This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri, Research Center- Columbia. If you would like more information, please contact us at research@shsmo.org.

**Dates:** 1890s-1960s  
**Creator:** Stark Brothers Nurseries and Orchards Company  
**Collection Size:** 109.6 cubic feet, 12 oversize volumes, 1 oversize item

**Introduction**  
Business records of a Louisiana, Missouri, company include correspondence, reports, catalogs, printed materials, photographs, and miscellaneous material. Also included is material pertaining to varieties of fruits and plants developed by Luther Burbank.

**Donor Information**  
The records were donated to the University of Missouri by John Logan, President for the Stark Brothers Nursery on 10 October 1977. Additional records were donated by the Stark Brothers Nurseries and Orchards Company on 18 October 1979, 5 October 1981, and 11 November 1981.

**Box List**

**Burbank Series (Boxes B1-B21)**

**Box B1**  
Invoices, April-May 1929  
Burbank varieties sent out under restriction for testing, 1929 (4 folders)  
Burbank inserts  
Burbank color plates (2 folders)  
Reports from tests planting  
Plant experimenters  
C. Bolles, McCook, Nebraska  
Hardy Northern Varieties  
Burbank testing  
July Elberta Peach Test, 1935  
Hunsaker—Experimental  
Reports on Tested Varieties  
Testing list—Spring 1935 & later  
Jonared Agreement with Richey & Gilbert  
Colchicine Experiments—Hormones  
Propagation through phyto-hormones  
Plant research results  
Burbank Testing Association

**Box B2 (full gray)**  
Vanderbilt Correspondence (4 folders)
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STARK BROTHERS NURSERIES AND ORCHARDS COMPANY RECORDS

Burbank Records of Original Orchards at Sebastopol, 1927-1932 (3 folders)
Burbank Shipping Tests, 1930
Burbank Louisiana Test Orchard Reports, 1927-1931 (2 folders)
Burbank Double No. Plum
Plum Miscellaneous
Plumcot

Box B3 (full gray)
Plum Descriptions- By Burbank and Earl Allander
Burbank Plum- Orchard Records (4 folders)
Lists
Elephant Heart Plum Testing, Spring 1933
Burbank Notes on Plums (4 folders)

Box B4
Burbank Plum

Box B5
Burbank Peaches
Burbank Nuts

Boxes B6-7
Burbank Plum

Box B8
Burbank Apple
Burbank Cherry

Boxes B9-11
Burbank Plum

Boxes B12-13
Photographs

Boxes B14
Burbank Quince
Burbank Roses

Boxes B15
Burbank Plums

Boxes B16-17 [Vacant - Contained books donated to Ellis Library.]

Boxes B18-21
Photographs
Stark Brothers Nursery General Material (Boxes 1-58)

Box 1
Production & Collection Correspondence, c. 1912-1921

Box 2
Correspondence, 1901-1920
  Reed-Farrell Reports on Orchards. Some indication that correspondence may have been alphabetically in subject files, i.e., one correspondence file box to subject.

Box 3
Correspondence, 1901-1920
  Production & Collection. Folders of files labeled “Variety File, Pear” etc. If possible, identity of these files should be maintained for horticultural research and any other variety files reconstructed if possible. Reed files.

Box 4  Production & Collection & Variety Correspondence, 1900-1923

Box 4A  Correspondence, 1918-1920

Box 5  Collection Correspondence, 1900-1923 (May really be about collecting money; some is at least.)

Box 6  Order & Collection (of money)

Boxes 7-9  Collection, Property Correspondence

Boxes 10-11  Collection of Bills and Correspondence, 1900-1920

Box 12
Controversy over Ben Davis or Gano Apple, 1904
Freight Received Records, c. 1900-1910
Fayetteville, 1904-1905
Mahin Advertising Company

Box 13
Grapes
Advertising
Other nursery trade lists and correspondence
Envelopes labeled:
  Lawrence Stark
  Lawrence Reese
  William P. Stark propagation records
  Propagation Records, 1890s
Loose William P. Stark propagation records
Sales and Propagation Records, 1910-1920
Box 14
Sales and Propagation Records, 1910-1920
“East Miscellaneous Spring, 1920”

Box 15
“East Miscellaneous Spring, 1920”
One folder of material found in Oversize Ledgers
Production Correspondence, 1890s-1910s
Miscellaneous Labor (1 folder)
Material from box labeled:
   Stock Department, 1 June 1935-1 June 1936
   Misc. A-L
   Budding Records, 1936

Box 16
Material from box labeled:
   Stock Department, 1 June 1935-1 June 1936
   Misc. A-L
   Budding Records, 1936

Box 17
Pictures apparently from other files as well as ledger
Stock Department, 1 June 1935-1 June 1936
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1935-1936 [RANDOM SAMPLE]
   Letters about accounts (financial)
   Sick employee
   Advice on how to plant fruit trees
Howell County Nursery – regarding peach bud contract
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1935-1936

