

**Guide to**

**MSCIT 005**

**Soil Science Foundation Records,**  
**1926-1990**

**Bulk: 1951-1973**

20 inches

**Processed by: Amy Skillen, Archives Technician**  
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McKay Archives, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida.

***Sarah D. and L. Kirk McKay, Jr. Archives Center***  
***Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida***

## Historical Sketch:

The Soil Science Foundation was founded in 1939 in Lakeland, Florida as a “non-profit corporation organized by farm people, and [was] chartered under the statutes of the state of Florida to aid in their soil and fertilizer problems.” The Foundation was originally located on the Florida Southern College campus near the site of the current Jack M. Berry Citrus Building. Emil Karst served as the Foundation’s first President, Stephen Chase served as the first Vice-President, and Dr. O.C. Bryan served as the first Technical Director. In May 1949, the Foundation moved locations to East Main Street in Lakeland. In 1967, the Soil Science Foundation split into two organizations: Soil Science Foundation, Inc. and Soil Science Service, Inc., the latter of which focused more on research. After the death of Dr. O.C. Bryan in January 1970, Dr. James R. Iley took over the Technical Director position at Soil Science Service, Inc. On May 27, 1970, the Foundation changed its name to Agricultural Research Center, Inc., and the Soil Science Service became Applied Agricultural Research, Inc., as the Foundation wanted to reflect the broadening of the organization’s mission. By 1993, both organizations had dissolved.

Throughout its existence, the Foundation operated research groves including the Short Grove (established in 1939 in Clermont, Florida) and the Duette Grove (established in 1959 in Manatee County, Florida). The Foundation also worked with individual citrus growers and their groves, especially those in Polk County.

### Additional Information from:

“AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.” Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations.  
<http://search.sunbiz.org/Inquiry/CorporationSearch/ByName>.

## Scope and Content Note:

The Soil Science Foundation Records are arranged in two series. The **Corporate Records** series contains materials pertaining to the incorporation of the organization (1967-68), client information in the 1970s, correspondence in the mid-1950s and early 1960s, published meeting proceedings mainly from the 1960s, and research reports created by the Foundation.

The **Reference Materials** series contains publications and soil surveys that presumably were used at the Foundation office.

## Restrictions:

Specific information in the **Client** series may be restricted based on the age of the data. Please contact the Archives for access information.

## Permission to Publish:

Permission to publish material from the Soil Science Foundation Records must be obtained from Sarah D. and L. Kirk McKay, Jr. Archives Center. Please inquire if you have questions at 863-680-4453.

**Provenance:**

It is unknown when the Soil Science Foundation Records were donated to the Thomas B. Mack Citrus Archives. The Thomas B. Mack Citrus Archives were transferred to the Roux Library in 2005 then to the McKay Archives Center in 2009.

**Note to Researchers:**

When received from the Thomas B. Mack Citrus Archives, the materials in this collection were comingled with three other collections: Dr. O.C. Bryan Papers, Dr. James R. Iley Papers, and Polk County Fertilizer Company Records. Every effort has been made to return materials to their respective collections.

For ***Meeting Proceedings*** in the **Corporate Records** series, the date given is the publication date of the proceedings bulletin, not the event date.

In the **Reference Materials** series, ***Soil Surveys*** include both descriptive soil reports and soil maps of individual counties in the state of Florida that were published by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Soil Conservation Service, often in cooperation with the University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, a part of the University's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF-IFAS). Soil surveys can refer to both the process of collecting as well as the final publication of various soil data gathered and published by the USDA. The data collected includes, but is not limited to, soil type, soil behavior, and soil properties as well as soil hazards and limitations. The USDA typically creates and publishes the surveys at the county level for each state; the Department works in cooperation with other federal and local agencies, such as UF-IFAS. Once published, these surveys can be used to determine the best usage of the land, such as whether or not certain crops can be grown in a specific type of soil or if improvements can be made to make the soil more viable. Before the advent of various technologies, such as LiDAR, surveyors would carry hard copies of topographical maps, aerial photographs, and other physical aids into the field to create these maps, and the map themselves required months, if not years, of preparation before publishing. Presently, the USDA's National Resource Conservation Service publishes their most recent soil surveys online and hosts an archive of previous surveys at the following link:

