



Dating of the English-language Lingnan University Science Journals (1922–1952)

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Abstract

Dates of publication are given for the English-language science journals published by Lingnan University in what was formerly known as Canton (now Guangzhou), China including the *Lingnaam Agricultural Review* (1922–1927), the *Lingnan Science Journal* (1928–1952), the *Lingnan University Science Bulletin* (1930–1944), and the *Lingnan Nature Survey and Museum Special Publications* (1942–1950).

Introduction

In the late 1800s the Foreign Mission of Churches in New York City discussed the possibility of starting a Christian college in China, which was anticipated to be as successful as and of the same caliber as St. Johns University in (then) Constantinople and the Syrian College (now American University) in Beirut. In 1888 enough funding from the U.S. was received by trustees in China to begin classes of the new Canton Christian College. The school (Fig. 1) eventually moved to its campus to Honan (or Henan) Island (directly across the Pearl River from the city of Canton; currently Guangzhou) where it remained until the end of World War II. In 1903, it officially changed its Chinese name from Lingnan School - Lingnan Xuetang, 嶺南學堂 (trad.), 岭南学堂 (simp.) to Lingnan University - Lingnan Daxue, 嶺南大學 (trad.), 岭南大学 (simp.). The English transliteration of the name was also changed from Lingnaam [Cantonese] to Lingnan [Mandarin].

Initially organized as a preparatory school to assist and encourage Chinese students to undertake undergraduate and postgraduate studies in U.S. universities and to educate students entering medical schools in China, the University eventually leaned more and more toward agricultural training. It appointed a horticulturalist in 1907 and hired two biologists by 1918. A herbarium was started in 1918, a dairy was established, and a silk factory was built on campus so that botanical, animal husbandry, and sericulture studies could be added to the curriculum.

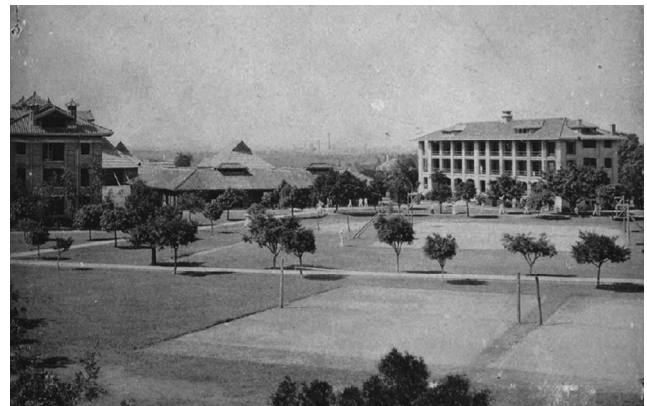


Fig. 1. The campus of Lingnan University, 1937. (from Corbett, 1963, Lingnan University).

Student interest in those subjects gained momentum and enrolment increased every year. So much so that, in 1921, the University formally founded the Lingnan Agricultural College on its campus and held high hopes that, of all the departments and colleges of the University, this would provide the most benefits to the education and vocational training of its students. A medium to publish the results of research in English, however, was soon needed.

Publishing, Conflicts, and Delays

Although a Chinese journal was already in existence (the *Lingnan Agricultural Monthly*), as soon as the Agricultural College came into being, it began an English journal (*Lingnaam Agricultural Review*) to bring results of research to the English-speaking public. However, soon after its beginning, there were riots and worker strikes in Canton, which resulted in slight delays in publication. The journal was originally advertised as being published twice yearly, but the local conflicts of the early 1920s caused the publication date of the last issue of each year to be pushed

