

Project 1: Data Query

Urban Agriculture

Seattle is home the P-Patch Community Garden Program, an unusually successful urban agriculture organization that manages 85 gardens and 2850 plots. Established in 1973, the program continues to expand, growing food on 14.9 acres and donating over 28,000 pounds of produce annually [1].

Given the widespread presence of urban farming in Seattle, I was curious if any patterns could be discerned from the number of holdings and checkout frequency of books within the Dewey classification 630, Agriculture.

1. http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/documents/2014P-PatchSheet1_8_14.pdf

MySQL Query:

```
SELECT
    MONTH(cout),
    YEAR(cout),
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=630 AND deweyClass < 631, 1, NULL)) as "630",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=631 AND deweyClass < 632, 1, NULL)) as "631",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=632 AND deweyClass < 633, 1, NULL)) as "632",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=633 AND deweyClass < 634, 1, NULL)) as "633",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=634 AND deweyClass < 635, 1, NULL)) as "634",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=635 AND deweyClass < 636, 1, NULL)) as "635",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=636 AND deweyClass < 637, 1, NULL)) as "636",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=637 AND deweyClass < 638, 1, NULL)) as "637",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=638 AND deweyClass < 639, 1, NULL)) as "638",
    COUNT(IF( deweyClass >=639 AND deweyClass < 640, 1, NULL)) as "639"
FROM
    spl2.inraw
WHERE
    deweyClass >= 630 AND deweyClass < 640
    AND DATE(cout) >= '2006-01-01'
    AND DATE(cout) <= '2013-12-31'
    AND (itemtype = "acbk" OR itemtype = "arbk")
GROUP BY MONTH(cout), YEAR(cout)
ORDER BY YEAR(cout), MONTH(cout)
```

Duration: 91 sec

Fetch Time: 0.012 sec

Commentary

Of the ten subcategories, 635 “Garden crops (Horticulture)” seems to be the most popular, followed by 636 “Animal husbandry”. It appears that a pattern occurs yearly with most activity happening during the Spring months and the least during winter. Indeed, the most checkouts of all the Agriculture books occurred during the month of March, with the least during December. Another thing that jumps out at me is that the number of items being checked out seems to be on the decline. I’ll be curious if there are any further revelations from visualizing the data.

Unfortunately I was not able to figure out how to query the total number of items in each category across time. This might reveal some interesting information about how the library is responding to the community.