Finding Aid for

FORD TRACTOR PRODUCT LITERATURE,
1917-1986 (bulk 1948-1962)
Accession 179

Finding Aid Published: January 2011
SUMMARY INFORMATION

TITLE: Ford Tractor Product Literature collection

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1917-1986

BULK DATES: 1948-1962

QUANTITY: 2 cubic ft.

ABSTRACT: The collection contains product literature for Ford tractors, implements, and accessories.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: The collection is open for research.

ACQUISITION: Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964 and ongoing

PREFERRED CITATION: Item, folder, box, Accession 179, Ford Tractor Product Literature collection, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Finding aid prepared by Melissa Janz Barbey, December 2005
HISTORICAL NOTE

Henry Ford had a personal interest in tractors and began building experimental tractors in the early 1900s. He wanted to mass produce a tractor for farmers that was light, sturdy, and affordable. Ford demonstrated tractors at state fairs with much success. In England, British officials were interested in using Ford tractors to help alleviate World War I food shortages.

In response, Henry Ford established Henry Ford & Son, Inc.; began mass producing the Fordson tractor at his Brady Street plant in Dearborn, Michigan; and during 1917 and 1918, shipped the tractors to England. In 1919, the first Fordson tractor was produced in Cork, Ireland. After Henry Ford bought out Ford Motor Company minority stockholders in 1919, Ford dissolved Henry Ford & Son, Inc. and transferred the manufacturing and sale of Fordson tractors to Ford Motor Company. Production continued in Cork until the end of 1921 when it was shifted to the new Rouge plant in Dearborn, Michigan. Fordson tractors were produced at the Rouge plant until 1928. In 1929, all Fordson tractor production was transferred to Cork, Ireland. In 1933, production of the Fordson tractor moved from Cork to Dagenham, England. From 1929 to 1938, tractors built in Cork, Ireland, and Dagenham, England were sold in the United Kingdom and exported to the United States.

In 1938, Henry Ford entered into a verbal agreement with Harry Ferguson to produce a Ford tractor with a three point implement hitch called the "Ferguson System." Based on the Ford-Ferguson agreement, the 9N tractor was marketed by the Ferguson-Sherman Company, and later Harry Ferguson, Inc. Production of the 9N Ford tractor at the Rouge plant in Dearborn began in 1939 and ceased in 1942 due to World War II. The 9N Ford tractor was replaced by the 2N Ford tractor from 1942 to 1947 and later the 8N from 1947 to 1952. In 1947, Henry Ford II terminated the Ford-Ferguson agreement and established Dearborn Motors Corporation to distribute Ford tractors and implements.

In 1953, Ford Motor Company assumed the distribution of Ford tractors and implements and established the Ford Tractor Division. In 1953, the NAA Golden Jubilee Ford tractor was introduced in honor of Ford Motor Company's 50th anniversary. In 1954, Ford Tractor Operations was reorganized into the Tractor and Implement Division. In 1955, Ford Motor company offered five new models, which was the first time the company produced multiple tractor models in one year. In 1962, Tractor and Implement Operations (U.S.) was formed, which was responsible for the design, manufacture, and distribution of Ford tractors and equipment for farm and industrial uses. In 1965, Ford Motor Company began producing lawn and garden tractors. In 1974, new "walk behind lawn mowers" were introduced. In 1986, Ford Motor Company acquired Sperry New Holland, merged it with Ford Tractor Operations, and created a new separate company called Ford New Holland, Inc.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Ford Tractor Product Literature collection is an intentionally assembled collection that is arranged into four series. The Tractor series, 1922-1986 (1.2 cubic ft.), includes product literature for County, Ford, and Fordson tractors. The product literature for Ford tractors includes farm tractors, industrial tractors, and lawn and garden tractors. The Implements series, 1922-1986 (0.4 cubic ft.), includes product literature for the following farm implement makes: Big Blue, Covington, Danuser, Dearborn, Dearborn-Peoria, Dearborn-Wood Bros., Ford, Fordson, Taylor, and Towner. The product literature for implements includes blades, combines, corn pickers, corn planters, cultivators, harrows, hay balers, lime and fertilizer spreaders, loaders, manure spreaders, middlebusters, mowers, plows, post hole diggers, rakes, scoops, snow removal equipment, subsoilers, wagons, and other agricultural implements. The Parts and Accessories series, 1950-1985 (0.2 cubic ft.), includes product literature for parts and accessories used on tractors and implements. The Foreign Language series, circa 1917-1955 (0.2 cubic ft.), includes product literature for Ford and Fordson tractors printed in Danish, Dutch, French, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, and Ukrainian. Product literature for Ford New Holland, Inc. is not included in this collection. See the trade catalog collection for product literature for tractors, implements, and accessories produced by Ford New Holland, Inc.
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<th>BOX no.</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td><strong>TRACTORS SERIES</strong></td>
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| Box 1  | County, 1972  
          Ford  
          1939, 1947, 1951-1961 (14 folders) |
| Box 3  | 1984-1986 (4 folders)  
| **IMPLEMENTS SERIES** | |
| Box 4  | Big Blue  
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          Manure Spreader, 1972  
          Covington, Planters, 1953-1954  
          Danuser  
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          Angle Dozer, 1949  
          Cordwood Saw, 1950, 1953, 1958  
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          Bush and Bog, 1949, 1951, 1956  
          Disc, 1953-1955  
          Spring Tooth, 1949  
          Hay Balers, 1952, 1955  
          Lime & Fertilizer Spreaders, 1953-1956  
          Loaders  
          General, 1953, 1955  
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          Rear Mounted, 1953-1954  
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          Material Handling Equipment, 1953 |
IMPLEMENTS SERIES

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Box 4 (cont.)

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   Side Mounted, 1953, 1956-1957
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Snow Removal Equipment, 1953
Subsoiler, 1953
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   Corn Picker, 1953-1955
Ford
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   Corn Harvester, 1955-1956, 1958
   Corn Pickers, 1955, 1958, 1961
   Corn Planter, 1956
   Cultivators, Planter Attachments, Fertilizer Attachments, 1956
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   Forage Harvesters, 1958, 1971, 1980
   Fork Lift Personnel Platform, 1963
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IMPLEMENTS SERIES
Ford, (cont.)
Harrow (cont.)

Box 4 (cont.)
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Implement, 1957
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Box 5
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Picker Sheller, 1958
Planters and Cultivators, 1958
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Chisel, 1973, 1984
Disc, 1956, 1958
General, 1955
One Way, 1956
Variable Width, 1981
Post Hole Digger, 1957, 1959
Rakes
Pull-Type, 1973
Rear Tool Bar Equipment, 1956-1957
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Scoop, Reversible, 1956, 1958
Snow Equipment, 1956
Soil Keeper, 1980
Soil Moving Equipment, 1963
V-Chisel, 1978
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Fordson
Moldboard Plow, 1955
Snow Plow, 1922
Taylor, Disc Tiller, 1953
Towner, Implements, 1950
PARTS AND ACCESSORIES SERIES

Box 5

Big Blue, 1972
Dearborn, 1950-1953
Dearborn-Wood Bros., 1951-1952
Ford
   Accessories & Special Items for Your Ford Tractor, 1954, 1956, 1958-1959
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   Compact Loader Options, 1984
   Cover Boards, 1955
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   Half Cabs, 1955, 1957, 1959
   Hydraulic & Loader Oils, 1957
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