



# Myers (Will M.) papers

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biographical/Historical note .....	3
Scope and Contents note .....	4
Arrangement note .....	4
File Plan note .....	5
Administrative Information .....	5
Related Materials .....	6
Controlled Access Headings .....	6
Collection Inventory .....	7
History .....	7
Grasslands Conferences .....	9
International Institutes of Agriculture .....	10
Speeches and Reprints .....	11
Memorabilia and Awards .....	13
Reprints .....	14
Accession 53 .....	14
Will M. Myers photographs .....	17

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator - aut:</b>	Myers, Will M.
<b>Creator:</b>	Rockefeller Foundation
<b>Title:</b>	Will M. Myers papers
<b>ID:</b>	FA042
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1946-1970
<b>Physical Description:</b>	10.19 Cubic Feet 13 letter document cases; 11 legal document cases
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Information regarding the Rockefeller Archive Center's preferred elements and forms of citation can be found at <http://www.rockarch.org/research/citations.php>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Biographical/Historical note

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Will Martin Myers (1911-1970) was born and raised in Bancroft, Kansas. He received a B.S. in Agronomy from Kansas State College in 1932 and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Plant Genetics from the University of Minnesota in 1934 and 1936.

In 1937 Dr. Myers joined the United States Department of Agriculture as Geneticist at the Pasture Research Laboratory, State College, Pennsylvania. After World War II he was Geneticist and Consultant with the Far Eastern Command in Japan. He returned to the USDA as Head of the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases and then as Director of Field Crops Research at Beltsville, Maryland. From 1950-1952 Dr. Myers organized the Sixth International Grasslands Conference and later was Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the Seventh International Grasslands Conference in 1956. After leaving the Department of Agriculture in 1952, Dr. Myers became Head of the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics at the University of Minnesota. He became Dean of the Office of International Programs in 1963.

Dr. Myers had been a consultant to The Rockefeller Foundation since 1954 and spent 1959-1960 in India in that capacity. As Associate Director of Agricultural Sciences in 1964 he also became Director of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Ibadan from 1965-1967. With the Institute formally organized in 1968, he became Chairman of the Board. In 1967 Dr. Myers became Vice-President of the Foundation with interests in the areas of Medical and Natural Sciences, Agriculture, and programs oriented toward University Development, Population, Conquest of Hunger, and Quality of the Environment.

Dr. Myers had many associations, some of which were Chairman, Committee on Agricultural Science, USDA; Chairman, Agricultural Research Facilities Needs Committee, USDA; Chairman, Latin American Science Board National Academy of Sciences; Member, U.S. National Commission, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Consultant, Ford Foundation; Consultant, Office of Science and Technology, Executive Office of the President; Science Advisor to Assistant Administrator, Latin American Bureau, AID and Coordinator, Alliance for Progress, 1962; Member, U.S. Delegation to the United Nations Conference on Application of Science and Technology in Assistance to Developing Nations, 1963; Chairman, Crops Division, 1946, Vice President 1957, President 1958, American Society of Agronomy.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Scope and Contents note

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Important subjects covered in this collection include agronomy, ecology, population, genetics and plant breeding, agricultural development of underdeveloped nations, agricultural research institutes, grasslands and Grasslands Conferences.

Important correspondents are W. M. Myers, A. M. Boyce, Arthur Leach, and J. Robert Mitchell.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Arrangement note

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The Will M. Myers Papers collection is arranged in eight series:

Series 1 - History

Series 2 - Grasslands Conferences

Series 3 - International Institutes of Agriculture

Series 4 - Speeches and Reprints

Series 5 - Memorabilia and Awards

Series 6 - Reprints

Series 7 - Accession 53

Series 1014 - Photographs

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## File Plan note

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Former Classification: IV 2A 19 and IV 2A 21

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

[archive@rockarch.org](mailto:archive@rockarch.org)

URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

### Conditions Governing Access

Open for research. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC. Researchers interested in accessing digital media (floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, etc.) or audiovisual material (audio cassettes, VHS, etc.) in this collection must use an access surrogate. The original items may not be accessed because of preservation concerns. To request an access surrogate be made, or if you are unsure if there is an access surrogate, please contact an archivist.

## Conditions Governing Use

Reproduction/duplication of archival items is routinely provided in accordance with "fair use." If the RAC does not hold copyright for an archival collection, or items within a collection, it is the user's responsibility to contact the copyright holder, or make a fair effort to do so, prior to publication.