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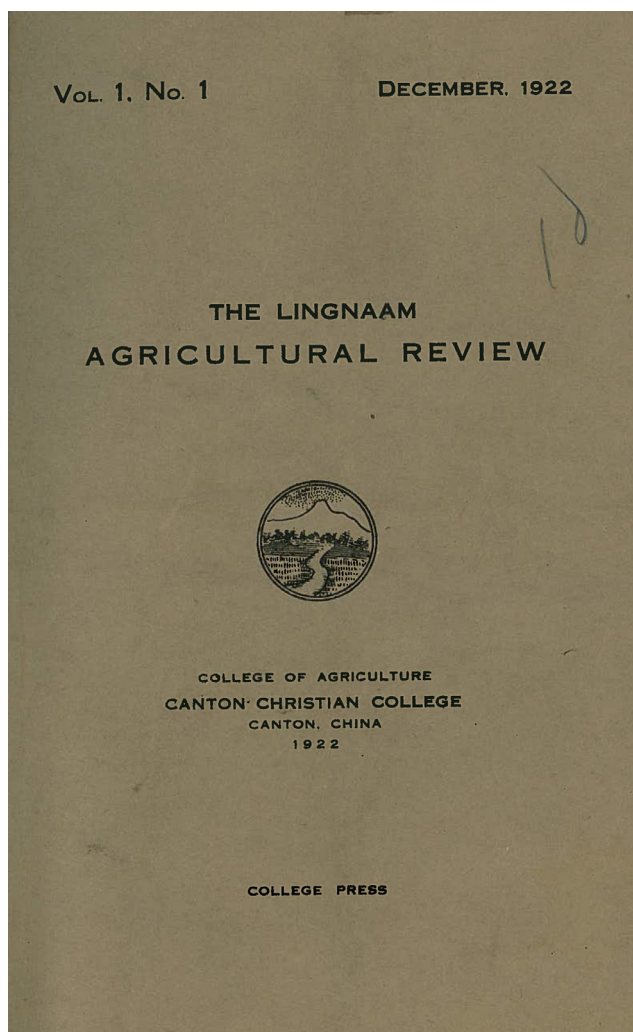


Fig. 2. Cover page of the *Lingnaam Agricultural Review*.

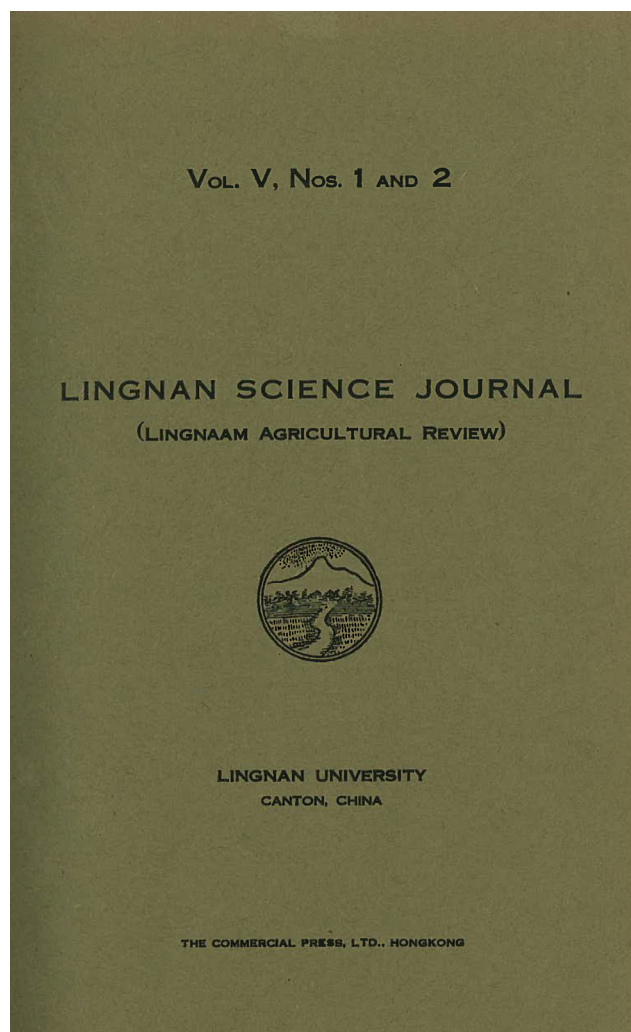


Fig. 3. Cover page of the *Lingnan Science Journal*.

into the next year. When the journal changed its name to the *Lingnan Science Journal*, a more ambitious publication scheme of four issues per year was attempted but this also fell victim to delays and the resultant grouping together of issues in order to come out in a more reasonable amount of time.

When Japanese troops took control of the Canton campus during World War II and put staff under house arrest, this initially resulted in a stoppage of work on the journal. In its place, professor of entomology, Dr. J. Linsley Gressitt, helped found a separate publication (the Lingnan Nature Survey and Museum Special Publication, see below for more details) that was printed in Canton and was apparently not subject to the work stoppage of the more widely-known Science Journal. The *Lingnan Science Journal* had been printed in Hong Kong for many years previous to World War II, but with that city now under Japanese control and travel of the house-arrested Lingnan University staff disallowed, printing in Canton was the only alternative.

Although the Chinese Cultural Revolution put a stop to all scientific publications of the University in 1951, the last issue of the *Lingnan Science Journal* came out in 1952; it was printed in Kenosha, Wisconsin and not subject to the restrictions of the Chinese government.

