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**Cover photo:
by Leana Stitzel
taken at the Stallion Stakes - Elko, NV 2006**

Mailed to over 5,300 individuals with approved addresses each month. The Progressive Rancher is published monthly. The views and opinions expressed by writers of articles appearing in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor. Letters of opinion are welcomed by The Progressive Rancher.

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BOYD SPRATLING
Nevada Cattlemen's Association President

One of the Legislative bills the NCA has been supporting this session is SB 433. This bill would require new land developments that border an active grazing allotment to build a perimeter fence that would exclude livestock from entering the private development. The intent of this proposal is to eliminate the very real conflict that arises between homeowners and ranchers when cattle wander onto lawns and gardens.

Throughout the state, these types of conflicts play themselves out on a regular basis and usually follow this scenario. It is August; the forage is dry, mature and fibrous. Cattle are on the move and looking for greener grass, new water sources and shade. Homes built by those searching for relief of close urban neighbors, traffic congestion and noise seem to be a welcoming oasis for livestock in the heat of summer.

Unfortunately, these homes are situated on developments of private land that is adjacent to, or in the midst of an active grazing allotment with legal grazing permits and preference. More commonly, the perimeter of the private parcel is not protected by a livestock fence. The predictable conflict and anger starts to spill over, with complaints directed to law enforcement, animal control, livestock organizations and county commissioners.

The stories grow into tales of property damage, child endangerment and stark terror. I can honestly sympathize with the concerns, because I hear many of them when I sneak the horses onto the lawn for a respite, after a long day.

Even homes with good fencing are not immune, because human nature dictates that gates at the driveway are seldom closed when arriving home tired

at night or when hurrying to work in the morning. Many times, the fences are damaged when owners impatiently put too much pressure on animals to get them out of the yard.

It is most certainly an ugly scene when a solitary rancher is attending a county commission meeting where dozens of home owners have descended to inform the commissioners about the inconvenience of cattle in their yards. The simple truth is that Nevada's "fence out" laws protect us from repercussions and

UPDATE

**MENDING
FENCES**

have served us well in the past.

In reality, elected commissions usually react to relieve the pressure coming from irate homeowners. Douglas County, to its credit, has enacted ordinances that declare agricultural practices not to be a nuisance when suburbia expands into agricultural areas. On the other hand, Washoe County is considering declaring livestock intrusions a nuisance, with subsequent citations and fines. All of us can ponder long-term consequences of such laws. Other rural counties have, thus far, avoided addressing the problem.

The one clear step to resolution is a perimeter fence erected at the onset of the development. Individual homeowners are then offered property protection, in spite of their own unwillingness to close the drive-way gate. County planning boards, despite outrage and complaints, seem mostly unwilling to require the fence, but they are willing to impose fines on stock owners when the inevitable plays itself out. Additionally, the perimeter fence would hold cattle further away from individual homes, and that distance would reduce the attraction and pressure.

The developers should be expected to bear the investment, because they are asking for approval to change the traditional use from open range to residential, and they have the expectation of making profit from that change. Also, that long-term protection should be a logical expectation by potential buyers. Understandably, developers would rather avoid this expense, but it pales in comparison to the cost of curbs, roads and golf courses.

**DOUGLAS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CODE
TITLE 20 SEC 20.01.100**

Douglas County has declared it a policy to protect and encourage agricultural operations. If your property is located near an agricultural operation, you may at some time be subject to inconvenience or discomfort arising from agricultural operations. If conducted in a manner consistent with proper and accepted standards, these inconveniences and discomforts DO NOT constitute a NUISANCE for purposes of the Douglas County Code.

Sign displayed in Douglas County.

SB433 faces stiff opposition in the Legislature and is already being watered down to only require disclosure signs placed at the property entrance, rather than erecting a fence. This bill does not solve existing problems, but would move to block feuding in the future. I would invite the housing industry to join the ranching industry to search for a solution to a continuing predicament involving their buyers and our new neighbors.

Thanks for your time. [PR](#)

By Meghan Wereley, Nevada Cattlemen's Association Executive Director

It is with great excitement that I take the position of Executive Director for the Nevada Cattlemen's Association. Over the years the association has had many great women and men who cleared the way for me. I look forward to the challenge of following behind these great leaders.

Although my experience within Nevada is relatively new, my passion for ranching, rural communities/families, and natural resources runs strong. I feel very fortunate to work for an association that stands for these principals. To me ranchers not only embody tradition and history, they represent the future.

Even though there is talk in Nevada and around the west of ranches being sold off as property values increase, children choosing other career paths, or families choosing to move to other areas, I see a positive, parallel change occurring. Urban people are seeing ranches as some of the last open spaces in this great country. Ranches provide habitat

for wildlife, clean water, biodiversity of plants and animals, and recreation opportunities. Nevada ranchers hold a great responsibility not only to their families, but to America as well. With the great leadership here in this state many more people will see the benefit of ranching and possibly help change the tide of ranches being converted to housing developments.

I am lucky to work for Nevada's ranchers and to be part of an association of leaders. Ranchers need to be leaders and show the rest of America what benefits grazing can do for landscapes and wildlife. We can demonstrate and communicate how we provide not only a beef product, but an ecological product as well.

Within the Nevada Cattlemen's Association we have many leaders and spokesmen who not only work for the resource but for the industry. There are cattlemen lobbying in Carson City, making sure the voice of rural Nevada is heard. There are cattlemen going to meetings with the Bu-

reau of Land Management and Forest Service to make sure that producers are part of the process. There are cattlemen speaking out about development and water transfer. There are cattlemen speaking about creative ways to manage landscapes and cattle. These producers are part of a larger system that works to connect producers to producers, and producers to the general public.

However, there are also those out there who don't want to be part of the spotlight. They are quiet examples, leading by their product rather than their voice. Leadership is important to this industry no matter what form it comes in.

With such strong leaders within the Nevada Cattlemen's Association I hope to be able to follow with success and be a support to them. I look forward to meeting you in the future and please feel free to stop by the NCA office or give me a call at 775-738-9214 with any feedback you have.

Best Regards,
Meghan

WE DO MEAN IT

By Russ Mason
Chief, Game Division, Nevada Department of Wildlife

The editorial by Dr. Boyd Spratling in the May 2006 issue of *Progressive Rancher* began by quoting from the posted minutes of the February meeting of the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners reflecting a statement in the minutes of the February meeting of the Washoe County Wildlife Advisory Board. The quote stated: "They (NDOW) would work with agencies to reduce livestock grazing".

Mike Riordan and Bevan Lister (ranching and agriculture representatives respectively to the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners) had noticed the statement in the Washoe Advisory Board minutes. They raised it at the February Commission meeting, and as a body, the Wildlife Commission admonished NDOW for the statement and the attitude it reflected. For the record, the Commission supported active cooperation between the livestock community and sportsmen for the benefit of wildlife and ranching.

Since I was unaware of the statement, I went back and listened to the taped minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting. Here's what I heard: "Mike Cox, NDOW (Nevada Department of Wildlife) Biologist, noted that an aerial survey of Unit 041 indicated one ram 4-years

of age with only ten (10) animals classified. Mr. Cox noted that one of the problems is that the herd is surrounded by active sheep allotments. Over the long term we (NDOW) will need to go back and work with land managers and livestock operators to see what we can do to restore the herd"

The actual statement at the Washoe County Wildlife Advisory Board meeting was that NDOW, sportsmen, and ranchers need to work cooperatively for mutual benefit. That's a message that I endorse. It's also the message that fueled the remainder of Boyd's editorial. I let our Commission know that the Washoe minutes were in error on February 15th, and asked the Washoe County Advisory Board to amend their minutes, which they did.

Dr. Spratling and I talk often, and I try to stay in contact with as many other cattlemen and woolgrowers as I can. For that reason, I was a little surprised that Boyd didn't ask me (or Commissioners Riordan or Lister) whether the Washoe Advisory Board quote was accurate. Dr. Spratling is someone that I respect and trust. I look forward to working closely with him and other cattlemen and woolgrowers on the host of issues that affect all of us.

Sportsmen and ranchers are the two groups most likely to stand up on behalf of rural Nevada. Both groups care about invasive weeds, wildfire, over-abundant wild horse and burro populations, inadequate range condition monitoring, development impacts, recreational off-road vehicle use, and, yes, (most important of all) responsible multiple use practices on public lands that support both abundant wildlife and profitable livestock operations. As Boyd noted, there's no doubt that we do have our differences (i.e., sportsmen aren't ready to kiss cows; and the ranching community isn't ready to smooch elk or bighorn), but the differences are small compared to our shared common interests. Most people in Nevada are urban, and here as elsewhere, for the majority of folks, concerns simply don't extend to healthy wildlife populations, functional range conditions, and profitable agriculture.

