



**Jenkins family papers, 1911-1960**  
**SCHS 417.00**

**Creator:** Jenkins, William Hamilton, 1893-1960.

**Description:** 5.5 linear ft.

**Preferred citation:** Jenkins, William Hamilton, 1893-1960. Jenkins family papers, 1911-1960. (417.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Scope and content:** This collection principally consists of the professional papers and family correspondence of William H. Jenkins. The bulk of his professional correspondence (1927-1950s) deals with his activities as an agronomist based at Martins Point (S.C.) and later at the Pee Dee Experiment Station (Florence, S.C.) and his involvement in attempts to revive the Sea Island cotton industry during the second quarter of the 20th century in South Carolina, Florida, and Georgia. His correspondence with officials of the USDA Bureau of Plant Industry and with cotton growers in the southeast mainly concerns Sea Island cotton breeding, planting, and experimentation. Correspondents include C.B. Doyle, J.O. Ware, E.E. Hall, D.C. Harrell, Mordecai N. Gist, C.M. Matheny, and Arthur Jones. Included are letters of Julian G. Jenkins (the brother of William H. Jenkins), an agronomist at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station (Tifton, Ga.).

Other professional papers of William H. Jenkins consist of reports on cotton plantings in Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina, including plantings at Rockland Plantation (S.C.), James Island (S.C.), and Zephyrhills (Fla.); papers concerning pests and pesticides, cotton quotas and tariffs, the "backcross" method of cotton breeding, and long staple cotton; notebooks containing data on various plantings and experimentation; papers concerning rubber tree research and other agricultural experiments in Haiti (1920s-1930); and printed material, including pamphlets, concerning cotton culture and South Carolina agriculture. Personal papers of William H. Jenkins include estate records, school notes, and farming records. Farming records (1956-1960), mainly correspondence and financial records, pertain to Jenkins' farm on Johns Island (where he raised cattle) and one on Wadmalaw Island (S.C.).

Family correspondence consists of letters among various family members including William H. Jenkins ("Bill" or "Willie"), his mother Mrs. W.E. Jenkins ("Mudsie"), his brother Julian (or Jule) G. Jenkins, uncle C. Bissell Jenkins, and sisters Anne (wife of G. Manigault Jenkins) and Thea (Amarinthea, wife of W.E. Butler).

**Biographical/Historical note:** William H. Jenkins was an agronomist who worked for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. A graduate of Clemson University, he was the son of William E. Jenkins and Julia Septima Jenkins of Rockville (S.C.).

**Search terms:**

Jenkins family.  
 Jenkins, Julia Septima.  
 Jenkins, Julian G., 1895-1981.  
 Jenkins, William Evans, 1851-1930.  
 Cotton farmers -- Georgia.  
 Agriculturists -- South Carolina.  
 Agriculture -- South Carolina.  
 Agriculture -- Experimentation -- Haiti.  
 Cattle -- South Carolina -- Johns Island.  
 Cotton farmers -- Florida.  
 Cotton farmers -- South Carolina.  
 Cotton growing -- Southern States -- 20th century.  
 Jenkins, William Hamilton, 1893-1960.  
 Farms -- South Carolina -- Johns Island.  
 Farms -- South Carolina -- Wadmalaw Island.  
 Sea Island cotton.  
 Letters (correspondence)  
 Research (document genres)

**Series overview:**

0417.01	William H. Jenkins Papers
0417.01 (C)	William H. Jenkins Correspondence
0417.01 (C) 01	William H. Jenkins Professional Correspondence
0417.01 (C) 02	William H. Jenkins Family and Personal Correspondence
0417.01 (F) 01	William H. Jenkins Personal Papers: Farming Records
0417.01 (M) 01	William H. Jenkins Personal Papers: Miscellaneous Papers
0417.01 (P) 01	William H. Jenkins Professional Papers
0417.02	Jenkins Family Papers

**Container list:**

**Box 1**

0417.01 (C) 01	Professional correspondence
0417.01 (C) 01.01	Professional correspondence, 1927-1938: mostly correspondence with C.B. Doyle, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D.C., as well as other agronomists, and cotton growers in Florida, Georgia, and elsewhere concerning sea island cotton breeding, planting and experimentation. Jenkins writes from the Pee Dee Experiment Station, Martins Point, S.C., and Florence.

