Date Palm collection

Finding aid prepared by Serena Rodholm.
Special Collections & University Archives
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Date Palm collection

Date (inclusive): circa 1870-1970

Collection Number: MS 047

Extent: 5.75 linear feet (5 boxes, 1 flat folder)

Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.
Riverside, CA 92517-5900

Abstract: This collection contains records and research on the date palm industry and date palm farming throughout the 20th century, including photographs of date palm farms, brochures, and newspaper clippings. Additionally, the collection contains photographs, programs, correspondence, and pamphlets pertaining to the United States Department of Agriculture Date Station, and items from date palm researchers Walter T. Swingle, and Roy W. Nixon.

Languages: The collection is in English and French.

Access
The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
Copyright Unknown: Some materials in these collections may be protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). In addition, the reproduction, and/or commercial use, of some materials may be restricted by gift or purchase agreements, donor restrictions, privacy and publicity rights, licensing agreement(s), and/or trademark rights. Distribution or reproduction of materials protected by copyright beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. To the extent other restrictions apply, permission for distribution or reproduction from the applicable rights holder is also required. Responsibility for obtaining permissions, and for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation
[identification of item], [date if possible]. Date Palm collection (MS 047). Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Processing History
The collection was processed by Serena Rodholm in 2017.

Processing of the Date Palm collection was completed by undergraduate students from the University of California, Riverside as part of the Special Collections & University Archives Backlog Processing Project started in 2015. This project was funded by the UCR Library and administered by Jessica Geiser, Collections Management Librarian.

Collection Scope and Contents
This collection contains photographs, brochures, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and other material regarding the date palm industry and research efforts related to this plant species. Materials in the collection include photographs of date palm farms in California, North Africa, and Iraq as well as photographs regarding the cultivation of palm varieties and palm diseases. Brochures and newspaper clippings documenting the date palm industry in the Coachella Valley are also included. Additionally, this collection includes items from the United States Department of Agriculture Date Station as well as researchers Walter T. Swingle, and Roy W. Nixon.

Collection Arrangement
This collection is divided into eight series. The series are arranged as follows:

Series 1. Photographs, circa 1870-1979
Series 2. Newspapers, 1912-1966
Series 3. Correspondence, 1903-1986
Series 4. Programs, 1927-1950
Series 5. Date Palm Informational Material, 1887-2015
Series 7. Scrapbooks, 1909-1951

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog.

Subjects
Nixon, Roy W. (Roy Wesley), 1895-
Swingle, Walter T. (Walter Tennyson), 1871-1952
Agriculture -- Research
Date palm
Dates (fruit)
Genres and Forms of Materials
Brochures
Clippings (information artifacts)
Photographs

Series 1 Photographs circa 1870-1979
Series Scope and Contents
This series consists of photographs of date palm farms in the United States, Iraq, and Sudan, and types of dates, mostly taken or collected by researchers John Carpenter, Roy W. Nixon, and Walter T. Swingle.
Series Arrangement
The series is divided into four subseries as follows, mainly by the researcher who took or collected the photographs:
Subseries 1.1. John Carpenter, 1930-1932
Subseries 1.2. Roy W. Nixon, circa 1915-1980
Subseries 1.3. Walter T. Swingle, circa 1900-1933
Subseries 1.4. Photograph Negatives, circa 1926-1979

Sub-Series 1.1. John Carpenter 1930-1932
Subseries Scope and Contents
The subseries consists of photographs from the files of John Carpenter, the former Director of the United States Date & Citrus Station. Photographs in the subseries depict date palm farms and farming techniques in California, Egypt and Sudan.
Subseries Arrangement
Materials are arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Box 1, Folder 1
Coachella Valley, CA 1930
Box 1, Folder 2
Egypt & Sudan 1932

Sub-Series 1.2. Roy W. Nixon circa 1915-1980
Subseries Scope and Contents
This subseries contains photographs from researcher Roy W. Nixon, and consists mostly of photographs of date palm farms and trees in various locations.
Subseries Arrangement
Materials in the subseries are arranged alphabetically by photograph location.