Box 18
Folders containing orders, notes, payment records, correspondence

Boxes 19-25  Telegrams, early 1920s, miscellaneous (mainly re: business transactions)

Box 26
Telegram, early 1920s, miscellaneous (mainly re: business transactions)
Edwin J. Stark Correspondence, 1940s

Box 27
Edwin J. Stark Correspondence, 1940s
Victory Garden materials, 1940s

Box 28
Spray File, 1915-1916
Trade, 1914-1915
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Louisiana Budding Record, 1942
Atlas Budding Record, 1940
Field Inventory Records, 1947
Miscellaneous
Price Ceilings, 1940s
Price Controls, 1940s
Price Fixing, 1940s
Sugar Rationing
Statements from Authorities
Clippings
Decisions, Rulings, Statements
Correspondence with other nurserymen re: rationing
Gas & Rubber
Gas Ration Mailing OPA
Mailings – Gas & Tires
Engleson – Gas & Tires
Letters to Salesman

Box 29
Neosho Nurseries
Jackson & Perkins
Aggregate Field Books, 1889-1890
Plant Prints
Trade, 1910-1911 (Invoices)
Stark, Lloyd, C., Test Orchard Notes, 1920s-1930s
Variety Book Notes
Stark, Lloyd, C., Test Orchard Notes
Apple Pollination & Breeding Records, 1930
Stark, Lloyd, C., Test Orchard Notes, 1919-1928
Apple Testimonial Book, 1910
Nursery Catalogs, 1917-1918 (not Stark Bros.)

Box 30
Nursery Catalogs, 1917-1918 (not Stark Bros.)
Nursery Catalogs, 1953 (not Stark Bros.)
Nursery Catalog material, mostly 1953-1954 (not Stark Bros.)
Sales Managers letters, 1939
Form letters, 1941
Film – “They Shall Not Perish” – American Red Cross

Box 31
Form letters, 1941
Naples contract, 1948
Production Records, Marionville, 1947-1966
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Box 32
Chauffeur’s licenses, 1961-1964
Turfgrass Farm, Arizona, 1966-1967
Barnes, Loy J., 1964-1965
Planting Records, 1949-1953
Atlas Budding Records, 1946-1960
Plant Records, 1957-1962
Stark Nursery Printed Materials, 1880s to early 1900s (catalogs, etc.)

Box 33
Stark Nursery Printed Materials, 1908-1912 (catalogs, etc.)
Leases, Expired, 1942-1949
Salesman’s Contracts, 1942, A-H

Box 34
Salesman’s Contracts, 1942, I-Z
Sales Campaign & Mailings, 1930-1931
Recruiting Reports, 1925-1927
Advertising and Salesman’s Campaign, 1925-1928
Advertising, 1934-1941
Advertising & Salesman’s Campaign, 1926-1930
Salesmen’s Contracts, 1938
Advertising & Salesman’s Campaign, c. 1932-1934

Box 35  Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, A-Mo, c. 1930s

Box 36  Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, Mp-Z, c. 1930s
Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, A-Ca, c. 1920s

Box 37  Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, Ca-Ha, c. 1920s

Box 38  Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, Ha-N, c. 1920s

Box 39  Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, O-Sm, c. 1920s

Box 40  Infringement file, Stark & Golden Delicious, So-Z, c. 1920s

Box 41  Catalog and Dealership Requests, 1940s
Form letters, 1941

Box 42  Catalog and Dealership Requests, 1940s
Form letters, 1939

Box 43
Inventory & Sales Records, 1934-1936
Planting Records, 1928-1936
Invoices, 1936
Catalog & Dealership Requests, 1940s

Box 44
Catalog & Dealership Requests, 1940s
Apple Research Correspondence, 1910-1936, M (New varieties)

Box 45
Apple Research Correspondence, 1910-1936, N (New varieties)

Boxes 46-54 [VACANT – See Oversize Volumes]

Box 55
Photos - Large fruits, miscellaneous fruit varieties, Ornamentals, 1900s-1950s

Boxes 56-58 Victory Gardens Correspondence

PHOTOGRAPHS (Boxes 59-100)

Box 59
Shade trees, landscaped homes, plant close-ups, 1915-1950s

Box 60
Roses and evergreens, tulips, landscaping, 1915-1950s

Box 61
Pear trees (varieties and digging), orchard scenes, roses, 1890-1960s

Box 62
Landscaped homes, 1915-1950s

Box 63
Shrubs and shade trees, flower close-ups, assorted flowers, plants, landscaped homes, 1915-1950s or 1960s

Box 64
Ornamental shrubs, flower and plant close-ups, landscaping, 1915-1950s

Box 65
Peach trees, shrubs, ornamentals, 1915-1950s

Box 66
Peach trees, peaches, ornamentals, n.d.