## Processing Information note

Processing was completed as of November 9, 1970. Processing Level 3: Standard Processing. All material is available in acid free manuscript boxes and folders.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Mrs. W. M. Myers deposited Series 1-6 of the W. M. Myers collection with The Rockefeller Foundation Archives on October 21, 1970. Series 7 was received from the Rockefeller Foundation through Records Management and Library Service on July 21, 1977.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

See also files in the Rockefeller Foundation Archives pertaining to agriculture, in particular those of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Ecology
- Grasslands
- Population
- Environmental sciences
- Developing countries
- Genetics
- Plant breeding
- Agriculture -- Research
- Agriculture

- Agronomy

## Collection Inventory

### History, 1941-1970

#### Scope and Contents note

This series includes subject files as well as course notes, diaries, manuscripts, committee notes, and clippings.

#### Arrangement note

This series is arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Agricultural Experiment Station, Tohoku, Japan	box 1	folder 1
All India Institute of Medical Research	box 1	folder 2
Bibliography	box 1	folder 3
Biography	box 1	folder 4
Clippings	box 1	folder 5
Committee on Agricultural Science, 1965	box 1	folder 6
Conference on Agricultural Research Priorities for Economic Development in Africa #1-2, 1967	box 1	folder 7
Conference on Agricultural Research Priorities for Economic Development in Africa #3-4, 1967	box 1	folder 8
Conference on Agricultural Research Priorities for Economic Development in Africa #5-6, 1967	box 1	folder 9
Conference on Agricultural Research Priorities for Economic Development in Africa #7, 1967	box 1	folder 10
Conference on Agricultural Research Priorities for Economic Development in Africa #8, 1967	box 1	folder 11
Conference on Agricultural Research Priorities for Economic Development in Africa #9-11, 1967	box 2	folder 12
Correspondence, 1946-1970	box 2	folder 13
Correspondence, 1946-1970	box 2	folder 14
Correspondence, 1946-1970	box 2	folder 15
Correspondence, 1946-1970	box 2	folder 16
Correspondence, 1946-1970	box 2	folder 17
Correspondence, 1946-1970		

	box 2	folder 18
Diary, 1959	box 2	folder 19
Diary, 1960	box 2	folder 20
Diary, 1960	box 3	folder 21
Flax - Ph.D. Dissertation	box 3	folder 22
Genetic Control of Physiology Processes in Higher Plants, 1963	box 3	folder 23
Genetic Group, 1961-1963	box 3	folder 24
Genetics Seminar, 1957-1959	box 3	folder 25
"Green Gold", 1953	box 3	folder 26
D. D. Hill, 1963-1965	box 3	folder 27
Invitations	box 3	folder 28
Japan, 1947	box 3	folder 29
Latin American Science Board - Task Force, 1964	box 3	folder 30
Latin American Science Board - Task Force Report	box 4	folder 31
Manuscript	box 4	folder 32
Manuscript	box 4	folder 33
Methods of Plant Breeding, 1941-1957	box 4	folder 34
Methods of Plant Breeding, 1963	box 4	folder 35
Methods of Plant Breeding - Study Questions, Exams, Bibliography	box 4	folder 36
Methods of Plant Breeding - Outlines	box 4	folder 37
Miscellaneous Notes	box 4	folder 38
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Summer Conference on Agriculture and Underdeveloped Countries, 1964	box 5	folder 39
Orientation Program, 1959	box 5	folder 40
"Plant Breeding" and "Agriculture" by H. H. Hadley	box 5	folder 41
Quantitative Genetics, Spring 1958	box 5	folder 42
Quantitative Inheritance Seminar	box 5	folder 43
Scandinavia, 1953	box 5	folder 44
Symposium on Mutations in Plant Breeding, Ithaca, November 28-December 2, 1960	box 5	folder 45
United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology, 1963	box 5	folder 46



United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - U. S. National Commission, 1964	box 5	folder 47
Universidad del Valle, 1968	box 6	folder 48
Universidad del Valle, 1968	box 6	folder 49
Universidad del Valle, 1968	box 6	folder 50
Universidad del Valle - Reports	box 6	folder 51
Universidad del Valle - Reports	box 6	folder 52
Universidad del Valle - Reports	box 6	folder 53

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Grasslands Conferences, 1948-1960

### Scope and Contents note

This series consists mainly of the organizational papers for the Sixth International Grasslands Conference held at Pennsylvania State College in 1952.