Please consider joining with me and others to promote common interests, put the past where it belongs (no, I'm not thinking someplace where it can be dredged up), stop harping on the apocryphal slob hunter or bad rancher, and move forward together. Otherwise, we all lose.



Scott Jensen, University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Agent
Ron Torell, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Livestock Specialist

Add Flexibility to Your Federal Grazing Permits

Options are limited for those of us carving a living on a livestock operation located in a desert range environment. We do not have access to the by-product feeds that higher rainfall and farming areas do. We have limited irrigated acreage to turn to and when things are tough for us they are generally just as tough or tougher for our neighbors. This limits the availability of leased pasture and feed in close proximity to our ranch. Because of this situation many have been investigating and practicing grazing irrigated pastures such as pivots with range cows. The irrigated pastures are used to compliment and plug the holes in their federal grazing permits.

As Leroy Etchegaray of Eureka, Nevada points out, "If outside pasture is available we can harvest hay on our pivots and sell that hay. If no outside pasture is available, such as last year with the fire situation, or this year with the drought, we can graze pairs on those pivots. It gives us flexibility." Leroy's sons Fred and John agree yet both admit they miss the lure of the outside rangelands and the wet saddle blankets that go along with rangeland grazing.

As John Etchegaray states, "There are advantages and disadvantages to pivot grazing. The big advantage is flexibility and increase production of the cows. We are no longer always backed in a corner to locate feed. The biggest disadvantage is riding the 4-wheeler instead of a horse. That takes some getting use to," concludes Etchegaray.

"Grazing pivots is not cheap," states Fred Etchegaray. "Given the current hay market, we could probably make more money selling hay than grazing cows. Raising cows is in our blood and that is what we want to do in life. Having

pivots available to compliment our outside grazing allows us to do that."

Dan Gralian, manager of the T lazy S ranch of Battle Mountain, Nevada agrees with the Etchegaray family as far as pivot grazing adding flexibility to federal grazing permits. "The recent fire season and the current drought are perfect examples. Without access to pivots we would be in a real bind. We were able to plug holes by simply harvesting less hay and diverting more cattle from our parched rangelands to the pivots."

The learning curve can be fairly steep. Forage production on irrigated pastures as well as animal performance is directly related to your pasture management. You do not just turn cattle in on irrigated pasture and walk away. This can be one of the biggest challenges for producers accustomed to grazing range allotments where cattle are most often left to wander and graze the allotment as they please during a four to six week grazing period.

Plants in an irrigated pasture, if given the opportunity, can re-grow to be grazed a second and third time during the growing season. To maximize forage production as well as animal performance, most cool season grasses and forbs should be grazed no shorter than 3-4 inches. This will allow the plant sufficient photosynthetic sites to maximize growth if sufficient moisture is available.

To accomplish this and provide adequate pasture rest for re-growth, pastures should be divided/sub-divided so that the cattle are concentrated in one area while the remaining areas of the pasture are resting/re-growing. Good application of this concept can literally double annual forage production on irrigated pasture versus season-long grazing. In a time when grass and hay are in short supply, it makes

good management sense (and cents) to increase forage production as much as possible. Actually, it makes sense even on the best of years!

Does it really work? Nancy Chester of Challis, Idaho states, "People are amazed by how much grass I can grow on the ground that I've got. I run 300 cow-calf pairs on 11 paddocks and I can keep them on grass until the middle of November before they have to be supplemented with hay."

Joe Miller from central Idaho improved forage production and utilization on his ranch to the point that he reduced hay needs by 65 percent. This has translated into greatly increased profitability. On a 250 cow herd, Joe has paid down \$200,000 of accumulated debt in just 4 years.

Yes, good management of irrigated pasture really does work. Is it easy? Well, not necessarily. You have to have a commitment to water and nitrogen management and concentration/stocking rate of cattle. You have to monitor and adjust according to the needs of both the cattle and the forage resource. The Lost Rivers Grazing Academy (LRGA) held in Salmon, Idaho, teaches these basic principles of grazing and irrigation management. Principles such as nutrient management, rotational grazing, and stocking rates are all taught at the academy. Now in its 7th year, the LRGA has had over 160 participants from 11 states and Canada.

The authors hope we have given you food for thought on the issue of drought management. If you are interested in learning more about utilizing pivots and intensive grazing of irrigated pasture consider attending the Lost Rivers Grazing Academy to be held on June 11-14 or September 10-13 in Salmon, Idaho. For more information about the grazing academy go to <http://extension.ag.uidaho.edu/owyhee/> or contact Scott Jensen at 208-896-4104 scottj@uidaho.edu.

Random Thoughts on Drought Management

Ron Torell, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Livestock Specialist
Scott Jensen, University of Idaho Owyhee County Extension Agent

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Research shows that a cow will be five to six years of age before she returns a profit. It takes four years of production to cover development and accumulated operating costs. It makes sense (and cents) to prevent cows from landing in the cull pen due to drought or other causes. **Replacement costs are simply too high not to concentrate on retention rather than replacement.**

Given the expected 2007 rangelands drought situation, it makes perfect sense to reduce stocking rates on the harder hit allotments. This reduction in stocking rates should not be because the BLM or Forest Service is requiring you to do so, but rather a voluntary move for the betterment of the land and your cattle. Our suggestion is to make every effort to preserve body condition of your cow herd. Take action early. Identify the high nutrient demanding cows, those cows that are sure to lose body condition given lower quality and quantity of feed. These would be your first- and second-calf heifers, heavy milking, large framed, thin and old cows. These classes of cattle are sure to be hit the hardest under drought conditions. Reduce the stocking rates on your rangelands with these classes of livestock first.

Yes, you will have to find some place to go with these high nutrient demanding cattle. You could market them as pairs, wean early and sell the gummers on the good mid-summer cull cow market or sacrifice some of your hay meadows to summer grazing.

The bottom line is you have to do something with these classes of livestock. History has taught us that our drought stricken rangelands will eat these high nutrient demanding cattle up and spit them out this fall as open, thin cows with leppy looking calves at side. Early intervention is paramount to prevention.

What about the heart of your factory, those middle-aged cows that are in the prime of their life? Monitor the range and the cows. Do not let these cows slip to the point that you have to recondition them this fall. Take action before they lose body condition. Anticipation and action is the key. One such action is early weaning (see next month's issue of *Back to Basics, Drought Induced Early Weaning*). The authors know of no better way to preserve body condition on cows than the cessation of lactation. Dry cows are not always profitable but they are usually fat, even on dry years.

Another option, although prohibited on some federal lands grazing permits, is protein and energy supplementation on rangelands. Supplementation adds cost and must be weighed in that regard. Keep in mind, however, that body condition preservation is much more cost effective than adding flesh during the winter feeding period.

That is enough of my ramblings for this month. As always, if you would like to discuss this article or simply would like to talk cows do not hesitate to contact me at 775-738-1721 or at torellr@unce.unr.edu.

Governor Appoints Director of Department Of Agriculture

Following an extensive selection process, Governor Jim Gibbons announced the appointment of Donna Rise as Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture.

"This appointment will provide strong direction to the Department of Agriculture and the State Board of Agriculture. Donna's proven leadership will benefit Nevada's agricultural community and related industries, ensuring that their unique needs and interests are understood and met. I look forward to working with her to guarantee that Nevada's ranchers and farmers continue to have a voice in the policies and regulations that affect their industry," said Governor Jim Gibbons.

The Director oversees six divisions within the Nevada Department of Agriculture:

- Division of Administration
- Division of Animal Industry
- Division of Livestock Identification
- Division of Measurement Standards
- Division of Plant Industry
- Division of Resource Protection

For the past 15 years, Donna Rise has served in a number of different capacities within the Montana Department of Agriculture. She began with the department in 1992, and served as an agriculture specialist. She later went on to serve as a groundwater specialist, groundwater specialist III, programs manager, and, most recently, the commodity services bureau chief. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture from Montana State University, Bozeman.

"I am honored to have been selected as the new Director for the Nevada Department of Agriculture. I am looking forward to working as a team with the department, the Nevada Board of Agriculture and the agricultural industries to protect and enhance agriculture in the state of Nevada. As Director, I am committed to excellence in communication, service, and support in all agricultural programs and service areas. We will be a forward-looking agency and will be active in evolving and changing with the agricultural industries to continually meet their needs, while at the same time, seeking out new opportunities that will protect,

grow, and market Nevada agriculture. I also strongly believe in programs that not only meet agricultural industry needs, but that also provide consumer safety, public protection, and environmental stewardship," said Donna Rise.