**<https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>**.

Box	Folder	Series	Folder Title
			<b>Corporate Records</b>
1	1		Articles of Incorporation, Soil Science Service, Inc., 1967
1	2		Chapter Board of Trustees, 1968
1	3		Report on Foundation, 1968
1	4		List of Fees, 1970
			<b>Clients</b>
1	5		Brannan, J.C. – Lakeland Highlands, 1971
1	6		Callery Judge Grove, 1973
1	7		Carter, W.L., 1961-1970
1	8		Lake Garfield Nursery, 1972
1	9-10		Polk County Client Information Notebook, 1977
1	11		Winter Haven C.G.A. – Hamlin Grove, 1972
			<b>Correspondence</b>
1	12		Incoming, 1956
1	13		Incoming, 1959
1	14		Incoming, 1962
1	15		Incoming, 1965
1	16		Newsletter, Christmas 1957
			<b>Meeting Proceedings</b>
1	17		Proceedings of the 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1953
1	18		Proceedings of the 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Soil Science Foundation, August 1959
1	19		Proceedings of the 21 <sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1960
1	20		Proceedings of the 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1961
1	21		Proceedings of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1962
1	22		Proceedings of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1963
1	23		Proceedings of Silver Anniversary 1939-1964, August 1964
1	24		Proceedings of the 26 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1965
1	25		Proceedings of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1966
1	26		Proceedings of the 28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1967
1	27		Proceedings of the 29 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, August 1968
1	28		Proceedings of the 31 <sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, Agricultural Research Center, Inc., January 1971
1	29		Proceedings of the 32 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, Agricultural Research Center, Inc., September 1972
			<b>Research</b>
2	1		Reports, 1951
2	2		Reports, 1954
2	3		Reports, 1955
2	4		Reports, 1958
2	5		Reports, 1959
2	6		Reports, 1960
2	7		Reports, 1962
2	8		Reports, 1965
2	9		Reports, 1966
2	10		Short Research Grove, Black and White Photographs, 1964, n.d.
2	11		Duette Research Grove, Report, 1971-1972

Box	Folder	Series	Folder Title	Soil Science Foundation	5
2	12		Spray Trials with Liquid Cu-cide from Tower Chemical Company, ca. 1970s		
			<b>Reference Materials</b>		
			<b><i>Publications</i></b>		
2	13		"Drainage and Water Control in Florida," October 1931		
2	14		Soil Sampling and Testing Flyer, December 1932		
2	15		"Golden Harvest: The Romance of Florida Citrus," April 1937		
2	16		"Putting Soil Science to Work," December 1938		
2	17		"Some Symptoms of Citrus Malnutrition in Florida," June 1939		
2	18		"Genesis and Hardening of Laterite in Soils," December 1962		
2	19		"Phosphorous Fertilization of Citrus," ca. 1962		
2	20		"The Effect of Soils and Fertilizers on the Nutritional Quality of Plants," 1965		
2	21		The Soil and Crop Science Foundation of Florida Proceedings, December 1967		
2	22		Soil Series Descriptions, 1968		
2	23		Polk County Citrus Rootstock Seminar, ca. 1970s		
2	24		"Crop Yields and Cost of Production as Influenced by Soil Acidity," n.d.		
2	25		Dolomite Products, Inc. pamphlet, n.d.		
2	26		Phelps Dodge Refining Corporation Information Bulletin, n.d.		
2	27		Soil Conservation Service Flyer, n.d.		
2	28		Soil Sampling and Testing Flyers, n.d.		
2	29		"Soil Tests Benefit Citizens Everywhere," n.d.		
2			<b><i>Soil Surveys</i></b>		
2	30		Florida, Soil Map, 1988		
2	31		Alachua County, Soil Description, 1954		
2	32		Alachua County, Soil Maps, n.d.		
2	33		Baker County, Soil Description and Map, 1988		
2	34		Bradford and Union Counties, Soil Description, 1987		
3	1		Collier County, Soil Description, 1954		
3	2		Collier County, Soil Maps, 1952		
3	3		Dade County, Soil Description, 1958		
3	4		Dade County, Soil Maps, n.d.		
3	5		Dixie County, Soil Map, 1936		
3	6		Gilchrist County, Soil Description, ca. 1985		
3	7		Hamilton County, Soil Map, 1936		
3	8		Hendry County, Soil Description and Map, n.d.		
3	9		Highlands County, Soil Maps, 1952		
3	10		Hillsborough County, Soil Description and Maps, 1951, 1958		
3	11		Lake County, Soil Description and Maps, 1926		
4	1		Manatee County, Soil Description and Maps, 1958		
4	2-3		Ocala National Forest, Soil Description and Maps, 1967		
4	4		Orange County, Soil Description and Maps, 1960		
4	5		Palm Beach County, Soil Map, 1976		
4	6		Polk County, Soil Description and Maps, 1927		
4	7		Polk County, Soil Description and Maps, 1990		
4	8		St. Johns County, Soil Map, 1936		