Title/Description	Instances	
5th International Grasslands Conference, 1949	box 1	folder 1
6th International Grasslands Conference, 1948-1951	box 1	folder 2
6th International Grasslands Conference, 1948-1951	box 1	folder 3
6th International Grasslands Conference - Announcements & Publicity	box 1	folder 4
6th International Grasslands Conference - Burcalow, 1948-1951	box 1	folder 5
6th International Grasslands Conference - Committee Minutes, 1951-1952	box 1	folder 6
6th International Grasslands Conference - Congress Committees, 1951-1952	box 1	folder 7
6th International Grasslands Conference - General Correspondence, 1950-1952	box 1	folder 8
6th International Grasslands Conference - General Correspondence, 1950-1952	box 1	folder 9
6th International Grasslands Conference - Invitations	box 1	folder 10
6th International Grasslands Conference - Location, 1950-1951	box 2	folder 11
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program	box 2	folder 12
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 13

6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 14
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 15
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 16
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 17
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 18
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, June 1951-April 15, 1952	box 2	folder 19
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, April 16-June 1952	box 3	folder 20
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, April 16-June 1952	box 3	folder 21
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, April 16-June 1952	box 3	folder 22
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Committee Correspondence, April 16-June 1952	box 3	folder 23
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Suggestions	box 3	folder 24
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Suggestions	box 3	folder 25
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Suggestions	box 3	folder 26
6th International Grasslands Conference - Program Suggestions	box 3	folder 27
6th International Grasslands Conference - Sections	box 4	folder 28
6th International Grasslands Conference - Sectional Program Outlines	box 4	folder 29
6th International Grasslands Conference - Subcommittee Correspondence	box 4	folder 30
6th International Grasslands Conference - Working Group, 1951	box 4	folder 31
6th International Grasslands Conference - Pamphlets	box 4	folder 32
6th International Grasslands Conference - Tours	box 4	folder 33
7th International Grasslands Conference, 1956	box 4	folder 34
8th International Grasslands Conference, 1960	box 4	folder 35

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Scope and Contents note

This series is a listing of meetings and notes concerning the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT), CIMMYT, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

Title/Description	Instances	
Agricultural Research Institute Meeting, May 1969	box 1	folder 1
Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical, 1968-1969	box 1	folder 2
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), 1969	box 1	folder 3
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, 1966-1970	box 1	folder 4
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, 1966-1970	box 1	folder 5
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, 1966-1970	box 1	folder 6
International Rice Research Institute, 1969-1970	box 1	folder 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Speeches and Reprints, 1950-1970

### Scope and Contents note

This series is comprised of W. M. Myers's speeches and reprints.

Title/Description	Instances	
"Adjustments in Land Use and Crop Production - Looking Ahead"	box 1	folder 1
"Advanced Studies in Agronomy - Crop Rotation"	box 1	folder 2
"Agronomic Aspects of Dairy Feed Production"	box 1	folder 3
"Are Forage Crops Needed in Corn Belt Agriculture?", 1957	box 1	folder 4
"The Challenge Agriculture Faces", 1964	box 1	folder 5
"Cheap Seed is Expensive"	box 1	folder 6
"Development of the Basic Plant Sciences"	box 1	folder 7
"The Education of an Agricultural Specialist", 1964	box 1	folder 8
"Fifty Years of Progress in Field Crops", 1951	box 1	folder 9
"The Fight Against Hunger", 1964	box 1	folder 10
"Forage Crop Breeding", 1956	box 1	folder 11
"Forage Crops in Agriculture", 1950	box 1	folder 12
"Farm Replanning for Profit", 1952	box 1	folder 13
"Grasses and Grass Silage", 1952	box 1	folder 14