Box 67
Roses, shrubs, shade trees, landscaping, ornamentals, miscellaneous photographs 1920s

Box 68
Roses, landscaping, plant close-ups, shade trees, cherries, n.d.
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STARK BROTHERS NURSERIES AND ORCHARDS COMPANY RECORDS

Box 69  Cherry trees, landscaping, cherries, landscaped homes, miscellaneous photographs, 1915-1950

Box 70  Landscaped homes, cherry trees, cherries, landscaping, miscellaneous photographs, n.d.

Box 71  Landscaping, Starking apples, apple trees, apples, miscellaneous photographs, n.d.

Box 72  Apples, Starking apples, Delicious apples, n.d.

Box 73  Apples, apple trees, trees in bloom, golden delicious, Delicious apples, 1900-1930s

Box 74  Miscellaneous apple trees, apples, Golden Delicious, miscellaneous dwarfs, fruit planting, photographs from 1909-1947, 1952 Starking Delicious and Red-Gold


Box 76  Stark Brother’s trees in New York and New Mexico; various Stark trees, 1950s-1960s; Grades, Golden Delicious, Peach, Orchard and Nursery Views; Golden Delicious, 1916-1920

Box 77  Golden Delicious, 1920-1940; Elberta Peaches; Miscellaneous apples and fruit

Box 78  Stark sales people, 1915-1950s

Box 79  Stark sales people, Orchard scenes, individual trees, etc., 1900-1950s

Box 80  Orchard Views, Peaches, Delicious Apples, Delicious Apple Monument

Box 81  Orchard Views, Stark Delicious, Nursery Views, Various fruits, 1900s-1950s

Box 82  Orchard Views, Nursery Views, Various Apples, Photographs of individual apples, miscellaneous photographs, 1900-1950s, n.d.
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STARK BROTHERS NURSERIES AND ORCHARDS COMPANY RECORDS

Box 83  Apples, Delicious Monument, Grapes, other fruits, 1900-1950s

Box 84  Berries, Grapes, and Plums, 1900-1950s

Box 85  Plum varieties, 1900s-1950s; Apple shows and dedications, 1910s and 1950s-1960s

Box 86  Apple shows, Delicious Apple

Box 87  Miscellaneous Apples; Orchard and Nursery views; Packing; Spraying; Picking; Sales people

Box 88  Sales people; horticulturalists; Golden Delicious Apples

Box 89  Golden Delicious Apples and Peach varieties, n.d.

Box 90  Peach varieties, n.d.

Box 91  Peaches, Apricots, Quince, 1920s-1960s; Orchard Views, Nursery Views, Cover crops, and Apple varieties

Box 92  Apple and Other Fruit Varieties, Delicious Monument, Starking Apples, Starking Celebration

Box 93  Delicious Apple, 1900s-1920s; Delicious Monument

Box 94  Grades, Grapes, Various Apples, Cherries, Nursery Views, n.d.

Box 95  Grades, Grape Vines, Apples, Orchard Views, and Peach Varieties, n.d.

Box 96  Peach Varieties; Starking, Wilson Red June, Red Rome Beauty, Winesap, Stayman Winesap apples, 1920s-1940s

Box 97
Photographs, Starking and Delicious apples, Stark celebrations, 1920s-1930s
J.H. Hale correspondence, 1910s (5 folders)
Catalogs, 1899, 1901, 1907

Boxes 98-100 (oversize) [Box 98 partially full]
Photographs

Box 101
Catalogs, 1911-1955

Box 102
Catalogs, 1956-1969
Stark Tree Talk, January 6-December 29, 1930
Catalog Cut-outs, Berries
Catalog Cut-outs, Apples A-K
Catalog Cut-outs, Apples L-Z
Catalog Cut-outs, Flowers and trees
Catalog Cut-outs, Apricots
Catalog Cut-outs, Grapes
Catalog Cut-outs, Pears
Catalog Cut-outs, Triplicates
Catalog Cut-outs, Duplicates
Catalog Cut-outs, Plums
Catalog Cut-outs, Quinces
Catalog Cut-outs, Peaches
Catalog Cut-outs, Cherries
Miscellaneous Correspondence, Catalogs, and Cut-outs, 1928-1931 (5 folders)

OVERSIZE MATERIAL

Item #1 Panoramic photograph, Farm scene, n.d.

[NOTE: Volumes were removed from the box list. The box number has been changed to a volume number.]

v. 45 State tags, 1926-1927 [removed from box 45]
v. 46 Contracts with growers, 1891
v. 47 Note Register, 1907-1920
v. 48 Note Register, 1894-1905
v. 49 Orchard Records, 1893-1916
v. 50 Orchard Records, 1891-1893
v. 51 Orchard Records, 1894-1913
v. 52 Note Register, 1902-1912
v. 53 Orcharids, County Record, 1889-1890s
v. 54 Nursery Stock Received, 1923
v. 97-98 Advertising Materials, 1936-1937, 1951-1952 [Two volumes given to Dr. Brownlee by Stark Bros.]