Box 1, Folder 3
Bernard G. Johnson Identification 1915-1916
Box 1, Folder 4
Glass Plate Negative- Unknown Location undated
Box 1, Folder 5
Baghdad, Iraq undated
Box 1, Folder 6
Balad Ruz, Iraq undated
Box 1, Folder 8
Basrah, Iraq undated
Box 1, Folder 9
Beltsville, MD 1929
Box 1, Folder 10
Beltsville, MD 1929
Box 1, Folder 11
Borego Valley 1926
Box 1, Folder 12
Borego Valley 1926
Box 1, Folder 13
Chicago, IL 1934
| Box 1, Folder 14 | Coachella Valley, CA 1921 |
| Box 1, Folder 15 | Coachella Valley, CA circa 1932 |
| Box 1, Folder 16 | Coachella Valley, CA 1953 |
| Box 1, Folder 17 | Deli, India undated |
| Box 1, Folder 18 | Dongola undated |
| Box 1, Folder 19 | Faras, Sudan undated |
| Box 1, Folder 20 | Flagstaff, AZ 1930 |
| Box 1, Folder 21 | Hayden, AZ 1938 |
| Box 1, Folder 22 | Hyder, AZ 1933 |
| Box 1, Folder 23 | Honolulu, HI 1925 |
| Box 1, Folder 24 | Honolulu, HI 1929 |
| Box 1, Folder 25 | Indio, CA undated |
| Box 1, Folder 26 | Indio, CA 1926 |
| Box 1, Folder 27 | Iraq undated |
| Box 1, Folder 28 | Iraq 1929 |
| Box 1, Folder 29 | Karima, Sudan undated |
| Box 1, Folder 30 | Karun River, Iraq undated |
| Box 1, Folder 31 | Mandali, Iraq undated |
| Box 1, Folder 32 | Mecca, CA 1916 |
| Box 1, Folder 33 | Mecca, CA 1947 |
| Box 1, Folder 34 | Mecca, CA 1948 |
| Box 1, Folder 35 | Mecca, CA 1949 |
| Box 1, Folder 36 | Mike Tobin Ranch, NV 1930 |
| Box 1, Folder 37 | Mitchell Date Orchard 1948 |
| Box 1, Folder 38 | Mohammerah, Persia undated |
| Box 1, Folder 39 | Nuri, Sudan 1965 |
| Box 1, Folder 40 | Omderman, Sudan undated |
| Box 1, Folder 41 | Oneco, FL undated |
| Box 1, Folder 42 | Palm Springs, CA undated |
| Box 1, Folder 43 | Riverside, CA undated |
| Box 1, Folder 44 | San Francisco, CA undated |
| Box 1, Folder 45 | Shahrabana, Iraq undated |
| Box 1, Folder 46 | Tigris River undated |
| Box 1, Folder 47 | Turkey 1948 |
| Box 1, Folder 48 | Unknown Location undated |
| Box 1, Folder 49 | Unknown Location undated |
| Box 1, Folder 50 | Unknown Location circa 1870 |
| Box 1, Folder 51 | Unknown Location circa 1880 |
| Box 1, Folder 52 | Unknown Location 1923 |
| Box 1, Folder 53 | Unknown Location 1925 |
| Box 1, Folder 54 | Unknown Location 1925 |
| Box 1, Folder 55 | Unknown Location 1926 |
| Box 1, Folder 56 | Unknown Location 1929-1930 |
| Box 1, Folder 57 | Unknown Location 1930 |
| Box 1, Folder 58 | Unknown Location 1931 |
| Box 1, Folder 59 | Unknown Location 1936 |
| Box 1, Folder 60 | Wadi Halfa undated |
| Box 1, Folder 61 | Wisconsin undated |
| Box 1, Folder 62 | Wolfshill Ranch, CA 1916 |

**Sub-Series 1.3. Walter T. Swingle circa 1900-1933**

Subseries Scope and Contents
This subseries contains photographs from researcher Walter T. Swingle, and consists mostly of photographs of date palm farms in California and Arizona.

