

**Inventory to a Special Collection at Claremont Heritage  
Citrus Leaves Magazine Collection  
2021.001T**

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**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Citrus Leaves Magazine Collection

**Dates:** January 1938 – October 1956

**Collection Number:** 2021.001T

**Creator/Collector:** Unknown

1.67 linear feet (2 boxes); containing magazines and ephemera.

**Repository:** Claremont Heritage Special Collections and Archives  
Claremont, California 91711

**Language of Material:** English

**Access:** The collection is open for research use.

**Publication Rights:** Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder (if applicable).

**Preferred Citation:** Citrus Leaves Magazine Collection. Claremont Heritage

The Citrus Leaves Magazine Collection contains materials related to Southern California's citrus history. This collection has been sorted into two series; Magazines and Ephemera (shipping inventory).

**Biography/Administrative History:**

Arthur Gregory (1869-1954) founded Mutual Orange Distributors in 1906, a grower association that promised to provide quality products and business for its partnering growers, packing houses and customers. From 1921-1957, Mutual Orange Distributors published Citrus Leaves, a magazine service with a primary focus on lemons, oranges, grapefruits, and the occasional avocado. These magazines, 76 volumes in total, functioned as a farmer's almanac where productivity, advancements in practices, warnings and general news on agriculture and citrus related events (globally) were shared for the benefit of Southern California's citrus communities. The collection's ephemera provides a snippet of shipping and distributing information on Mutual Orange Distributors during the fiscal year of 1948-49.

## Scope and Content of Collection:

The collection contains 76 volumes and two items of ephemera. The materials located in this collection reside in two series: Magazines and Ephemera. Of the magazines available, focus is given to the day-to-day activities of the citrus community. As such, the magazine subscription presents itself as a farmer's almanac, in that it discloses growers' concerns and solutions. In addition, these magazines focus on community engagement through their monthly Mutual Orange Distributors reports, advertising of local shops, festivals, recipes (sometimes with a sole focus on avocados, as seen in their Avocado Almanac) and even celebrity appearances. Citrus Leaves incorporates relevant domestic and international agricultural news, allowing for a competitive understanding of the global citrus marketplace while at the same time highlighting the value of Southern California's Citrus industry on the regional, domestic, and international levels. The collection's sparsity is its greatest shortcoming as made evident by its extent: 1938, 1941, 1948-1956. This does not negate the collection's importance as its almanac theme keeps the researcher informed of the then recent advancements and amendments in agricultural practices. Of the ephemera available, there are two items from Mutual Orange Distributors that discuss shipping plans and coordination. Its extensive list of distributors and shipping estimates provide insight into Mutual Orange Distributors' 1948-49 fiscal year. Cumulatively, this collection provides a community's perspective on the citrus history of Southern California.

Terms:

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Southern --History

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County (Calif.) -- History

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California --History

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## Resources:

1. Arbol Verde Collection 1910s-2010s  
Contribution Institution: Claremont Heritage  
Collection Number: 2018.003T  
Link:  
<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8w09cmm/?query=Citrus>
2. Boulé (David) California Orange Collection 1882-2016  
Contribution Institution: Claremont Colleges: Honnold/Mudd Library  
Collection Number: H.Mss.1098  
Link:  
<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8s46zhm/?query=Citrus+Leaves>.
3. McPherson (William) Papers 1664/65-1970  
Contribution Institution: Claremont Colleges: Honnold/Mudd Library  
Collection Number: H.Mss.0524  
Link:  
<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8zk5hx8/?query=Mutual+Orange+Distributors>.
4. Collection Name: Oglesby Citrus Label Collection circa 1890s-2014  
Contribution Institute: Claremont Colleges: Honnold/Mudd Library  
Collection Number: H.Mss.1053  
Link:  
<https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8db857x/?query=Citrus+Leaves>.

**Container Listing:** See attached Container List.