**Box 2**

0417.01 (C) 01.01	Professional correspondence, 1939-1942
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**Box 3**

0417.01 (C) 01.02	Professional correspondence, 1935-1941: correspondence with J.O. Ware, Senior Agronomist, USDA, Bureau of Plant Industry, and others, including E.E. Hall and D.C. Harrell (Pee Dee), concerning cotton genetics, breeding, growing, etc.
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**Box 4**

- 0417.01 (C) 01.03 Professional correspondence, 1936-1941: correspondence regarding cotton culture principally among USDA agents in Florida and the Pee Dee Experiment Station in Florence, S.C. (in reverse chronological order within folders, as received). Correspondents include Mordecai N. Gist, C.B. Doyle, and C.M. Matheny.
- 0417.01 (C) 01.04 Professional correspondence, 1939-1947: correspondence mainly concerning sea island cotton culture in Georgia. Correspondence of 1939 includes a February report on cotton growing in the Georgia Sea Islands. Correspondents include Julian G. Jenkins of the Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga.

**Box 5**

- 0417.01 (C) 01.04 Professional correspondence, 1948-1952
- 0417.01 (C) 01.05 Professional correspondence, 1934-1937: correspondence mainly regarding Florida and Georgia cotton plantings.
- 0417.01 (C) 01.06 Professional correspondence, 1939-1944: correspondence, mostly with Arthur Jones, USDA. Includes a letter (Oct. 25, 1941) from Herbert Ravenel Sass requesting information on sea island cotton.
- 0417.01 (C) 01.07 Professional correspondence, 1950s: mainly concerns indigo and sorghum. Includes WHJ's letter (May 31, 1954) about why the revival of the cotton industry failed.
- 0417.01 (C) 01.08 Professional correspondence: "Old Correspondence File" (arranged alphabetically).

**Box 6**

- 0417.01 (C) 02 William H. Jenkins Family and Personal Correspondence
- 0417.01 (C) 02 Correspondence, 1911-1919

**Box 7**

- 0417.01 (C) 02 Correspondence, 1919-1923

**Box 8**

- 0417.01 (C) 02 Correspondence, 1923-1925

**Box 9**

- 0417.01 (C) 02 Correspondence, 1925-1928

**Box 10**

- 0417.01 (C) 02 Correspondence, 1929-1958; and undated letters

**Box 11**

- 0417.01 (F) 01 William H. Jenkins Personal Papers: Farming records, 1956-1960, including correspondence and financial records, pertaining to a farm on Johns Island and one on Wadmalaw Island, S.C.
- 0417.01 (M) 01 William H. Jenkins Personal Papers: miscellaneous personal papers, including clippings, estate records, and school notes on agriculture.

**Box 12**

- 0417.01 (P) William H. Jenkins Professional Papers
- 0417.01 (P) 01.01 Papers re early cotton plantings & experiments, 1915-1929

- 0417.01 (P) 01.02 Records & planting reports, Ga., Fla. & S.C., 1920s-1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.03 Reports, etc, re sea island cotton, 1920s-1930s (includes data on James Island plantings)
- 0417.01 (P) 01.04 Papers re pests and pesticides, 1929-1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.05 Papers re Florida plantings and growers, 1930s; and undated
- 0417.01 (P) 01.06 Papers re plantings at Zephyrhills, Florida, 1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.07 Records re cotton plantings at Rockland Plantation, S.C., 1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.08 Records re Rockland Plantation plantings, 1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.09 Annual report on Sea Island cotton, 1934
- 0417.01 (P) 01.10 Papers re cotton quotas and tariffs, 1940s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.11 Papers re “backcross” method of cotton breeding
- 0417.01 (P) 01.12 Papers re long staple cotton, 1950s; and undated
- 0417.01 (P) 01.13 Miscellaneous papers concerning cotton
- Box 13**
- 0417.01 (P) 01.14 Notebooks concerning plantings at Rockland, 1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.15 Notebooks: “Sea Island Progeny Plantings, 1932, 1934” (Wadmalaw); re Georgia (St. Simons, etc., 1930s); re Florida plantings (Zephyrhills), etc.
- 0417.01 (P) 01.16 Reports on sea island cotton, Florida, 1930s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.17 Reports on sea island cotton, Florida, 1940s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.18 Reports on sea island cotton, Florida, 1940s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.19 Miscellaneous notebooks
- Box 14**
- 0417.01 (P) 01.20 Miscellaneous notebooks
- 0417.01 (P) 01.21 Miscellaneous material concerning sea island cotton
- 0417.01 (P) 01.22 Papers re rubber tree research in Haiti, 1920s
- 0417.01 (P) 01.23 Papers re agricultural experiments in Haiti, 1928-1930
- 0417.01 (P) 01.24 Printed material: printed material re agriculture, general
- 0417.01 (P) 01.25 Printed material re South Carolina agriculture
- 0417.01 (P) 01.26 Printed material re cotton
- 0417.01 (P) 01.27 Cotton rally program
- 0417.01 (P) 01.28 Printed material re cotton
- 0417.01 (P) 01.29 Printed material: agricultural product advertisements, etc.
- 0417.01 (P) 01.30 Clippings concerning agriculture
- 0417.02 Jenkins Family Papers: miscellaneous family papers