Subseries Arrangement
Materials in the subseries are arranged alphabetically by location.
### Series 1: Photographs circa 1870-1979

#### Sub-Series 1.3. Walter T. Swingle circa 1900-1933

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Aztec, AZ</td>
<td>1933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Coachella Valley, CA</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Indio, CA</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Indio, CA</td>
<td>1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>Mecca, CA</td>
<td>1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
<td>1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
<td>1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>Riverside, CA</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>San Gorgonio, CA</td>
<td>1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Tempe, AZ</td>
<td>1900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Unknown Location</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Unknown Location</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Unknown Location</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Unknown Location</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Sub-Series 1.4. Photograph Negatives circa 1926-1979

**Subseries Scope and Contents**

This subseries consists of negatives not connected to any researcher, and depict mainly date palm farms and farming techniques.

**Subseries Arrangement**

Materials are arranged alphabetically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Date Palm Atomizer</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78</td>
<td>&quot;Fieldtrip, Bard TSRU&quot;</td>
<td>1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td>Lowell School</td>
<td>1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>&quot;Negatives of Which No More Prints are Required&quot;</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>&quot;Parker Arizona, Halawy&quot;</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82</td>
<td>Trip to Willow Ranch, Gervian Ranch, and Tempe</td>
<td>1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>&quot;Unthinned Deglet Noor&quot;</td>
<td>1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84</td>
<td>Untitled (Unknown)</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 2: Newspapers 1912-1966

**Series Scope and Contents**

The series consists of newspaper clippings and larger newspapers on national and international date palm farms from 1912-1966.

**Series Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically by folder and publication title.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85, 5</td>
<td>News Clippings</td>
<td>1912-1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 2</td>
<td>Desert Rancher</td>
<td>1951-1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 3</td>
<td>Los Angeles Times</td>
<td>1922-1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 4</td>
<td>Pacific Royal Press</td>
<td>1936-1944</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Series 3: Correspondence 1903-1986

**Series Scope and Contents**

This series consists of correspondence from 1903 to 1986 from researchers R. Holtby Meyers, Roy W. Nixon, and Walter T. Swingle regarding their research and date palm farming.

**Series Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically by the correspondents' last names.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1, Folder</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85, 87</td>
<td>R. Holtby Meyers</td>
<td>1903-1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roy W. Nixon</td>
<td>1947-1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86, 88, 2</td>
<td>Walter T. Swingle</td>
<td>1904-1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 3</td>
<td>West India Gardens offshore purchases</td>
<td>1913</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 4 Programs 1927-1950

Series Scope and Contents
This series is made up of the Date Grower's Institute meeting invitations and programs.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged by subject.

Box 2, Folder 4  
Date Grove Institute 1927-1950

Series 5 Date Palm Informational Material 1887-1967

Series Scope and Contents
This series consists of historical information, newspaper clippings, Department of Agriculture correspondence and information, general correspondence, photographs, and a DVD regarding date palm farms and research ranging from 1887 to 2015.

Series Arrangement
This series is arranged alphabetically using the original folder titles.

Box 2, Folder 5  
California Cultivator 1930

Box 2, Folder 6  
Date Blossom Tie 1927

Box 2, Folder 7  
Date: History and Development of the Date. How to Grow Dates. Prof. D.W. Albert University of Arizona 1930

Box 2, Folder 8  
Date Industry 1887-1949

Box 2, Folder 9  
Date Industry March 1950-1957

Box 2, Folder 10  
Dates: Artificial Ripening, etc. By Paul B. Popence. Queensland Agr’l. Journal. 1913

Box 2, Folder 11  
Dates: Arizona: The date prospers in, By Ethel W. Musgrave 1925