The Journals and Their Dates of Publication

Lingnaam Agricultural Review (1922–1927) (Fig. 2)

The journal began in 1922 and saw publication through four volumes before changing its name to the *Lingnan Science Journal*. See Table 1 for dates of publication.

Lingnan Science Journal (1928–1952) (Fig. 3)

In order to better reflect the nature of articles presented in its journal, the University changed the name of the Lingnaam Agricultural Review to the Lingnan Science Journal. Articles covered various disciplines including ornithology, entomology, botany, parasitology, chemistry, meteorology, forestry and anthropology. A glowing review of the journal and the University was made by Howard (1931), who also gave some information on the delayed publication of some issues. The dates printed on the wrappers are not always correct and actual dates of publication were given in Anonymous (1931) for the first 8 volumes. Mailing dates are given for all issues but the first, where no evidence of a mailing date could be found. See Table 2 for dates of publication.

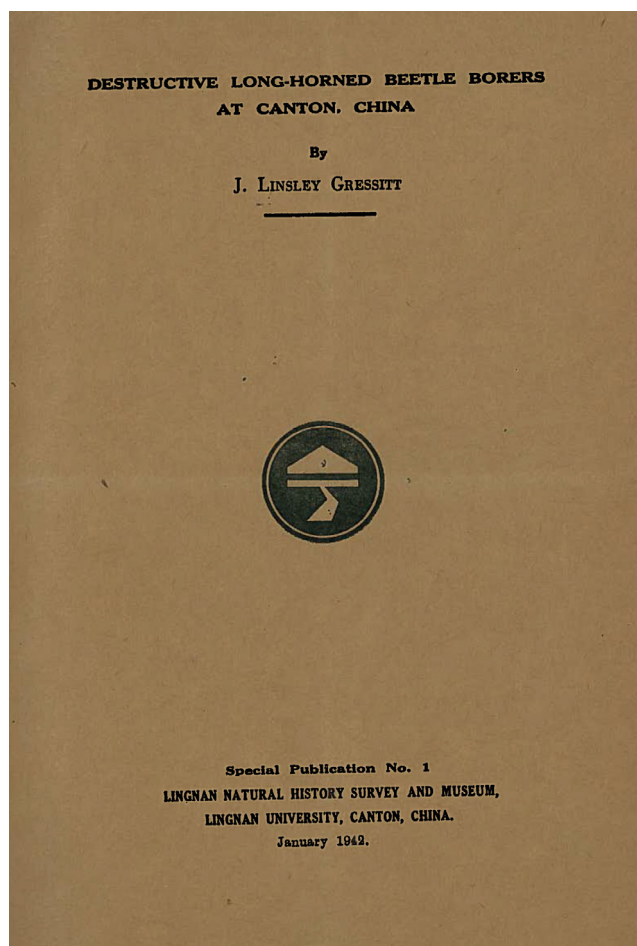


Fig. 4. Cover page of the *Lingnan Nature Survey and Museum Special Publications*.

Lingnan University Science Bulletin (1930–1944)

The *Science Bulletin*, founded by William E. Hoffman, contained large, more monographic works and each issue contained a single article. Most are botanical in nature, but two volumes (both by entomology professor Hoffman) are on Hemiptera. See Table 3 for dates of publication.

Lingnan Nature Survey and Museum Special Publication (1942–1950) (Fig. 4)

The *Lingnan Nature Survey* was begun by William E. Hoffman in 1932, but had no journal. The journal did not appear until after the staff of the University were interred by the occupying Japanese troops and printing in Hong Kong (where the University's other serials were being printed) was discontinued as a result. The journal was

begun in Canton by entomologist, J. Linsley Gressitt, who was able to travel within the city while under house arrest and get the printing of each issue completed via a local printer. This journal was devoted primarily to the results of Gressitt's work on Coleoptera, although there are three issues that had other authors [vols. 9 (on bugs), 11 (on trees) (both by William E. Hoffman), vol. 12 (on Lepidoptera) (by Y.W. Djou)], and a bird checklist published by Gressitt and his wife Margaret K. Gressitt (vol. 10). The issues were printed in Canton and each appeared in close succession between January and March 1942 and between September 1942 and January 1943. The Gressitt's family and Hoffman were released by the Japanese in January 1943 in an exchange of war internees and returned to the U.S. and their publications in this journal immediately ceased. However, Gressitt & Djou published one last issue that came out in 1950. This was soon after Gressitt returned to Canton in 1946 to resume his professorship at Lingnan while under contract by the University of California, Berkeley to search for insects of potential biological control potential. Gressitt eventually left Canton in 1951 and all scientific publications of the University ceased with the advent of the Cultural Revolution. See Table 4 for dates of publication.