Throughout her 15 years with the Montana Department of Agriculture, Donna Rise's career includes several industry-related accomplishments, including authoring the Montana Generic Management Plan, co-authoring the Montana General Agricultural Chemical Groundwater Management Plan, drafting the administrative rules for the State's first Agricultural Chemical Groundwater Management Plan, establishing quality control/quality assurance policies and standard operating procedures for the groundwater program, establishing an employee recognition and appreciation program, the development of enforcement case development procedures for apiary and nursery programs and standardizing case development procedures for all regulatory programs.

- Source Press Release Governor's Office

Simpson Named To Natural Resources Post At USDA

WASHINGTON, April 19, 2007-Agriculture Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment Mark Rey today announced the appointment of Melissa M. Simpson as Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment. As deputy under secretary, Simpson will be responsible for policy relating to the programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service.

"Melissa brings to this position extensive experience in public lands policy including forest management, wildfire, energy, wildlife, water, grazing and recreation issues," Rey said. "Her understanding and appreciation of these issues will serve USDA well as we proceed with the development and implementation of a new farm bill."

Simpson most recently served as Counselor to Rey. Prior to her appointment, she was Counselor to the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management at the Department of the Interior. From 2003 to 2005 she served as Deputy Director for External and Intergovernmental Affairs to Interior Secretary Gale Norton, where she worked with senior policy officials and stakeholders on a wide variety of natural resources issues involving conservation

and management of public lands.

From 2001 to 2003 Simpson served as the senior legislative assistant for natural resources to Congressman Scott McInnis (CO, Ret.), where she played a key role in the passage of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 and other natural resources legislation. Simpson is from Colorado, a graduate of Colorado State University and Creighton University School of Law.

FARM BILL SIGN-UPS ANNOUNCED

Agricultural producers can sign up now for conservation program assistance under the Farm Bill. Applications for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program will be accepted until June 29, according to Richard Vigil, state conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Nevada.

For more information, contact your local NRCS office or visit their Web site at www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov.

What Has NCA Done For You Lately

- ◆ NCA staff and officers began coordinating and planning Legislative Breakfast, May 14 at the Legislative Building in Carson City.
- ◆ NCA staff traveled to Twin Falls, ID to the Jarbidge Resource Management Plan grazing and livestock meeting.
- ◆ NCA members lobbied in Carson City on issues relating to NCA.
- ◆ NCA members traveled to Carson City to meet with the Board Of Agriculture board regarding the interview and selection process of the new Director.
- ◆ NCA Policy and Resolution Book updated and published soon to be sent out in the mail.
- ◆ NCA letter to Senator Ensign opposing H.R. 503 (The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act).

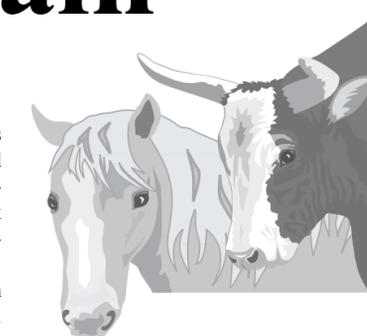
BLM Seeks Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) may need to rent additional equipment for fire suppression and support activities during the upcoming wildland fire season. To help locate such equipment quickly during a fire emergency, the BLM Field Office's are soliciting Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements for a variety of equipment.

These agreements are accepted by other federal and state agencies with similar emergency fire needs. BLM needs all sorts of equipment such as gray water trucks, potable water tenders, fuel tenders, dozers and transports, refrigeration trailers, mechanic service trucks, sedans, pickups, stake side trucks, road graders, excavators, skidders, pack string, mobile offices, helibase operations trailers, all terrain vehicles (ATV's), and weed washing units. All equipment will be subject to a safety inspection before actual use, and all contractors and operators will receive a comprehensive safety briefing before equipment is used in an actual fire line situation.

Individuals or companies interested in renting to the BLM on a call-when-needed basis and subject to equipment availability should contact their local Field Office.

Annual Head Tax Time, again



The Nevada Department of Agriculture's Division of Livestock Identification (Brand Department) was established by the legislature in 1923 at the request of the livestock industry to register brands, deter and investigate livestock theft.

The "Brand Department," as it is often called, receives no general state tax monies. It is dependant upon its own ability to generate approximately \$1.2 million in revenue per year to meet its salaries, mileage, rent and operating expenses.

In order to generate operating revenue, the legislature allowed the Department to charge fees for such things as brand registrations, transfers, brand inspections and brand books, dealers and auction licenses and, in the 1960's, a "special assessment on livestock" commonly known as the Head Tax. This tax applies to every head of livestock (including backyard horses) in the state. It requires every owner to declare their livestock once a year in May & June and pay a small tax: 28 cents per cow and 75 cents per horse, 53 cents for dairy cattle and 6 cents for goats. The Sheep Commission has its own tax on sheep.

This Head Tax used to be included in the county property tax assessments until 2003, when the Department of Agriculture took over the declarations and billing on its own.

What does this money go for? It is part of the funding system for the Brand Division which expends a lot of money investigating livestock theft and monitoring foreign livestock entering Nevada for proper identification and animal health documents. These are non-revenue generating activities designed to keep Nevada livestock safe. We

investigated and prosecuted several cases of non-Brucellosis vaccinated cattle illegally imported into the state last year and turned out; anyone of which could have threatened Nevada's Brucellosis Free status.

What if I don't declare my livestock and don't pay the Head Tax? In Nevada, the law provides that the only legal way to change ownership on livestock (horses included) is with a brand inspection performed by an agent of the Department of Agriculture. All bills of sale, registration transfers, etc. are not recognized as ownership transfer unless accompanied by a brand inspection certificate. If the Head Tax is not paid, the department can refuse to issue inspections to sell or transport an animal. Livestock sale yards will not accept consigned animals without brand inspection. Illegal sales and transportation of livestock are punishable by law.

Note: *Due to audit findings of non or under-reporting of livestock numbers, Department personnel will make a substantial effort to verify declarations this year for accuracy with other databases and available information.*

How do I find a brand inspector, record or transfer a brand, or get a declaration? NDOA website www.agri.state.nv.us or call 775 738-8076 or 702 486-4690

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BEEF CHECKOFF NEWS

JUNE 2007



SUMMER TIME IS BBQ TIME

To help the BEEF Industry along with the promotion of the grilling season is Memorial Day, Fathers Day and warm weather. The Nevada Beef Council has just received the latest brochure on the complete take on steak and (hopefully) displayed in your local meat department. It has all the information on Grilling, Pan-Broiling and Broiling beef to information on what is Grain-fed beef, Grass-finished beef to Natural and Organic beef along with an explanation to what Branded beef is, and not to be confused with "branding" cattle on the ranch.

When barbecuing, there are two methods of flavoring the meat and for two different reasons. There are liquid marinades and dry rub seasoning to apply to the meat and that would be for tenderizing the meat or just for flavoring the meat. Marinades are seasoned liquid mixtures that add flavor to your beef steaks and it may help tenderize depending on the ingredients. Dry rubs do not tenderize the meat but they sure add the flavor.

Father's day is (if you count from its official beginning) is almost 100 years old. It began on June 19, 1910, as a proclamation by the mayor of Seattle, Wash., at the bequest of a local woman, Sonora Dodd. There was already a Mother's Day and Dodd wanted equal honors for her father, a widowed Civil War veteran who raised six children on a farm.

President Richard Nixon signed the day into public law in 1972, and a lot of ties, tools, fishing gear, hugs and outdoor barbecues have marked the day since then.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 74 million Americans participated in a barbecue last year and added that it is safe to assume that many of them took place on Father's Day and Dad did the cooking.

Ground beef leads the top four grilling choices, with various kinds of steak rounding out the bottom six. KEEP PAPPY HAPPY WITH BEEF



THE DENVER REPORT

The Denver retail marketing workshop was hosted by the National Cattlemen's Association in three different locations across the U.S., Chicago, Florida and Denver. Nevada choose Denver to attend and many-many retail suggestions were proposed plus all attending states reported on their programs. Nevada came back with ideas galore, which will be proposed to the board at their May meeting. Until the "ideas" are approved by the board, it will be kept on the side burner for upcoming promotion. The Nevada Beef Council will send a proposal to the Federation of State Beef Councils for a promotional grant in and for Nevada to use in the promotion of beef utilizing the aid of Federation dollars. This funding is done quarterly so ideas are more than welcome.

