



MIT Libraries 12.000: Solving Complex Problems

September, 2010

Librarians 12-lib@mit.edu

TEAM #3: Case Studies 1 Africa and India

Chris Sherratt, Environment, gsherra@mit.edu
Daniel Sheehan, GIS, dsheehan@mit.edu
Anne Graham, Environmental Engineering, GIS, grahama@mit.edu

Purpose of assignment 2

To visit the MIT Libraries and find data useful for your team and future GIS work.

Specifically: To find and visit 3 of the libraries. To consult books for food related data. To post data to the wiki by **end of day October 4**.

Step 1: Locate the 4 library locations: Dewey, Hayden, Barker, Rotch

Navigation: Libraries homepage → Map

Step 2: Use Barton to find books you'll need on Reserve for 12.000

Navigation: Barton → Reserves → Course number search for 12.000 → get call numbers you need

Step 3: Organize members of your team to visit libraries below and consult sources indicated.

1. In **Dewey**, use HD1421.Y4 1950 pt 1: FAO Yearbook of Food and Agricultural Statistics on **Reserve for 12.000**. Consult pages 5-6, Table 1, Land Use (units near top of table, English p. 5) *What was the total arable land area for Africa? Scan Table 1 for future use in mapping.*

FYI: While in Dewey, locate their Impulse Borrowing Collection—books on Food!

2. In **Hayden**, use the Atlas of Africa on **Reserve for 12.000**. Consult pages 314-15. *What was Africa's position in world exports of palm oil? Compare production of this commodity for Nigeria and Indonesia. Note maps on pages 49 and 53 show colonial names.*

3. In **Rotch**, use The Atlas of Food on **Reserve for 12.000**. Consult the map on page 60-61. *What percentage of India's land is certified organic? What country has the most?*

FYI: While in Rotch, locate their DVD collection: some are about food (HD 9000s)

4. On the **Web**, go to FAOSTAT> ResourceSTAT-Land. *Find the total arable land for Africa for 2008. Use the country name Africa>List to get this data for each country in Africa. Save this file as a csv or excel file (or even a pdf) to use later for mapping.*

Step 4: Post (and cite) your data, files and pdfs to the class wiki.