Acknowledgments

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Tab 1. Dating of the *Lingnaam Agricultural Review*

Vol.	Part	Pages	Printed month	Date of publication
1	1	1-88	December 1922	[31 December 1922]
	2	1-106	June 1923	26 January 1924*
2	1	1-73	July 1924	30 July 1924*
	2	74-174	February 1925	25 February 1925*
3	1	1-83	October 1925	19 October 1925*
	2	84-181	April 1926	4 May 1926*
4	1	1-118	March 1927	14 July 1927*
	2	119-220	July 1927	31 October 1927*

* dated from Anonymous (1931).

Table 2. Dating of the *Lingnan Science Journal*

Vol.	Part	Pages	Printed month	Date of publication
5	1-2	1-186	November 1927	15 February 1928*
	3	187-312	December 1927	26 February 1928*
	4	313-418	April 1928	28 December 1929*
6	1-2	1-178	June 1928	24 January 1930**
	3	179-299	September 1928	28 January 1930**
	4	301-417	December 1928	30 April 1930**
7		1-831	June 1929	June 1929*
8		1-769	December 1929	31 July 1931*
[henceforth, dates of publication printed on each issue]				
9	1-2	1-181	June 1930	24 August 1930
	3	183-346	November 1930	30 November 1930
	4	347-456	December 1930	31 January 1931
10	1	1-152	April 1931	28 April 1931
	2-3	153-375	August 1931	27 August 1931
	4	377-545	October 1931	30 November 1931
11	1	1-174	January 1932	30 March 1932
	2	175-340	—	15 May 1932
	3	341-488	—	22 July 1932
	4	489-650	—	15 November 1932
12	1	1-191	—	2 February 1933
	2	193-281	—	4 April 1933
	3	283-472	—	11 July 1933
	4	473-643	—	16 October 1933
	Suppl.	1-294	—	22 May 1933
13	1	1-210	—	27 January 1934
	2	211-366	—	18 April 1934
	3	367-575	—	30 July 1934
	4	577-745	—	1 October 1934
14	1	1-225	—	1 January 1935
	2	227-384	—	1 April 1935
	3	385-566	—	1 July 1935
	4	567-776	—	4 October 1935
15	1	1-196	—	30 January 1936
	2	197-354	—	20 June 1936
	3	355-542	—	24 July 1936
	4	543-715	—	17 November 1936
16	1	1-148	—	13 January 1937
	2	149-384	—	21 June 1937
	3	385-536	—	22 July 1937
	4	537-730	—	6 December 1937
17	1	1-140	—	8 April 1938
	2	141-320	—	16 June 1938
	3	321-514	—	1 July 1938
	4	515-692	—	8 October 1938
18	1	1-132	—	23 March 1939
	2	133-260	—	13 May 1939
	3	261-396	—	28 August 1939
	4	397-552	—	6 November 1939
19	1	1-104	—	22 January 1940
	2	105-268	—	3 May 1940
	3	269-428	—	12 July 1940
	4	429-646	—	26 October 1940
20	1	1-146	—	31 May 1941
	2-4	147-376	—	1942
21	1-4	1-148	—	1945
22	1-4	1-147	—	31 March 1948
23	1-2	1-150	December 1950	23 December 1950
	3	151-234	July 1951	25 July 1951
	4	235-310	December 1951	January 1952***

* dated from Anonymous (1931).
** dated from the issue itself.
*** dating from subsequently printed index to the volume.

Table 3. Dating of the *Lingnan University Science Bulletin*

Vol.	Pages	Date of Publication
1	166 pp.	24 January 1930
2	138 pp.	1 June 1930
3	44 pp.	1 May 1931
4	38 pp.	1 September 1931
5	70 pp.	17 January 1934
6	32 pp.	22 May 1934
7	70 pp.	21 August 1935
8	42 pp.	1 September 1936
9	67 pp.	1940
10	80 pp.	24 February 1944

Table 4. Dating of the *Lingnan Natural History Survey and Museum Special Publications*

Vol.	Pages	Date of Publication
1	1-60	21 January 1942
2	1-6	17 February 1942
3	1-8	28 March 1942
4	1-??	24 September 1942
5	1-4	12 October 1942
6	1-8	12 October 1942
7	1-10	31 October 1942
8	1-44	1 November 1942
9	1-20	28 November 1942
10	1-10	4 December 1942
11	1-15	28 December 1942
12	1-7	8 January 1943
13	1-19	29 April 1950