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- ↗ Horses Last

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John Hanger/manager: 217-2433 Office: 775-423-7760
Jack Payne 775-217-9273 Fax: 775-423-1813

NEWS FROM CHECK-OFF DOLLARS

• Providing the safest beef in the world is high priority for beef producers in the U.S., and the Beef Check-off Program helps aim toward that goal. **Since 1993, the Beef Check-off Program has invested more than \$25 million in beef safety research reducing the incidence of food-borne pathogens such as E. coli.**

• In response to increased rates of childhood obesity and other youth health challenges, the Beef Check-off invests in a program to help schools address a broad range of wellness issues. The award-winning *School Wellness Kit*, introduced in FY 2006, shows school staff how to implement policies promoting balanced nutrition and healthy lifestyles. Combined with the popular fourth and fifth grade classroom kit, *Choose Well*, important nutrition lessons are communicated to school wellness personnel and students nationwide.

• Check-off funded "Beef It's What For Dinner" consumer ads reached 96% of adults 18 times at a total cost of less than 1/2 penny per time- in Fiscal 2006. And tracking research shows that check-off consumer ads clearly communicate and improve consumer perceptions about beef, with 795 of respondents who had seen the ads stating that "beef is food I would have a hard time giving up" and 73% saying that they felt better about eating beef after seeing the check-off nutrition.

• The recently Beef Check-off funded *Veal Optimization Study*, an important part of the check-off's go-to-market strategy for veal, has created new possibilities for food-service operators to place new veal cuts on their menus.

• Beef is outselling chicken in the foodservice arena, and total beef sales at restaurants, hotels, and institutions are growing dramatically. The total amount of beef sold foodservice reached nearly 8.4 billion pounds valued at \$25.7 billion wholesale in Fiscal 2006, representing a 53% market share in volume and a 58% market share in wholesale value against chicken at foodservice. Total beef sales at foodservice for the year represented a \$3.9 billion increase at wholesale, compared to the previous year.

• Four new "prototype" products from the youth and handheld initiatives are moving to the "Building the Business Case" stage of product development. This product refinement, an extensive business analysis, and developing partnerships for commercialization.

• Recipe screening and testing is under way for the National Beef Cook-off being held in Chicago later this year

Sagebrush Cutters

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June 9 & 10

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PLEASE PRE-ENTER BY JUNE 8TH
NO LATER THAN 10:00 PM

August 4 & 5

Start Time:
9:00 a.m. both days
THORPE CREEK RANCH
LAMOILLE, NEVADA
PLEASE PRE-ENTER

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Email: mattjj@frontiernet.net
Concessions and drinks will not be available, please bring your own.

WHAT'S DRIVING THE MARKET?

By Andy Peek, Western Video Market

Thank You American Farmer

Just when it looked like the cattle business was going to fall on tough times the American Corn Farmer came through. We have the most productive farmers in the world, that is being proven right now. The new ethanol craze was about ready to drive the price of corn out of sight, which in turn would have been a disaster to the beef industry. The corn growers did the impossible; they planted a crop that will far outpace the productive levels of the past. Production will be at a fifteen to twenty percent increase. We not only have corn planted roadside to roadside but in areas that were never planted in corn before. With increased irrigation and fertilization this spells record production.

This increase in production will make corn cheaper, but not cheap. Therefore, this will caution the cattle feeding industry against overfeeding our fat cattle and keep total tonnage of beef down.

Less beef and cheaper corn means as producers we can again look forward to excellent prices this year.

On a personal note many of you know that I recently went through a major surgery for the "BIG C". I am a very lucky man in that my cancer was diagnosed early and I could be operated on. I now look forward to a summer of radiation treatment and a fall of chemotherapy. After treatment I should be as good as new. I thank everyone for the cards, letters, e-mails, and prayers. Take care of your own health, as it is the most precious thing we have.

If you need updates on the market you can call Ellington, Brad or myself at (530) 347-3793.

Andy Peek

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Lorey's Stories
by Lorey Eldridge

Last month was busier than most, I am not sure my life is going to slow down either. I wished I could report on some vacation I have just returned from, but the truth of the matter is I have been dang busy in my garden and with my mom and her visits to the doctor and hospital. Last month I just didn't have the umph to go back and set my little fingers to work on that computer. I must confess to all my loving and faithful readers that as long as I am taking care of my mom and the days are sunny and warm my columns may be sporadic, and I am sure you understand.

This month I wanted to give you an update on our local Elko CattleWomen. The ag in the classroom was a huge success as always, with 298 children learning about agriculture. My hat is off to the CattleWomen and teachers who worked so hard to educate our children and a BIG thanks to Maggie Creek Ranches and the 71 Ranch.

On another note I hope all you mothers had a wonderful Mother's Day because now we are getting ready to celebrate Father's Day, which is just around the corner. The Cattlewomen have been gearing up to promote beef on Father's Day. They

tell me, all you have to do is stop in at Cucina Fresca and enter that man in your life's name, to win a gourmet goody basket with everything he needs to grill a fantastic meal. Besides if you ask me they should do a little more cookin!! The basket is filled with a beef certificate from Roys Market, Ranch Cookbook and BBQ items from Cucina Fresca. The best part is it is absolutely free so there's no reason not to stop in. We don't want to forget about our little cowboys and cowgirls, so the CattleWomen have setup a coloring contest they can enter and win their dad a great prize as well. Just swing by the meat counter at Albertsons or Roys in Elko, Scotts in Carlin or Stewarts in Wells. The contest will run June 2 through June 8 with two age categories, 3 to 6 and 7 to 10 year olds. The basket at Cucina Fresca and the prizes for the coloring contest will all be awarded before Father's Day.

Lastly, boy hasn't that Real Ranch Cookbook of the CattleWomen's been a hot item. We sure do appreciate Cowboy Joe Downtown selling them for us. Next time you are in Elko stop in at Cowboy Joe have a great cup of coffee and make sure you buy a cookbook while supplies last.

I know you are busy trying to spread that last little bit of water, but I hope you do take the time to enjoy Father's Day.

WINNEMUCCA RODEO BIBLE CAMP

July 30th-August 2nd, 2007 Senior and Junior Camp

Winnemucca Events Center - Outdoor Facilities
Senior Students: 13-19 years, \$60
Junior Students: 10-12 years, \$30
 Price includes meals and a place to stay.
SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE
Stalls: \$5.00 per night

Rodeo Bible Camp is an opportunity for high school age students to combine a rodeo instructional school with a Bible-based Christian camp, with Christian-based values such as honesty, integrity and self-worth, we can lift up and encourage students in their daily Christian life. Students also have the opportunity to learn or improve

For more information and applications:
 Cindy Koepke
 3767 Keyes Way
 Fallon, NV 89406
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- Extensive equipment list included
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Great Ranching Opportunity or Developer's Dream

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- Minutes to South Fork Lake- 20 minutes to downtown Elko.
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- Cattle Ranch and Industrial Land
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Bellamy Brothers

Bellamy Brothers pushed the borders of country music, adding strong elements of rock, reggae, and even rap. Nearly a decade after their first hit - the 1975 pop chart-topping, Southern rock-tinged "Let Your Love Flow" - the brothers had earned a stack of best-selling records, and critical respect came by the late '80s. By that time, they had firmly established themselves as the duo of the '80s, both in terms of popularity and musical diversity.

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When you see this group live, you will feel the excitement of their sound & you will feel the reaction of the audience! With a unique style, they sing about Cowboys, Horses, Soldiers, the West, & nature at it's grandest. Their music is timeless & speaks to many generations.