Box 2, Folder 12  
Dates: Balling Device. Invention of an Arizona Nurseryman which is attracting attention of nursery world 1915

Box 2, Folder 13  
Dates: Baluchistan. Description of Panjgur date region of, By Capt. Severn I.A. Williams 1913

Box 2, Folder 14  
Dates: Best on Earth By Cully A. Cobb 1929

Box 2, Folder 15  
Dates: Brazil Memo. re date culture in the State of Bahia, Brazil. By W.T. Swingle. 1925

Box 2, Folder 16  
Dates: Bruce Drummond’s Interesting Work, Resignation, etc. 1923

Box 2, Folder 17  
Dates: Date Growing in Sunny California. By Jane Wlwyn. In Money Making 1924

Box 2, Folder 18  
Dates: Date Palms and Dates. By A.A. Wheeler. In Pacific Rural Press, p. 21 1897

Box 2, Folder 19  
Dates: Death Valley. The Hottest Spot in the United States, A hellish, hopeless Desert. By Mary E. Walker 1924

Box 2, Folder 20  
Dates: Deglet Noor strains. By W.T. Swingle 1912

Box 2, Folder 21  
Dates: Expedition to Oasis of Siwa, Report on. By H.A. Rankin 1905

Box 2, Folder 22  
Dates (Florida). Growing dates in Florida. Photostat copy of illustrations 1920-1929

Box 2, Folder 23  
Dates: Flower Characters. Diversity of Flower Characters in the Cultivated Varieties of Phoenix dactylifera L. 1932

Box 2, Folder 24  
Dates: History (short) of the date industry of America. By W.L. Paul 1922

Box 2, Folder 25  
Dates: Illustrations (photographs of date palms used in Yearbook Sep.949) 1926

Box 2, Folder 26  
Dates (code) Imported Date Packing Industry 1933

Box 2, Folder 27  
Dates: India. Typewritten paper by A.C. Hartless, Saharnpur, India 1907

Box 2, Folder 28  
Dates: Insect infestations. Various memoranda 1917-1919

Box 2, Folder 29  
Dates: Mexico, Date Tree pollination. Consular Report 1909

Box 2, Folder 30  
Dates: Pollen, Visibility of. 1924 A.B. Stout 1923

Box 2, Folder 32  

Box 2, Folder 33  
Dates: San Joaquin Valley. W.R. Nutting 1919

Box 2, Folder 34  
Dates: Selling Dates to Sportsmen. By Walter T. Swingle 1934

Box 2, Folder 35  

Box 2, Folder 36  
Dates: Spraying Solutions, use, etc. 1915

Box 2, Folder 37  
Dates: Seteroptican Views, List of, By W.T. Swingle. (Saraha Desert) 1921

Box 2, Folder 38  
Dates: Tafilet date. Memoranda, etc. By W.T. Swingle 1911

Box 2, Folder 39  
Dates: Texas Agricultural Experiment Station branch - WESLACO, TEXAS Data re quarantine nursery of imported ‘Iraq offshoots sent in May 1929 1929

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Series 5 Date Palm Informational Material 1887-1967

Box 2, Folder 40
DATES: Texas, miscellaneous note on dates growing in. (See also Dates: Texas Agr. Exp. Sta.) 1897-1933

Box 2, Folder 41
Dates: Transplanting seedling date palms. Bruce Drummond 1914

Box 2, Folder 42
Dates: Varieties, Braim. (Consular Report, Baghdad, Iraq, June 8, 1933) 1933

Box 2, Folder 43

Box 2, Folder 44
Dates. Varieties. Saidy Date of Egypt. U.S.D.A.Bul. 1125 1922-1933

Box 2, Folder 45
Dates. Varieties. Saidy Date. Notes &c. 1921

Box 2, Folder 46
Department of Agriculture 1900-1950

Box 2, Folder 47
Department of Agriculture 1952-1967

Box 2, Folder 48
DVD Collection of Date Palm Reference Material 2015

Box 2, Folder 49
Farm and Orchard Page 1927

Box 2, Folder 50
Iraq: Hammurabi's Code By C.H. Pease - Hidalgo County (Texas) Independent 1933

Box 2, Folder 51
Los Angeles Sunday Times 1921

Box 2, Folder 52
Reports & Bulletins 1914-1962

Series 6 Pamphlets circa 1914-1968

Series Scope and Contents
The collection consists of pamphlets and brochures from various date farms in Baja California, Arizona, California, and Florida from circa 1914-1968.

