Plant and Environmental Sciences

Information Access Policy

Clemson University Libraries

Plant and Environmental Sciences Reference Librarian: Maggie Albro
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I. Purpose

a. Objective

Clemson University Libraries' plant and environmental sciences collection is developed to support the undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree and the graduate Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees offered by the Department of Plant & Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences. The collection supports the curricular and research needs of students and instructional and research needs of faculty.

b. Curriculum supported

i. B.S. in Plant and Environmental Sciences

There are three concentrations that students may choose between in the B.S. program. The Agricultural Biotechnology Concentration focuses on scientific advances in production agriculture. The Agronomy Concentration focuses on how farming systems cope with the depends of population growth, instable markets, and weather. The Soil and Water Science Concentration focuses on managing agricultural and industrial wastes, reduction of water contamination, and the use of water and soil in crop production.

ii. M.S. in Plant and Environmental Sciences

There are two tracks toward the M.S. degree. The non-thesis track requires the presentation of an exit seminar and final report. Both tracks include a program plan of study tailored to the individual needs and interests of each student. Students are expected to be proficient in experimental design, statistical analysis, and various areas of plant science. Successful completion of a dissertation is required.

iii. Ph.D. in Plant and Environmental Sciences

The Ph.D. program plan of study is tailored to the individual needs and interests of each student. Students are expected to be proficient in experimental design, statistical analysis, and various areas of plant science. Successful completion of a dissertation is required.

c. Primary users

The primary users are undergraduates and graduate students from the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences who are majoring in Plant and Environmental Sciences. Faculty, staff, and extension agents affiliated with Plant and Environmental Sciences are also considered primary users.

d. Secondary users
Much of the material in plant and environmental sciences is interdisciplinary. Materials bought for this department are used by faculty, students, and staff in many other life science programs and departments.

II. Scope of the Collection

The collection is housed between Cooper Library and Offsite Storage, with the exception of some materials available in a stable online format. Collecting efforts are aimed at maintaining a well-rounded collection, with special strengths in the areas of current research at Clemson University and in areas where degrees are given, but which also provides materials for undergraduates in all areas of Plant and Environmental Science and which will in the future provide an adequate basic collection as research interests change.

a. Format guidelines
Monographic material will be purchased in print and/or electronic format. Journals, handbooks, manuals, and encyclopedias will be in electronic format, if available. DVDs will be purchased as requested by the faculty.

b. Language guidelines
Primarily English-language materials will be selected. If materials in other languages are collected they must generally contain information not readily available in English.

c. Geographical guidelines
Plant end Environmental Sciences materials concerning topics in South Carolina, the Southeastern United States, and North America will be emphasized. Other geographic areas will be targets as research and teaching interests dictate.

d. Chronological guidelines
Most books considered for purchase are current; materials published prior to the most recent five years are purchased very selectively.

e. Types of materials excluded
The following materials will be excluded unless there is an extraordinary need and/or a specific request:
   i. Workbooks
   ii. Computer software
   iii. Rare materials
   iv. Textbooks

III. Subject Classifications Collected

Primary Subject Classifications:

Pests and diseases	SB 599 – SB 608
Plant pathology	SB 621 – SB 795
Economic entomology	SB 818 – SB 945
Pest control and treatment of diseases. Plant protection	SB 950 – SB 990

Economic zoology applied to crops. Agricultural zoology.	SB 990.5 – SB 998
Plant physiology	QK 710 – QK 715
Physical plant physiology	QK 720 – QK 753
Physical agents affecting plants	QK 754 – QK 845
Phytochemistry	QK 861 – QK 866
Nutrition	QK 867 – QK 899

IV. Core Plant and Environmental Science Journals

Advances in Botanical Research
American Journal of Botany
Annals of Botany, London
Annual Review of Phytopathology
Annual Review of Plant Biology
Aquatic Botany
BMC Plant Biology
Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society
Botanical Review
Critical Reviews in Plant Science
Environmental and Experimental Botany
Functional Plant Biology
International Journal of Plant Sciences
Journal of Ecology
Journal of Experimental Botany
Journal of Natural Products
Journal of Phycology
Journal of Plant Growth Regulation
Journal of Plant Nutrition
Journal of Plant Physiology
Journal of Vegetation Science
Molecular Breeding
Molecular Plant
Molecular Plant Pathology
Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions
New Phytologist
Photosynthesis Research
Physiologia Plantarum
Phytochemistry
Phytomedicine
Phytopathology
Plant and Cell Physiology
Plant and Soil
Plant Biology
Plant Biotechnology Journal
Plant Cell
Plant Cell Reports
Plant Disease
Plant Foods for Human Nutrition
Plant Journal
Plant Methods
Plant Molecular Biology
Plant Pathology Journal
Plant Physiology
Plant Reproduction
Plant Science
Plant, Cell, & Environment
Planta
Planta Medica
Taxon
Theoretical and Applied Genetics

V. Core Plant and Environmental Science Databases and Indexes

AGRICOLA
Biological and Agricultural Index Plus
BIOSIS
Current Contents
LexisUni
Medline (PubMed)
PAIS
PubMed (Medline)
Science Citation Index
SciFinder Scholar
TOXLINE
TOXNET
Web of Science
Zoological Record

VI. Access to Information not Available On-site

a. Remote Storage
   Online request forms and document delivery enable access to materials in Clemson Libraries' remote storage facilities within 24 business hours.

b. Interlibrary Loan
   The primary access point for journals and secondary access point for books not owned or accessible by Clemson Libraries will be Interlibrary Loan. This service is free to Clemson University students, faculty, and staff.

c. PASCAL Delivers
   The primary access point for books not owned or accessible by Clemson Libraries will be PASCAL Delivers. This service provides access to books owned by other academic libraries in the state of South Carolina and is free to Clemson University students, faculty, and staff.

VII. Selection Tools Used

a. Faculty and student requests and recommendations
b. Course syllabi
c. Major Plant and Environmental Science journals
d. Publishers' websites and catalogs
e. An approval plan
f. GOBI online database
g. Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, and PASCAL Delivers activity

VIII. Deselection Guidelines

Monographic material, with an imprint of 15 years ago or earlier, which has not circulated for the last ten years, will be reviewed for deselection. Statistical reports are available for review of these titles. Due to the need to maintain materials for historical research and/or reference, older materials may be kept even if they have not circulated recently. If a book has not circulated and is historically important, Special Collections will be asked to house it. If Special Collections does not take the item, storage will be considered if the item is rare or unique to Clemson.

IX. Evaluation Tools

a. Circulation, recall, internal use
b. Interlibrary Loan and PASCAL Delivers requests
c. *Journal Citation Reports*

X. Collection Assessment and Planning

a. Qualitative Measures
   i. The information access policy for this department will be reviewed every five years.
   ii. Appropriate bibliographies will be checked against our holdings
   iii. Benchmarking projects, to be determined

b. Quantitative Measures
    i. Interlibrary Loan activities will be monitored to see what subject areas are lacking and what type of materials are most requested.
    ii. Circulation statistics, for both print and electronic resources, will be reviewed to see which areas of the collection are most heavily used.
    iii. Keeping track of new research grants undertaken and the new courses taught in the Plant and Environmental Sciences Department can also help determine what materials to purchase and helps in the planning.