This is a tentative schedule:

Monday, July 30

6:00 am PDT - Daybreak Preview

7:00 am PDT - VIDEO ROYALE XV Auction

Tuesday, July 31

6:00 am PDT - Daybreak Preview

7:00 am PDT - VIDEO ROYALE XV Auction

Wednesday, August 1

6:00 am PDT - Daybreak Preview

7:00 am PDT - VIDEO ROYALE XV Auction

5:00 pm PDT - 12th Annual Superior Livestock Auction Cowboy Golf Tournament

Thursday, August 2

6:00 am PDT - Daybreak Preview

7:00 am PDT - VIDEO ROYALE XV Auction

6:00 pm PDT - Steak cookout & live entertainment by the Bellamy Brothers & David John & the Comstock Cowboy's

Friday, August 3

7:00 am PDT - Daybreak Preview

8:00 am PDT - VIDEO ROYALE XV Auction

8:00 pm PDT - Live entertainment by David John & the Comstock Cowboy's at Ormachea's Dinner House

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JIM DAVIS

208-343-9885 OR 208-890-6486

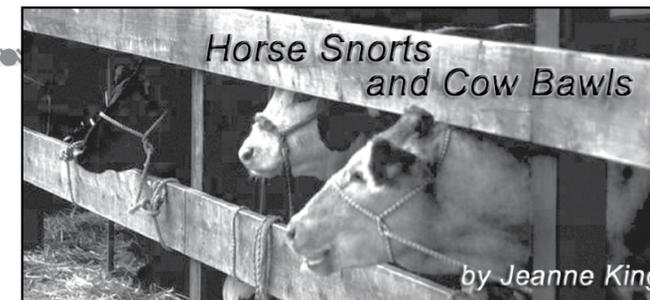
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Horse Snorts and Cow Bawls

by Jeanne King

Here it is, deadline again! And nothing awe inspiring to say. Everybody knows we all have dust and headed out grass so that's not new. Will we have fires to burn what little grew this spring? I would like to think the BLM is doing more for fire prevention and letting the land owners do more without threat of loosing their BLM license to graze for doing their own fire prevention and suppression. With that threat, the Bureau has one over a barrel. Darned if you do and darned if you don't. Do nothing while waiting for the fire fighters to do something and let it burn...Or stop the burning and loose your permit to the Bureau for infringing on their "money makers"! I do so agree with the Cattlemen's president, Boyd Spratling in using controlled burning in the cool of the year, after the long hot days of summer are over. Lots of fire breaks could be created using this method. At least, with some controlled burning, the huge build up of hot fuel would be somewhat eliminated.

Enough of that soap box. On to something else.

Emma is a good place to start. She always has something to say. We were working some pairs out a while back. Her mom's horse was too fresh for her to ride with her so she went with me. She's too big now to fit comfortably on front so I put her in back for the first time. That was more comfortable but she couldn't see-and direct!

She started to complain she wanted to go with mom, back to her house anything. I told her complaining and whining would do no good until we were done. We had the cattle bunched and I started to work a few out. We made a few good turns and she pops up.

"This isn't bad. This isn't bad at all!"

Guess that solved that. Some interesting things to do. I remember getting so bored of holding bunch but when I finally grew up enough and had a good

enough horse to work the cows myself, boredom left! I'm sure our kids felt the same. One time we were working cows in a nice sandy corner on a warm day. Suzann's horse had a small colt and it was taking a nap while holding bunch. Suzann napped with the colt. Samme's mare didn't have a colt but Samme was napping in her horse's shade.

About when things were sound asleep, a big white bull got pushed out to the edge of the bunch, out by the horses. Suzann's black mare laid her ears back and threatened the bull not to get close to her baby. She flipped her head and as much as barred her teeth at the poor ole bull. Well, Samme's mare only had Samme to protect but she did the same thing while standing over Samme. Laid her ears back, flipped her head and let the bull know not to come close to "her baby"! Kind of cute! The mares definitely had "their girls"! They were that way all their life!

This is a short story but I need to get out to change my irrigation water and do lots of little things. With helping at the PX and Grass Valley, I haven't had a lot of time for my "little things".

Hope it rains good before this reading!

Winnemucca's Junior Rodeo



July 14 & 15, 2007

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Queen Contest
5:00 p.m., Fri., July 13
Rodeo
8:00 a.m., Sat. & Sun.

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Elko County Cow-Calf Production Costs & Returns, 2006

(Reprint of University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet FS-07-08)

By Kynda Curtis, Emily Brough, Ron Torell, and William Riggs

The following provides sample costs and returns for raising beef cattle in Elko County, Nevada. This is intended to be a guide used to make production decisions, determine potential returns, and prepare business and marketing plans. The practices described are not the recommendations of the University of Nevada, Reno, but rather production practices and materials considered typical of a well-managed beef cattle operation in the region, as determined by a producer panel conducted in October 2006. Costs, materials and practices are not applicable to all operations, as production practices vary among ranchers within the region.

Ranch Description

Livestock. The livestock inventory consists of 700 cows, 40 bulls and 12 horses. Ten replacement bulls are purchased annually, with a useful life of 4 years. Cow replacement is 12%, with a death loss of 2%. The weaned calf crop produced from over-wintered cows and replacement heifers is 89%. Replacement heifers are selected at weaning and consist of 140 head. At fall evaluation, 100 are brought into the herd as replacements and the remaining 40 are sold as open or bred yearling heifers. Steer calves, non-selected replacement heifers, cull bulls and cull cows are marketed for delivery in November.

Land/Buildings. The representative ranch consists of 325 acres of land for buildings, housing, etc. valued at \$800.00 per acre. The ranch has an additional 8,700 acres of pasture land valued at \$200.00 an acre, and leases an additional 640 acres of rangeland at \$14.00 per AUM. The majority of cattle grazing is conducted on federal lands.

Production Costs and Returns

Feed. The forage base for the ranch consists of summer grazing on federal allotments (mid-April to mid-November), aftermath grazing on meadows, and winter feeding of alfalfa hay and grain. Grass hay and alfalfa costs are based on 2006 market prices. These costs include the full costs of producing the hay (land, equipment, inputs, etc.) and/or purchasing the hay, whichever is lowest. A combination of salt and mineral supplements are provided during the year at \$12.00 per head.

Veterinary/Medical. Cows and replacement heifers receive a pregnancy check in November and are provided with an external insecticide, 7 or 8 Way, and an oral de-wormer. Bulls are also provided with an external insecticide in November and given 7 or 8 Way. Weaned, replacement heifers are provided IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, 7 or 8 Way, oral de-wormer, Naselgen, and Bangs vaccinations. Steer and heifer calves are branded, earmarked, dehorned in May, and vaccinated with 7 or 8 Way and Naselgen. Steers are also given implants and castrated in May. Total annual veterinary costs are computed at \$25.00 per head.

Marketing/Check off. Calves are marketed through video marketing sales in the summer with a November/December delivery. Cull animals are marketed through local auction markets. Annual marketing costs are calculated at 2% of total revenue. Check off fees are \$1.00 per animal sold.

Horse Maintenance. Costs for shoeing horses, veterinary, and feed expenses are based on costs as reported by the producer panel; approximately \$450.00 annually per head.

Hauling. Hauling cattle to/from auctions is estimated at \$2.50 per head.

Labor. Labor includes one hired employee, one owner/manager, and summer help from local and owner children. Hired labor costs include an annual salary of \$20,000.00 per hired labor unit with 75% percent of the hired labor time contributed to the livestock enterprise. The owner/manager receives \$3,000.00 per month as a family draw. All employee benefits, payroll taxes and workers' compensation insurance are included in labor costs.

Returns. Returns are based on early 2006 market prices. Returns vary from year to year and across years due to market conditions. A full listing of prices used in this publication can be found in Table 1.

Overhead and Capital Recovery Costs

Cash Overhead. Cash overhead consists of various cash expenses paid out during the year. These costs include property taxes, interest, office expenses, liability and property insurance, as well as investment/machinery repairs. A complete listing of farm investments and associated costs can be found in Table 2.

Interest on Operating Capital. Total operating capital is calculated based on 80% of total operating (variable) costs. The interest on operating capital is calculated at a rate of 7.2% for a six month period.