"Grassland Farming"	box 1	folder 15
"Grassland Management - Pastures", 1950	box 1	folder 16
"Grassland Management for Increased Production in the Humid Areas and Under Irrigation"	box 1	folder 17
"Grassland Potentials and the Grassland Program", 1952	box 1	folder 18
"Grassland Research at Rosemont"	box 1	folder 19
"Importance of Research at the University of Minnesota"	box 1	folder 20
"Improved Crop Varieties and Seed Certification", 1954	box 1	folder 21
"Intensive Grassland Farming Requires Planning for Flexibility"	box 1	folder 22
"International Dimensions in Education", 1964	box 1	folder 23
"The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture"	box 1	folder 24
"National Foundation Seed Project", 1951	box 1	folder 25
"The Need for Grassland Improvement", 1952	box 1	folder 26
"A New Dimension for the University - International Programs", 1963	box 1	folder 27
"The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Certification Scheme", 1962	box 1	folder 28
"Our Daily Bread", 1964	box 1	folder 29
"Our Greatest Feed Resource"	box 1	folder 30
"Pasture Improvement"	box 1	folder 31
"People, Technology and the Environment", 1970	box 1	folder 32
"The Place of the International Research Centers in the Network"	box 1	folder 33
"The Plant Breeder Is Greatly Adding to the Nutritional and Economic Value of Grassland Crops"	box 1	folder 34
"Problems in International Development", 1969	box 1	folder 35
"The Pursuit of Excellence", 1961	box 1	folder 36
"Raising the Curtain on Research Opportunities"	box 1	folder 37
"Research Needs of the Grassland Opportunities"	box 1	folder 38
"Responsibilities of the Research Worker"	box 1	folder 39
"Role of Mutations in Plant Breeding - Discussion"	box 1	folder 40
"The Sixth International Grassland Congress", 1952	box 1	folder 41
"Superior Forage Crop Seeds Are Critical Materials"	box 1	folder 42
"Summary of Talk Made at Extension Conference Dinner"	box 1	folder 43
"Unfinished Business", 1970	box 1	folder 44

"What It Is Like to Breed a New Variety"	box 1	folder 45
"Where Do We Go From Here in Seed Certification?"	box 1	folder 46
"Whose Job Is It?"	box 1	folder 47
"World Food Population Problem, an Overview", 1969	box 1	folder 48
"Why Do We Need More Agricultural Research?"	box 1	folder 49
Reprints	box 2	folder 50

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Memorabilia and Awards, 1959-1961

### Scope and Contents

Included in this series are:

Senior Judging Contest 1930 Trophy

Students Crop Judging Contest 1930 Trophy

Students Crop Judging Contest 1931 Trophy

Conditions Governing Access:

### Conditions Governing Access

Due to the oversize nature and potentially brittle condition of this material, special arrangements may be required in order to view materials. Individual items may be restricted due to preservation concerns.

Title/Description	Instances	
Awards	box 1	folder 1
Bancroft High School - Kansas State College	box 1	folder 2
Passports	box 1	folder 3
Testimonials	box 1	folder 4
Minnesota Premier Seed Grower, 1961	box 1	folder A
Royal Thai Mint Set	box 1	folder B
Thai Shawl	box 1	folder C
Map of West Africa. Printed at the survey of Ghana at Accra., 1959	folder 1	
File Plan note		
M-2		
Road Map of Nigeria., 1960	folder 1	folder 8

**File Plan note**

M-1

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

<b>Reprints</b>		
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Africa	box 1	folder 1
Cornell Agricultural Developments - Mimeographs, Reprints, Bulletins	box 1	folder 2
Cornell Agricultural Developments - Mimeographs, Reprints, Bulletins	box 2	folder 2A
Environment	box 2	folder 3
Committee on Institutional Cooperation-Agency for International Development (CIC-AID) Rural Development Research Project	box 3	folder 4
Food	box 4	folder 5
Genetics	box 4	folder 6
India	box 4	folder 7
Japan	box 4	folder 8
Population	box 5	folder 9
Rice	box 5	folder 10
Rice	box 6	folder 11
Virology	box 6	folder 12
Wheat	box 6	folder 13
Miscellaneous Agriculture	box 6	folder 14
Miscellaneous Agriculture	box 7	folder 15
Miscellaneous Agriculture	box 8	folder 16
Miscellaneous Agriculture	box 9	folder 17
General	box 9	folder 18

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Accession 53, 1966-1970**

**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains correspondence, notes, papers, and speeches received from the Rockefeller Foundation through Records Management and Library Service; this material was added to the existing W. M. Myers collection in 1977.

**Title/Description****Instances**

Conference on Agricultural Development, Villa Serbelloni, April 23-25, 1969

box 1

folder 1

**Scope and Contents note**

Summary prepared by W. M. Myers.

Conference on Population, Villa Serbelloni, April 6-8, 1970

box 1

folder 2

**Scope and Contents note**

Correspondence, papers, notes. Includes "Personal Observations Regarding Population Conference, Villa Serbelloni, April 6-8, 1970" by John D. Rockefeller 3rd.

Economic Development Institute, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Agricultural Projects Course, 1968

box 1

folder 3

**Scope and Contents note**

Includes paper "Agricultural Research" presented by W. M. Myers, August 5, 1968.

