



## Summary Information

**Title:** Jesse Bradford Future Farmers of America Collection

**Collection Number:** 2003:049

**Creator:** Jesse Bradford

**Collection Dates:** 1950s-2001

**Extent:** 2 cubic feet (6 boxes)

**Language:** English

## Collection Abstract:

The Jesse Bradford Future Farmers of American Collection consists of photographs, scrapbooks, clippings, programs, and FFA special edition newspapers. The collection documents Jesse Bradford's leadership in agricultural education, Diboll FFA students, and their involvement in the organization and agricultural exhibitions.

## Repository:

The History Center  
102 N. Temple  
Diboll, TX 75941  
936-829-3543  
[www.thehistorycenteronline.com](http://www.thehistorycenteronline.com)

**Author/Processing Information:** Original finding aid created in 2003 by History Center staff.

**Revision History:** Finding aid revised with updated formatting and description by Matt Gorzalski in November-December 2011.

## Biographical/Historical Note:

Jesse Bradford taught agricultural science courses at Diboll High School from circa 1971-2004, and led the Diboll chapter of Future Farmers of America. In 1974 he taught the program's first female students, who were believed to be some of the first female agricultural students in the country. In 2001, Bradford was awarded the Vocational Teachers Association of Texas Distinguished Service Award for 30 years of service in agricultural science and education.

Future Farmers of America, founded in 1928, is an agricultural youth leadership organization for middle and high school students. It focuses on agricultural education to prepare students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems. In 1988 the name was changed to the National FFA Organization. The Diboll chapter began at least as early as the 1950s and exists to this day.

### **Collection Scope and Content:**

The Jesse Bradford Future Farmers of America Collection consists of scrapbooks, photographs, clippings, and newspapers documenting Bradford's leadership in agricultural education, Diboll agricultural students and their involvement in Future Farmers of America, and agricultural exhibitions and shows in East Texas in which Diboll students were involved. The clippings also concern general agricultural news of economic, social, and educational themes. The collection includes exhibition and award banquet programs for the 1976 Area IX FFA Convention, Stephen F. Austin State University; 1978 Angelina County Jr. Livestock Show, Lufkin; and the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas; 1980-1983. Also included are several FFA special edition *Free Press* newspapers commemorating FFA Week in Angelina County. These papers focus exclusively on local students and their involvement in FFA and related projects and exhibitions.

**Arrangement:** This collection is arranged and described at the collection level.

### **Subject Terms**

#### **Topics**

- Agriculture -- Texas -- Diboll
- Agricultural education -- Texas -- Diboll
- Agricultural exhibitions -- Texas
- Agricultural students -- Texas -- Diboll

#### **Corporate Names**

- Future Farmers of America

#### **Personal Names**

- Bradford, Jesse

#### **Locations**

- Diboll (Tex.)
- Texas, East

### **Access and Use**

**Access Restrictions:** There are no restrictions on this collection.

**Acquisition Information:** Accession 2003:049 was donated on August 4, 2003 and accession 2003:057 was donated on October 2, 2003, both by Jesse Bradford.

**Citation:** Jesse Bradford Future Farmers of America Collection, 1973-2001, 2003:049, The History Center, Diboll, TX

#### **Separated Material:**

Diboll High School annuals are stored on the vault shelves along the wall with the duplicate annuals.

**Copyright:** Permission for publication is given on behalf of The History Center as the owner of the physical item and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

**Bibliography:**

- "About Us." National FFA Organization.  
<https://www.ffa.org/About/Pages/default.aspx#> (accessed November 29, 2011).
- Cockrell, Carolyn. "Girls invade Ag Classes." *Diboll Free Press*. October, 10, 1974. P. 1.
- "VTA honors Bradford." *Diboll Free Press*. August 9, 2001. Sec. A p. 2.

**Collection Inventory**

**Box 1**

Item 1 Future Farmers of America Official Scrapbook, Compiled for Judging, 1980-1981, 1982-1983, and 1985

**Box 2**

Item 1 Future Farmers of America Official Scrapbook for the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas Newspaper Publicity Award, Compiled for Judging, 1988-1990  
Item 2 Future Farmers of America Official Scrapbook, Compiled for Judging, 1990-1991

**Box 3**

Folder 1 Forestry Plot Management Notebook, 1954-1955  
Folder 2 Award and Exhibition Programs, 1976-1983  
Folder 3 Fiberglass Workshop Award, 1974  
Folder 4 Correspondence, 1977, 1996  
Folder 5 Newspaper Clippings, 1971-2000, undated

**Box 4**

Folders 1-4 Photographs, 1950s-1990s  
Folder 5 Negatives

**Box 5**

*Diboll Free Press*  
March 16, 1978  
March 18, 1982  
March 14, 1985  
March 28, 1991  
March 11, 1993  
May 27, 1993  
March 10, 1994  
March 17, 1994  
March 18, 1993  
March 24, 1994  
April 10, 1997  
  
*Lufkin Daily News*  
March 18, 1975  
March 22, 1977 (one section)

March 15, 1978  
March 27, 1978 (one section)  
March 18, 1982  
March 13, 1993  
March 13, 1994  
March 14, 1994  
March 20, 1994

**Box 6**

FFA Special Section – *Free Press*  
February 22, 1973  
February 24, 1977  
February 23, 1978 (2)  
February 22, 1979 (2)  
February 21, 1980 (2)  
February 26, 1981 (2)  
February 25, 1982  
March 10, 1983  
March 14, 1985  
March 13, 1986  
March 12, 1987  
March 09, 1989  
March 08, 1990  
March 11, 1993  
March 10, 1994  
March 12, 1998  
March 11, 1999  
March 8-10, 2000  
March 8, 2001