Series Arrangement
The series is arranged alphabetically by location.

Box 2, Folder 53
Baja California undated

Box 2, Folder 54
Coachella Valley circa 1924-1963

Box 2, Folder 55
Date Gardens, AZ circa 1946

Box 2, Folders 56-59
Date Gardens, CA circa 1914-1964

Box 3, Folder 1
Date Gardens, FL undated

Box 3, Folder 2
Desert Hot Springs undated

Box 3, Folder 3
General circa 1931

Box 3, Folder 4
Los Angeles undated

Box 3, Folder 5
Middle East undated

Box 3, Folder 6
Palo Verde Valley circa 1954

Box 3, Folder 7
Recipes circa 1968

Box 3, Folder 8
Riverside County 1938-1965

Box 3, Folder 9
San Diego County undated

Series 7 Scrapbooks circa 1909-1951

Series Scope and Contents
This series consists of eight scrapbooks depicting date palms and date palm farm research from the early to middle 1900's. Most of the photographs within the scrapbooks contain captions describing each image.

Series Arrangement
The series is arranged by the original scrapbook number.

Box 3, Folders 10-12
Palms I 1914-1935

Box 3, Folders 13-15
Palms II 1935-1940

Box 3, Folders 16-20
Palms III 1939-1948

Box 3, Folders 21-22
Palms IV 1948-1951

Box 3, Folders 23, Box 4, Folders 1-2
Palms V 1909-1926

Box 4, Folders 3-5
Crop Physiology & Breeding Investigations Scrapbook 1909-1920

Box 5, Item 5
Date Palms undated
Series 8 Maps 1914-1958, undated

Series Scope and Contents
The series is made up of maps depicting the boundaries of Arizona, India, Riverside County, and the Coachella Valley. There are maps of the Coachella Valley that focus on Native American land, canal building, and attractions. Included are two maps of the topography of California.

Series Arrangement
The series consists of 17 maps arranged by size.

Box 2, Folder 60
Visit the Scenic Spots in Coachella Valley - Valerie Jean Date Shop undated

Proposed Coachella Valley Unit of All American Canal - Coachella Valley County Water District undated

Map Showing Roads to Points of Interest in and Around the Coachella Valley - Geo. H. Schisler, Realtor undated

Central Coachella Valley Real Estate - Richard O. (Dick) Davis 1952

Map of Coachella Valley - Coachella Valley Board of Realtors circa 1958

Box 2, Folder 60
India and Ceylon - Gazetteer Index undated

Note
2 copies

Flat-File-Folder 1, Item 1
Stay in Indio Scenic Guide and Map of the Fabulous Coachella Valley - McCandless Cadillac-Pontiac undated

Boulder Canyon Project, All American Canal System, Imperial Irrigation District - Dept. of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation 1931

Note
3 copies

Flat-File-Folder 1, Item 6
Automobile Road Map of Lower (Baja) California - Automobile Club of Southern California undated

New Renié Admap of Indio and Coachella undated

Note
2 copies

Flat-File-Folder 1, Item 10
Map of the Coachella Valley - The France Investment Company 1914

Flat-File-Folder 1, Item 13
Southwestern San Bernardino and Riverside County - Blackburn's Map of Southern California 1930

Flat-File-Folder 1, Item 14
Kaibab National Forest, Arizona - U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service 1930

Flat-File-Folder 1, Item 15
Soil Map, California Coachella Valley Sheet - U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Bureau of Soils 1923