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Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. Records

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Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. Records

Finding Aid

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections
Briggs Library (SBL) Room 241 Box 2114
1300 North Campus Drive
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-5094
Email: arcrefs@sdstate.edu

Collection Summary

Identifier

MA 50

Title

Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. Records

Creator

Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc.

Dates

1944-1989

Extent

1.42 linear feet -- 1 records center box, 1 document case

Language

English

Repository

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Access note

This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

Preferred Citation

Name of item. Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. Records. MA 50. South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Abstract

Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. made available to farmers in South Dakota and the surrounding states hybrid seed corn. Composed mainly of Board of Directors minutes from its incorporation in 1944 to its dissolution in 1986, articles of incorporation, by-laws, purchase agreement, financial material, and trademark information.

Historical Note

Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. made available to farmers in South Dakota and the surrounding states hybrid seed corn.

Sokota began in 1924, when Clifford Franzke, a South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station agronomist, started inbreeding local varieties of corn in an effort to produce a hybrid which could withstand the Dakota weather. In 1942, a new hybrid seed was released to farmers by the experiment station. Fred Baldrige, a retired farmer, began to standardize grading of the hybrid seed.

In 1944, Sokota Hybrid Producers incorporated as a cooperative and 24 farmers purchased certificates of equity to get the organization going with E.G. Sanderson as president.

W.L. Davis, who was a vocational agricultural instructor at Brookings high school, became manager in 1945 and the cooperative was able to erect its own plant in south Brookings. Davis served as the manager of Sokota for nearly 35 years.

Sokota continued to grow and prosper through the years, by the late 1970s and early 1980s, Sokota, had a breeding program nearly three times bigger than any program South Dakota State University had undertaken.

Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. was sold in 1985 to North American Plant Breeders.

Contents Note

The Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc. records are composed mainly of Board of Directors minutes from its incorporation in 1944 to its dissolution in 1986. Most of the minutes include an agenda and the minutes. Some may include newsletters, correspondence, and reports. The collection also includes articles of

incorporation, by-laws, purchase agreement, financial material, and trademark information.

The financial material is composed of corn payments, revolving fund certificates, grower and producer ledger sheets, and other certificates related to the financial portion of Sokota.

Also included are newspapers clippings on the history of Sokota, South Dakota codified laws in relation to cooperatives, and a photocopy of the first check written.

Key Words

Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc.

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

Researchers conducting extensive research are asked to make an advance appointment to access archival material. Please call or e-mail prior to visiting the collection and indicate as much detail as possible about a particular topic and intended use.

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Arranged and Described by

Crystal J. Gamradt, C.A., Archivist on November 5, 2013.

Container List

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1	1	Agreement for Advancement to the Sokota Hybrid Producers, Inc.	1944
1	2	Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws	1943-1966
1	3	Asset Purchase Agreement between Sokota and Nickerson American Plant Breeders	1986
1	4	Board of Directors minutes 1944 September 9-1958 November 23	1944-1958
1	5	Board of Directors minutes 1958 December 13-1965 November 13	1958-1965
1	6	Board of Directors minutes 1965 December 4-1972 October 2	1965-1972
1	7	Board of Directors minutes 1972 November 17-1979 December 8	1972-1979
1	8	Board of Directors minutes 1980 March 12-1988 November 15	1980-1988
1	9	Board of Directors minutes 1983 December 3-1985 September 19	1983-1985
1	10	Board of Directors minutes 1985 July 9-October 3	1985
1	11	Board of Directors minutes 1985 October 22-1986 May 1	1985-1986
1	12	Board of Directors minutes 1986 June 17-December 7	1986
1	13	CCC Storage Profit	1957-1962
1	14	Certificate of Amendment	1945, 1963
1	15	Certificate of Dissolution	1989
1	16	Certificate of Equity	1944-1950
1	17	Corn Payments	1945-1980
1	18	Financial Statement	1984-1985
1	19	First Check Written	1944
1	20	Growers	1962-1985
1	21	Membership Certificates	1945-1961
1	22	Newspaper Clippings	1947, 1987, undated
1	23	Policy on Male Sterile and Restorer Seed	1961
1	24	Producers	1962-1985
1	25	Revolving Fund Certificates	1945-1983
1	26	Sokota Price List	1983
1	27	South Dakota Codified Laws in relation to Cooperatives (Chapter 47-15)	1982
1	28	Statement (Financial) Corn and Sorghum	1965
1	29	Trademark	1954, 1963

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
2	1	Sokota Liquidation Procedure, Frank Denholm & Transition	1985
2	2	Certificate of Amendment & Articles of Incorporation of Sokota Hybrid Producers (Amended)	1965
2	3	Sokota Brand clothing Patches (1 Large, 1 small) & Sokota Sticker	Undated
2	4	Sokota Sunflower Handbook	Undated
2	5	Sokota Production and Research Information Poster	Undated
2	6	Newspaper Clippings concerning Sokota	Various
2	7	South Dakota Corn Picking Contest (10 October) Official Program	1963
2	8	Miscellaneous Sokota Pamphlets and Seed Guides	1984, 1986
2	9	Sokota Employees	1959, 1984
3	1	Sokota Producer Memos	1941-2004
3	2	Trustees Seed Division	1949-1961
3	3	Stockholder Meeting Reports and Correspondence	1950-1986
3	4	Growers Notes and Trustees Meeting Minutes	1958-1962, 1985
3	5	Growers Notes, Trustee Minutes, Test Plot Sites	1958-1987
3	6	Shareholder Distribution and Handwritten Notes	1960-1961
3	7	Sokota Trustees Correspondence	1967-1986
3	8	Sokota Sale	1968, 1978-1987
3	9	Revolving Capital Records	1977-1986
3	10	Distribution and Production	1977-1987
3	11	Brookings Operations	1978-1987
3	12	Liquidation Documents	1983-1987
3	13	History of Sokota Hybrid Producers Meeting Minutes	2004
3	14	Financial Documents	1979-1986