

Cancellation Devices of the International Institute of Agriculture, 1906-1946

Introduction

Efforts to publish international agricultural information was first suggested in 1904 by David Lubin (1849-1919), a Hungarian fruit farmer in Sacramento, California. His plan found favor with King Victor Emmanuel III (1869-1947) of Italy. The International Institute of Agriculture was founded in Rome and 40 countries formalized the Institute in a 1906 treaty. It became an international clearinghouse for agricultural information and statistics beginning in mid 1909.

Exhibit Scope

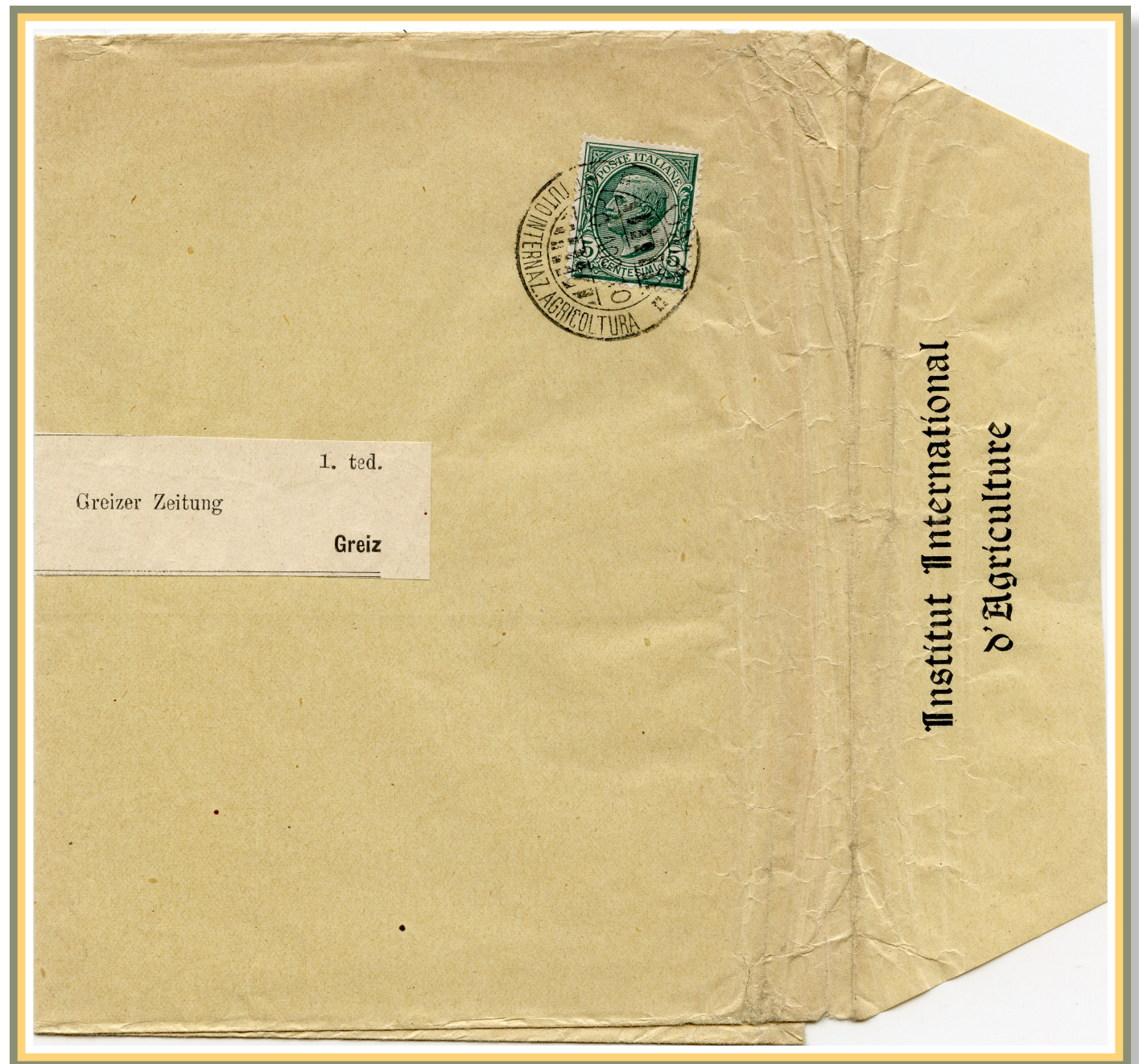
The International Institute of Agriculture used Italian postal services, but maintained an internal post office to track mail volume and expenses. This exhibit documents mail of the Institute and devices used by the Institute.

Exhibit Development

Development is chronological. Official postal records of the organization are unknown but survey information indicates the earliest mail is from 1910.

Exhibit Plan

0. Introduction
(device types per Gaines U.N. catalog)
1. Barred Circle
Type IIA.S1A
Type IIA.S1B
2. Plain Circle
Type IIA.S2
3. Arced Circle
Type IIA.S3A
Type IIA.S3B
Type IIA.S4



Rome, Italy to Greiz, Germany, 20 August 1910, (device type IIA.S1A)
5 centesimi, foreign printed matter rate < 50 grams

Earliest recorded example of printed matter mail