Table 1: Elko County 700 Cow-Calf Production Costs and Returns

Description	Weight Per Animal	Unit of Measure	Total Units	Price/Cost Per Unit	Total Value	Value/Cost Per Head	Your Ranch
GROSS INCOME							
Cull Cows	1100.00	lbs	84.00	\$ 0.44	\$ 41,025.60	\$ 488.40	
Cull Bulls	1665.00	lbs	10.00	\$ 0.55	\$ 9,157.50	\$ 915.75	
Yearling Replacements	875.00	lbs	40.00	\$ 1.01	\$ 35,350.00	\$ 883.75	
Heifer Calves	440.00	lbs	165.00	\$ 1.19	\$ 66,394.00	\$ 523.60	
Steer Calves	570.00	lbs	306.00	\$ 1.28	\$ 223,257.60	\$ 729.60	
TOTAL INCOME			605.00		\$395,184.70	\$564.55	
OPERATING COSTS							
Leased land		AUM	100	\$ 14.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2.00	
Grass Hay (Meadow Hay)	2065.00	Ton	48.00	\$ 99.120.00	\$ 141.60		
Grain	42.00	Ton	115.00	\$ 4.830.00	\$ 6.90		
Alfalfa Hay	100.00	Ton	100.00	\$ 10.000.00	\$ 14.29		
Federal Grazing (BLM)	6000.00	AUM	1.56	\$ 9,360.00	\$ 13.37		
Horse (Shoeing, Vet. Feed, etc.)	12.00	Head	450.00	\$ 5.400.00	\$ 7.71		
Veterinary/Medical	700.00	Head	25.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 25.00		
Marketing (Brand, Video, Commission)	605.00	Head	13.06	\$ 7,903.69	\$ 11.29		
Checkoff	605.00	Head	1.00	\$ 605.00	\$ 0.86		
Salt & Minerals	700.00	Head	12.00	\$ 8,400.00	\$ 12.00		
Hauling	605.00	\$	2.50	\$ 1,512.50	\$ 2.16		
Hired Labor	Annual	7.75	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 21.43		
Operator Labor	Monthly	12.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 51.43		
Accounting & Legal Fees	\$	1.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2.86		
Maintenance (Buildings, Vehicles, etc.)	\$	1.00	\$ 14,028.20	\$ 14,028.20	\$ 20.04		
Fuel & Lube	\$	1.00	\$ 11,466.51	\$ 11,466.51	\$ 16.38		
Utilities	\$	1.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 8.00		
Miscellaneous	Head	700.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 5.00		
Interest Operating Capital	\$	\$ 202,900.72	7.20%	\$ 7,304.43	\$ 10.43		
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS					\$ 260,930.33	\$ 372.76	
INCOME ABOVE OPERATING COSTS					\$ 134,254.37	\$ 191.79	
OWNERSHIP COSTS							
Capital Recovery (Depreciation):							
Buildings, Improvements, & Equipment	\$	1.00	\$ 8,259.92	\$ 8,259.92	\$ 11.80		
Machinery & Vehicles	\$	1.00	\$ 14,876.11	\$ 14,876.11	\$ 21.25		
Purchased Livestock (Bulls & Horses)	\$	1.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 21.43		
Cash Overhead:							
Liability Insurance	\$	1.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 5.00		
Office & Travel	\$	1.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4.29		
Interest on Retained Livestock	\$	1.00	\$ 5,277.89	\$ 5,277.89	\$ 7.54		
Annual Investment Insurance	\$	1.00	\$ 16,247.53	\$ 16,247.53	\$ 23.21		
Annual Investment Taxes	\$	1.00	\$ 24,395.70	\$ 24,395.70	\$ 34.85		
TOTAL OWNERSHIP COSTS					\$ 90,557.14	\$ 129.37	
TOTAL COSTS					\$ 351,487.47	\$ 502.12	
NET PROJECTED RETURNS					\$ 43,697.23	\$ 62.42	

Property Taxes. Property taxes in Nevada differ across counties. For the purposes of this publication, investment property taxes are calculated at 1% of the average asset value of the property.

Insurance. Insurance costs for farm investments vary, depending on the assets included and the amount of coverage. Property insurance provides coverage for property loss and is charged at .666% of the average asset value. Liability insurance covers accidents on the farm at an annual cost of \$3,500.

Fuel and Lube. The fuel and lube for all machinery and vehicles is calculated at 8% of the purchase price.

Investment Repairs. Annual repairs are provided for all ranch investments or capital recovery items that require maintenance. Annual repairs are calculated at 2% of the purchase price for buildings and equipment and 7% of the purchase price for machinery and vehicles.

Office & Travel. Office and travel costs are estimated at \$3,000.00 for an average year. These expenses include office supplies, telephone service, Internet service and travel expenses to educational seminars.

Capital Recovery. Capital recovery costs are the annual depreciation (opportunity cost) of all farm investments. Capital recovery costs are calculated using straight line depreciation. Farm equipment may be purchased new or used, depending on producer panel preferences.

Salvage Value. Salvage value is 10% of the purchase price, but 50% for purchased livestock. It is an estimate of the remaining value of an investment at the end of its useful life. The salvage value for land is the purchase price, as land does not normally depreciate.

Average Asset Value Computation

$$\frac{\text{Purchase Price} + \text{Salvage Value}}{2}$$

Straight Line Depreciation Computation

$$\frac{\text{Purchase Price} - \text{Salvage Value}}{\text{Useful Life}}$$

If you would like further information you may contact Kynda Curtis by phone at 775-784-1682 or by email at kcurtis@cabnr.unr.edu.

Table 2: Investment Summary

Description	Purchase Price	Salvage Value	Livestock Share (%)	Useful Life (yrs)	Annual Taxes	Annual Insurance	Annual Capital Recovery	Annual Repairs	Annual Fuel and Lube
Buildings, Improvements, and Equipment									
Land (housing & buildings)	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 260,000.00	100	100.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,731.60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
House & Shop	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,000.00	100	50.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 999.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pastureland	\$ 1,740,000.00	\$ 1,740,000.00	100	100.00	\$ 17,400.00	\$ 11,588.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Barn	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 2,250.00	100	20.00	\$ 123.75	\$ 82.42	\$ 1,012.50	\$ 450.00	\$ -
Fencing	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	100	50.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 133.20	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ -
Cornals/Hauling System	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 2,050.00	100	30.00	\$ 112.75	\$ 75.09	\$ 615.00	\$ 410.00	\$ -
Portable Corrals	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 200.00	100	12.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 7.33	\$ 150.00	\$ 40.00	\$ -
Water Development	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 300.00	100	25.00	\$ 16.50	\$ 10.99	\$ 108.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -
Machine Shop, Tools	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	80	25.00	\$ 132.00	\$ 87.91	\$ 884.00	\$ 480.00	\$ -
Range Improvements	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	100	25.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 36.63	\$ 300.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Electric Fence	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	100	15.00	\$ 12.50	\$ 8.33	\$ 166.75	\$ 50.00	\$ -
Impliments	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	75	20.00	\$ 103.13	\$ 68.68	\$ 843.75	\$ 375.00	\$ -
Flatbed Trailer	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 800.00	100	20.00	\$ 44.00	\$ 29.30	\$ 360.00	\$ 160.00	\$ -
Bale Feeder	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	100	20.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 73.26	\$ 900.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -
Feed Wagon	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 500.00	100	20.00	\$ 27.50	\$ 18.32	\$ 225.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
Tack	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	100	10.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 33.30	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Gooseneck	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 800.00	100	20.00	\$ 44.00	\$ 29.30	\$ 360.00	\$ 160.00	\$ -
Scales	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 550.00	100	10.00	\$ 30.25	\$ 20.15	\$ 495.00	\$ 110.00	\$ -
Sub Total	\$ 2,362,000.00	\$ 2,165,950.00	NA	NA	\$ 22,572.38	\$ 15,033.20	\$ 8,259.92	\$ 3,995.00	
Machinery and Vehicles									
130 HP Tractor	\$ 34,389.00	\$ 3,438.90	60	25.00	\$ 113.48	\$ 75.58	\$ 742.80	\$ 1,444.34	\$ 1,650.67
180 HP Tractor/Loader	\$ 23,457.00	\$ 2,345.70	60	25.00	\$ 77.41	\$ 51.55	\$ 506.67	\$ 985.19	\$ 1,125.94
40 HP Tractor	\$ 6,373.00	\$ 637.30	60	25.00	\$ 21.03	\$ 14.01	\$ 137.66	\$ 267.67	\$ 305.90
Tractor/Crawler	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 2,100.00	60	30.00	\$ 92.40	\$ 61.54	\$ 504.00	\$ 1,176.00	\$ 1,344.00
Dump Truck	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 550.00	60	20.00	\$ 18.15	\$ 12.09	\$ 148.50	\$ 231.00	\$ 264.00
3/4 Ton 4x4	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	90	4.00	\$ 178.20	\$ 118.68	\$ 7,290.00	\$ 2,298.00	\$ 2,592.00
4-Wheeler	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 1,200.00	60	5.00	\$ 39.60	\$ 26.37	\$ 1,296.00	\$ 504.00	\$ 576.00
1/2 Ton 4x4	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 2,100.00	90	8.00	\$ 103.95	\$ 69.23	\$ 2,126.25	\$ 1,323.00	\$ 1,512.00
1/2 Ton Truck	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 1,800.00	90	8.00	\$ 89.10	\$ 59.34	\$ 1,822.50	\$ 1,134.00	\$ 1,296.00
Backhoe	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	100	30.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 36.63	\$ 300.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 800.00
Sub Total	\$ 187,719.00	\$ 18,771.90	NA	NA	\$ 788.32	\$ 525.02	\$ 14,874.38	\$ 10,033.20	\$ 11,466.51
Purchased Livestock									
Bulls (40)	\$ 108,000.00	\$ 54,000.00	100	4.00	\$ 810.00	\$ 539.46	\$ 13,500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Horses (12)	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	100	10.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 149.85	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Sub Total	\$ 138,000.00	\$ 69,000.00	NA	NA	\$ 1,035.00	\$ 689.31	\$ 15,000.00		
Total	\$ 2,687,719.00	\$ 2,255,721.90	NA	NA	\$ 24,395.70	\$ 16,247.53	\$ 38,134.30	\$ 14,028.20	\$ 11,466.51
Retained Livestock (Interest rate)									
Replacement Heifers (140)	\$ 73,304.00	\$ 73,304.00	100				\$ 5,277.89		
Total	\$ 73,304.00						\$ 5,277.89		

