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Elizabeth L. Angeli

Professor Patricia Sullivan

English 624

12 February 2012

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Toward a Recovery of Nineteenth Century Farming Handbooks

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While researching texts written about nineteenth century farming. I found

While researching texts written about nineteenth century farming, I found a few authors who published books about the literature of nineteenth century farming, particularly agricultural journals, newspapers, pamphlets, and brochures. These authors

often placed the farming literature they were studying into an historical context by discussing the important events in agriculture of the year in which the literature was published (see Demaree, for example). However, while these authors discuss journals, newspapers, pamphlets, and brochures, I could not find much discussion about another

important source of farming knowledge: farming handbooks. My goal in this paper is to

bring this source into the agricultural literature discussion by connecting three

agricultural handbooks from the nineteenth century with nineteenth century agricultural history.

To achieve this goal, I have organized my paper into four main sections, two of which have sub-sections. In the first section, I provide an account of three important events in nineteenth century agricultural history: population and technological changes, the distribution of scientific new knowledge, and farming's influence on education. In the

second section, I discuss three nineteenth century farming handbooks in connection with

the important events described in the first section. I end my paper with a third section that

offers research questions that could be answered in future versions of this paper and

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The thesis statement usually is the last sentence of the introduction

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