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Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Preface -- A brief history of the USDA motion picture service to 1943 -- Helping Negroes to become better farmers and homemakers -- The Negro farmer -- Three counties against syphilis -- Henry Browne, farmer -- USDA motion picture representations of African Americans.
Sommario/riassunto	From the silent era through the 1950s, the U.S. Department of Agriculture was the preeminent government filmmaking organization. In the United States, USDA films were shown in movie theaters, public and private schools at all educational levels, churches, libraries and even in open fields. For many Americans in the early 1900s, the USDA films were the first motion pictures they watched. And yet USDA documentaries have received little serious scholarly attention. The lack of serious study is especially concerning since the films chronicle over half a century of American farm life and agricultur