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Como Trigger Chex • Bob & Ann Britton • Wells, NV
Double Dan Bueno • Brian & Shelly Ward • Murtaugh, ID
Double Your Fritz • Jackson Allen Porath • American Falls, ID
Fairleas Colonel Rio • Rex & Dorothy Stening • Lamoille, NV
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Eye on the Outside

By Joe Guild

A More Efficient System

As I pen this, the Nevada Legislature has 20 days before it adjourns. As you read this, the Legislature will have adjourned for about 10 days. That is, of course, if the Legislature can complete its business on time and the Governor doesn't have to call a special session. Since 1999, the Legislature has only finished within 120 day statutory time limit once. There were special sessions in 2001, 2003 and 2005. It always comes down to money. For instance, in 2003, there was a big fight over whether to raise taxes and create new ones. In 2005 there was plenty of money, so the fight was over how to spend it. This year, there isn't enough money for a growing state with crying needs. The Assembly Democrats want all day kindergarten in all schools. The Governor doesn't want to spend money on that. Everyone agrees the state needs to spend more money on roads to ease traffic congestion in Las Vegas and Reno and repair some aging infrastructure throughout the state but no one agrees on where the money should come from. Nevada's prisons are over crowded and the entire education system from kindergarten through the colleges and universities is crying for more money. The kids versus the prison-

ers- who should get the money. There is a large and growing methamphetamine problem which is going to require more education and law enforcement money to solve. The state government has to provide basic services in every other area you can imagine to an ever and fast growing population.

The people want those services and every program has at least a few champions willing to pay more and a few taxpayers who don't want to pay one dime more.

Nobody likes to have their taxes raised. There is a constitutional prohibition against an income tax. Nevadans, by almost 80-20, are against raising property taxes. We rely primarily on sales tax and gaming taxes to fund the state's budget but these are not always reliable and stable sources of revenue. So what's a responsible government to do?

I've written about this before, and I know some readers don't believe me, but, for the most part, our elected representatives are dedicated, hard-working and sincere individuals who struggle to create good public policies and make correct decisions which will benefit all the citizens of Nevada. They are hampered in these efforts by some institutional and statutory constraints however. Thus, even the legislators' best intentions and hardest working most dedicated efforts sometimes are not enough. Does it sound to you as if I'm leading up to an argument that the state should raise more taxes? Well, I hope not, because I am not. With much public debate and significant analysis by the legislature, it is entirely possible that we could conclude in the next few years that we need more revenue for specific things. For example, the number I am told which I believe is most reliable is there is a \$3 billion short fall in our state's highway budget to fix roads and highway infrastructure and build new roads. I do not believe when you read this that the Governor and the legislature will have reached an agreement on how this need will be funded. It will have to be solved another day, in another legislative session.

By law, the legislature must pass a balanced budget. Therefore, at a significant point in time, every 2 years, the Governor and the state legislature must reach an accord which provides for the spending needs and with adequate revenue for the next biennium.

Here's the problem, the budget which will pass, we hope, sometime in the next 20 days was originally crafted by state agencies, school administrators and the higher education system beginning last July. That is to say, in the summer of 2006 these visionaries and seers were planning for spending needs for June 2009 some three years into the future! Just try and do that for your ranch or business or family and see how accurate you are.

Most people who budget do it every year for the next year. Even that is not always the most effective way to predict our needs. And, we all know that as effective as we try to be in determining what our future needs are, there are always surprises and unknown factors which cause us to put some flexibility into our best laid plans.

Under our current system, we are asking the Governor and the leaders of our education system to predict what the states needs will be 3 years into the future. Then we are asking the legislature to handle all of its other business and create a balanced budget in 120 days every other year.

So here's my punch line. I'm not arguing for higher taxes. I'm making the case for a more efficient system. Our legislature should meet every odd year for 120 days and take care of the state's policy and budget needs just as it does now. In the even years, the legislature should meet for 45 days, in budget hearings only, to deal with the decisions necessary to meet the growing needs of the fastest-growing state. Perhaps, if more time is devoted to thorough debate and analysis of the financial issues facing our state, we can avoid unnecessary tax increases, determine the critical needs and prioritize them and still provide the vital services Nevada needs and deserves.

I'm sorry I've been away for awhile. Good luck to the new Director of the Department of Agriculture, Donna Rise. I'll see you soon.

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Matt Oros Enters College Finals as Top Rated Saddle Bronc Rider

By Mary Branscomb

When the National College Finals Rodeo happens June 10-16 in Casper, Wyo., Matt Oros, 22, of Lamoille will enter competition as the top saddle bronc rider in the Grand Canyon Region of the college rodeo association - and possibly after all the year's college rodeos are complete - the top college saddle bronc rider in the nation.

He will also compete at the NCFR in steer wrestling where he finished up fifth in his region; and further, he ended this year in seventh place in his region's All Around category.

So, Matt has added two new trophy saddles to the already full tack room: All Around Cowboy and Saddle Bronc Champion for the Grand Canyon Region in 2006-2007. In high school, Matt was the Nevada state high school Saddle Bronc Champion in 2003, 2004 and 2005.

In the ensuing National Finals High School Rodeos, he finished 23rd, eighth and eleventh in the nation, but although he has been to some amateur and professional rodeos, he says that now he will focus on college events only so he can "stay healthy." He wouldn't want to get hurt in a rodeo that didn't count on the college circuit.

This fall, he will return to Cochise College in Douglas, Ariz., to complete his degree in Ag Business; but he plans to spend this summer working for his father, Manny, who is foreman of the Lamoille Division of Maggie Creek Ranch, and ride colts with him in the evenings.

"There's no one I'd rather work with than my

dad," he says, "and I am going to do it even though I could make more money working construction."

Matt says his two older brothers were a very big influence on his choosing to be a rodeo cowboy. Richard rode saddle broncs and bulls and went to the NFHSR in 1999. Jake went in 2001 in bull riding and Richard continues to ride saddle broncs professionally.

"I have lots of family and relatives to help me," says Matt, "some in Arizona and Las Vegas put me up and feed me when I need it."

His mom, Ramona, and younger sister, Amy Schweitzer, watch rodeo and worry, but neither participated in the sport although they have always been great supporters and providers of food. They spend many hours on the road to finally find seats on hard, sometimes hot, sometimes cold fairgrounds bleachers many miles from home. Ramona works for Nevada Bank and Trust and Amy works at New Image Salon in Elko.

Next year, with his diploma in hand, Matt will try for a ranch job or one with a wildlife agency which appeals because his grandfather Watson was a game warden in the Alamo area.

"I need a job that pays well enough so I can afford to go to professional rodeos after I finish school," he explained.

His mother calls her youngest son the "family comedian" and says he's "pretty quick on his feet."

"In fact," she asks, "Do you take anything seriously?"

"Sure," he replies, "I take rodeo seriously!"



Mary Branscomb Photos

Grand Champion Market Lamb Breaks Record at the Nevada Junior Livestock Show

Reno, Nevada - Yells from the auctioneer could be heard outside the Reno Livestock Events Center as prices climbed during the auction of the grand champion market lamb May 6, 2007 during the Nevada Junior Livestock Show (NJLS). Waves of excitement rippled through the crowd as the final bid reached a record-setting \$40.00 per pound. The 139 pound market lamb, owned by sixteen-year-old Amanda Holland of Lovelock, was purchased by Mr. Ken Hellwinkel of Gardnerville in memory of his wife Victoria "Vickie" Hellwinkel. Holland said, "For somebody to do something like that, what do you say? Thank you just doesn't seem enough."

Mrs. Hellwinkel was a resident of Gardnerville, NV and worked in both construction and ranching. She was an active supporter of 4-H and the Nevada Junior Livestock Show for many years. "She was a tremendous asset to NJLS," said NJLS Vice President and Show Manager Judy Rumbaugh, "She would be happy to know she had been a part of something like the sale of this lamb."

