Agronomy (1928-1954) and Director of Agricultural Field Stations (1948-1954) at the University of California. His papers contain correspondence, field station research and progress reports, range management investigations and budgets, committee materials regarding the development of the University of California, College of Agriculture (now the University of California, Davis), and several photographs of field test plots.

Physical location: Researchers should contact Special Collections to request collections, as many are stored offsite.
Repository: University of California, Davis. General Library. Department of Special Collections.
Davis, California 95616-5292

Collection number: D-108

Language of Material: Collection materials in English.

Biography
Ben Madson (1887-1974) graduated in 1907 from Iowa State College. After working as an assistant chemist at the college and as chief chemist for the Iowa Sugar Company, in 1910 he came to the University of California as an assistant in agronomy. He went on to serve as chairman of the Agronomy Department from 1927-1948.

In 1948 he was made director of Agricultural Field Stations, a new position that was charged with administering the outlying research areas established by the University of California for more effective local area service to the state. He held the position until his retirement in 1954.

Madson was also active in community affairs. He served on the Davis City Council in 1939-1947 and again in 1957-1960. He was city treasurer in 1951, and mayor of Davis in 1947-1948. He was active in the Davis Chamber of Commerce and served as Chamber president in 1955 and in 1964. He was named Davis Citizen of the Year in 1952.

Source:

Scope and Content
The Ben Madson Papers contain correspondence, field station research and progress reports, range management investigations and budgets, committee materials regarding the development of the University of California, College of Agriculture (now the University of California, Davis), and several photographs of field test plots.

Arrangement of the Collection
The Papers are arranged into four series: 1. Correspondence, 2. University of California, College of Agriculture, 3. Reports, and 4. Photographs.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Madson, B. A. (Ben Adolph), b. 1887.--Archives
Hutchison, C. B. |q (Claude Burton), 1885-1980
University of California, Davis--Faculty--Archives
University of California (1868-1952). College of Agriculture--History
Hopland Field Station (Hopland, Calif.)
Desert Research and Extension Center
Agricultural experiment stations--California
Range management--California

Access
Collection is open for research.

Processing Information
Sara Gunasekara processed these papers and created and encoded this finding aid.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Ben Madson Papers, D-108, Department of Special Collections, General Library, University of California, Davis.
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Series 1. Correspondence 1950-1953
Physical Description: 14 folders
Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence regarding the University of California field stations.
Arranged in two subseries: Incoming and Third Party.

Subseries 1.1 Incoming 1950-1953
Physical Description: 9 folders
Scope and Content Note
Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

Box 1:1 Baker, Frederick S. 1953 April 7
Box 1:2 Brown, Lloyd 1950 November 13
Box 1:3 Hartsook, Richard F. 1953 August 4
Box 1:4 Hutchison, Claude B. 1948 October 28
Box 1:5 Ittner, N.R. 1953 July 21
Box 1:6 McElvy, Carl 1952 December 9
Box 1:7 Metcalf, Woodbridge 1953 June 18
Box 1:8 Pillsbury, Arthur 1953 July 13
Box 1:9 Winkler, A.J. 1953 May 19

Subseries 1.2 Third Party 1950-1953
Physical Description: 5 folders

Box 1:10 Hutchison, Claude B. to Beck, Julian 1948 October 28
Box 1:11 Hutchison, Claude B. to Forsyth, R.L. 1949 November 9
Box 1:12 Hutchison, Claude B. to Keller, William 1948 October 28
Box 1:13 Tufts, Warren to Briggs, F.N. 1953 May 7
Box 1:14 Unidentified to Corley, J.H. 1950 October 31

Series 2. University of California, College of Agriculture 1920-1948
Physical Description: 3 folders
Scope and Content Note
Contains two committee reports and related materials dealing with the development of the University of California, College of Agriculture, now the University of California, Davis, and a scroll presented to Madson.

Box 1:15 Development of the College of Agriculture Committee 1920-1921
Scope and Content Note
Contains the committee report, minutes, and correspondence.

Box 1:16 Postwar Planning Committee, College of Agriculture 1943-1945
Scope and Content Note
Contains committee correspondence, progress reports, and minutes.

Inventory of the Ben Madson Papers,
Scroll presented to Madson 1948 September 8

Series 3. Reports 1949-1956

Physical Description: 22 folders

Scope and Content Note

Contains field station research and progress reports, as well as range management investigations and budgets.

Arranged alphabetically by title.

Agricultural Advisory Council of the Sub-Committee on Field Station Problems, Report to undated

Box 1:17

Antelope Valley Field Station 1949
Box 1:18

Antelope Valley, Report on College of Agriculture Field Station 1953
Box 1:19

Brush Problems in California undated
Box 1:20

Cooperative project agreement of the California Agricultural Experiment Station, University of California and the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture relative to the erosion control investigations in the interior dry farm belt of California undated
Box 1:21

Deciduous Fruit Field Station: San Jose 1953
Box 1:22

Hopland Field Station 1950
Box 1:23

Hopland Field Station 1951
Box 1:24

Hopland Sheep Range Station 1953
Box 1:25

Imperial Valley Field Station, progress report 1949-1950
Box 1:26

Imperial Valley Field Station, progress report 1951
Box 1:27

Imperial Valley Field Station, summary of field crop experiments 1951-1952
Box 1:28

Imperial Valley Field Station, truck crops, progress report undated
Box 1:28

Field Stations 1953
Box 1:29

Ranches inspected in Mendocino County on July 18 and 18 as possible sites for the University Range Experiment Station undated
Box 1:30

Range Improvement Demonstration Project 1949
Box 1:31

Range Improvement Demonstration Projects, proposed 1949
Box 1:32

Range Management, budget reports 1953-1954
Box 1:33

Range Management Investigations, progress report 1951 March
Box 1:34

Range Management Investigations 1954-1955
Box 1:35

Range Management Investigations 1955-1956
Box 1:36

Westside Experimental Range Plots 1950-1953
Box 1:37

Series 4. Photographs undated

Physical Description: 5 prints

Field test plots undated

Physical Description: 5 prints