International Centre for Theoretical Physics, International Atomic Energy Agency - Pamphlet

box 1

folder 4

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture

box 1

folder 5

**Scope and Contents note**

Administrative material 1966. Correspondence, notes, printed material.

International Rice Research Institute, Department of Agricultural Economics

box 1

folder 6

**Scope and Contents note**

Bibliography, April 1967. Paper, "An Analysis of the Interrelationships between Land Preparation and Weeding in Lowland Rice." 1967.

Papers and Speeches by W. M. Myers

box 1

folder 7

**Scope and Contents note**

Abstract of the Talk Presented at the Meeting of the Association of Southern Agricultural Workers, Mobile, Alabama, February 4, 1969.

"Hunger - A Challenge to World Agriculture," presented at the Fortieth National Convention of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, Lincoln, Nebraska, August 26, 1968.

"Population and Food," presented to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Congress of the United States, April 24, 1968. These remarks are largely drawn from an address by J. G. Harrar entitled "Crisis in Human Ecology" before the National Academy of Sciences on April 23, 1968.

"The Role of Agricultural Sciences in the War on Hunger," presented at the 100th Annual Meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science, Lawrence, Kansas, May 2-4, 1968.

"Science and Pollution," undated and unidentified paper.

Personal	box 1	folder 8
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
Correspondence, Foundation and personal business, 1965-1966.		
Notes, some handwritten, undated. Subjects include the Rockefeller Foundation's University Development program, the University of Brasilia, world agricultural development.		
Outline, "Evolution and Revolution in Agriculture" initialed SW (Sterling Wortman?), no date.		
Memorial, by Harold E. Myers, brother of W. M. Myers, no date.		
Quality of the Environment - Rockefeller Foundation Program Statements, 1969	box 1	folder 9
United Nations Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development - Seminar with North American Scientists on Links with Developing Countries, 1967-1968	box 1	folder 10
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
Correspondence, notes, printed material.		
University of the Philippines	box 1	folder 11
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
Material relating to visit, September 24-29, 1967.		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)



## Will M. Myers photographs

Physical Description: 0.3 Cubic Feet

### Biographical / Historical

Will Martin Myers (1911-1970) was born and raised in Bancroft, Kansas. He received a B.S. in Agronomy from Kansas State College in 1932 and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Plant Genetics from the University of Minnesota in 1934 and 1936.

In 1937 Dr. Myers joined the United States Department of Agriculture as Geneticist at the Pasture Research Laboratory, State College, Pennsylvania. After World War II he was Geneticist and Consultant with the Far Eastern Command in Japan. He returned to the USDA as Head of the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases and then as Director of Field Crops Research at Beltsville, Maryland. From 1950-1952 Dr. Myers organized the Sixth International Grasslands Conference and later was Chairman of the U.S. Delegation to the Seventh International Grasslands Conference in 1956. After leaving the Department of Agriculture in 1952, Dr. Myers became Head of the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics at the University of Minnesota. He became Dean of the Office of International Programs in 1963.

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Dr. Myers had many associations, some of which were Chairman, Committee on Agricultural Science, USDA; Chairman, Agricultural Research Facilities Needs Committee, USDA; Chairman, Latin American Science Board National Academy of Sciences; Member, U.S. National Commission, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Consultant, Ford Foundation; Consultant, Office of Science and Technology, Executive Office of the President; Science Advisor to Assistant Administrator, Latin American Bureau, AID and Coordinator, Alliance for Progress, 1962; Member, U.S. Delegation to the United Nations Conference on Application of Science and Technology in Assistance to Developing Nations, 1963; Chairman, Crops Division, 1946, Vice President 1957, President 1958, American Society of Agronomy.

Conditions Governing Access:

### Conditions Governing Access

Photographs, slides, and other images are open for scholarly research. RAC is unable to provide access to obsolete media and original digital media. In addition separated media may not yet have undergone stabilization procedures. When feasible, a digital surrogate may be created via special order. All applicable charges will apply.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
William M. Myers	box 2	folder 12
<u>General Physical Description note:</u> Some have captions attached or typed on back, 1 with slight fading, some curling		

### Scope and Contents note

Ceremonies, awards, speeches, conferences, agriculture, corn, group photo.

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Farm Machinery

box 2

folder 13

General Physical Description note: Captions attached to back, 5 with adhesive staining

### Scope and Contents note

Agriculture, farming, machines.

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William M. Myers

box 4

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)