The animal was resold to the JT Basque Restaurant in Gardnerville with the agreement that the proceeds would go to the newly-established Vickie Hellwinkel Memorial Scholarship fund. The Nevada Junior Livestock Show has given over \$50,000 in scholarships since 2000. Only two students were awarded scholarships in the first year of the program. This year, with generous donations and support, NJLS awarded eleven outstanding 4-H and FFA members with scholarships.

This was the 68th Anniversary for the Nevada Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Both 4-H and FFA members participate by raising animals including beef, sheep, swine, goats and dairy cattle. Participants compete with their project animals in quality and showmanship judging with some auctioning their livestock on the final day of the show.

For more information on supporting this worthwhile program, please contact the Nevada Junior Livestock Show office at 775-688-1180 ext. 282 or P.O. Box 8026 Reno, Nevada 89507.



Educational Awards 2007 Go To 21 Nevada Students

Young Nevadans who may be agricultural leaders in Nevada and even Nationally were encouraged to seek a higher education in agriculture or associated fields when they were presented with Educational Awards (scholarships) at the late April annual meetings of the Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) held in Reno.

Twenty one of the students, either 2007 graduates of Nevada High Schools, re-applications or carryover recipients, were honored with the awards. Total amount given was \$41,500. This along with \$13,414 in grants added up to \$54,914 granted by NAF this year.

"We have seen many young recipients of our Educational Awards over the years," said outgoing NAF President Louis Test, Reno Attorney, "find success in agricultural fields and other career choices. They have provided a cadre of youthful enthusiasm and leadership in growing food. We want to keep them interested and motivated."

The 21 receiving awards this year came from 11 counties with Elko County most represented. Following are the 2007 recipients: New Applications (2007 Nevada High School graduates; story includes name County and Educational Award) Caralina Julian, Churchill, NAF \$2,000 one year award; Danielle Longley, Elko, William Denevi \$2,500 one year; Cristin Seppa, Douglas, Denevi \$2,000 one year; Taylor Adams, Clark, Denevi \$2,000 one year; Rubina Dann, Elko, William Denevi Premier \$2,000 per year for four years; Kayla Watschke, Lyon, William Kelly Golden \$2,000 one year; and Jacqueline Koster, Douglas, William Kelly Golden Premier \$2,000 per year for four years. Re-Applications, Amanda Vesco, Humboldt, William Kelly Golden \$1,500 one year; Emily Brough, Elko, NAF \$1,000 one year; Andrea Mori, Elko, NAF \$1,500 one year; Ellen Trindle, Elko, William Kelly Golden \$1,500 one year; Katerina Julian, Churchill, Denevi \$1,000 one year; and Ashlee Mendive, Elko, Denevi \$1,500 one year.

Carry over or four year grants, (Denevi Premier Grants, \$2,000 per year four years) Amy E. Beaupre, Storey; Daniel Derricott, Eureka; Brandon MacDougall, Pershing; Jessica Lorenz, Lander and Russell Pedrett, Douglas. (William Kelly Golden Premier \$2,000 per year for four years) Cassie Dotts, Douglas and Sarah Gee, Nye. (William Kelly Golden Premier \$3,000 per year for four years) Jacob Miller, Elko.

Banquet Features Wildfire Report And Music

John McLain, Range Management Consultant with Resource Concepts of Carson City and a member of the Rush Creek musical group provided just about the whole show at the Annual Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) Banquet held late April in Reno.

McLain informed those attending about the 2006 devastation caused by wildfires in Nevada, using a slide presentation to illustrate his points. The guitar player then joined with group leader and fiddler Randy Pollard and bassist Charlie Edsell, the Rush Creek band, to fill the air with mighty fine western, Hispanic and popular music. The audience attending the event in John Asquaga's Poolside Terrace Room loved it.

Range and forest wildfires during the past 10 years in Nevada, McLain said, have consumed range vegetation at a much higher rate than any time previously. Last year 2006 was particularly destructive. Lost have been millions of acres of rangelands that sustain wildlife and livestock and which once added to scenic values of the State. Proliferation of Cheat Grass and other vegetation in some areas have contributed to the increased burning as has drought. According to data John cited, wildfires this decade which still has three years to go have burned more than the three previous decades combined. "Unless something is done," he said, "the future could even be worse."

"The Governor along with the BLM, Forest Service and the State natural resource agencies," said McLain, "is working on a plan with emphasis on 'PRE-SUPPRESSION' of such fires to augment and hopefully reduce the need for suppression. One of the tools, especially in plant monocultures or extensive stands where one plant such as Cheat Grass dominates, will be to utilize livestock. The approach would be to put cattle or sheep on such areas early in the growing season, to not only graze it down so that less of the highly flammable grass remains but hopefully before it can set seed. Mechanical and other means would also be used."

NAF President Louis Test, Reno Attorney, introduced Foundation Board of Directors and Trustees present. He also called on Dave Mathis to offer thoughts on the passing of Harry Gallaway, 90, who died recently. Gallaway was one of the founders of NAF and served the Foundation well for nearly 30 years. Test also recognized Allen List of Lovelock, chairman of the Educational Awards Committee, who introduced award recipients attending this year's banquet. Test, who is outgoing President, passed the gavel to the new NAF leader, Mike Compston of Smith Valley who provided closing remarks and presented gifts to Test and Gail Munk of Lovelock, Executive Director/Secretary who is also stepping down. The plaques and mementos noted their contributions to NAF.

Grants For 2007 Announced

Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) Grants for 2007 were announced at the Foundation's annual meetings held late April in Reno. The grants were given to support the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources (CABNR) University of Nevada agricultural research and other programs along with Nevada 4-H and the Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board.

A total of \$13,414 was awarded which includes \$8,250 in new projects plus \$3,000 from the March Landa Memorial fund and the rest holdover from the previous year. "It is always difficult in selecting the grant application we want to fund," said Mike Compston of Smith Valley the new NAF President and chairman of the Selection Committee. He explained, "this year we had application requests totaling \$84,000 but only had \$10,000 to give."

Compston reported that grants of \$2,000 each went to CABNR to help fund research relative to development of low water use alternative crop and forage grasses for Nevada and Molecular characterization of pathogens harbored by "Ornithodoros cariaceus" the tick vector of epizootic bovine abortion and to work experience for undergraduates in general agricultural practices through internships at CABNR's Main Station Field Laboratory. "There is always a need for valuable crops that can be grown in Nevada with less water," said Compston, "and feel this research is aimed at developing such plants." Bovine abortion often referred to as foothill abortion in Nevada has long been a serious problem for Nevada ranchers and the NAF research addresses that problem, Compston further explained. "While many ag. Students may come off ranches or farms some don't," said Compston, "so that these internships help acquaint them with practical and hands on work experiences. In the case of ranch raised kids it can teach them aspects of ranching they did not practice on their own ranches and for those without ranch or farm experience, teach a great deal of the "hands on" facets of the industry."

NAF also provided \$2,250 to the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension to assist in funding 4-H Leadership opportunities. The \$3,000 from the March Landa Fund was awarded to the Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board.

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Saturday, August 11th

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Compston Elected NAF President

Directing the Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) in the year ahead will be Mike Compston of Smith Valley. He was elected to the leadership role during the annual NAF meetings held late April in Reno. He takes over for Louis Test, Reno Attorney who has held the office the past two years.

Compston moves up from Vice President to assume the Presidency. He joined the Foundation in 2003 when he was named to the NAF Board of Directors. He has served on and been chairman of a number of committees and currently has headed the Grants Selection Committee. He has served as Vice President for two years. Mike brings a wealth of agricultural knowledge and experience to his new position. "The Foundation," Mike says, "benefits Nevada agriculture by providing incentive for capable young Nevadans to go on to College and major in agricultural areas thus preparing them as future leaders of the industry."

Mike is a fifth generation Nevadan with his family long holding ranch property in Smith Valley. He is a UNR Ag. College graduate. He and wife Jacquie have two daughters and four grandchildren. He has served a number of years as a member of the Nevada Dairy Commission, the last couple of which he has headed the organization. He is owner of a consulting firm that provides services in watershed evaluation, irrigation efficiency and watershed management. He has served many years as a 4-H leader and is past President of the Smith Valley Rotary Club and the California Nevada Hereford Association.

Pete Olson, Fallon Dairyman and a Board Member moves up to the Vice Presidency, with Vern Heppner of Reno remaining as Treasurer. New NAF Executive Director/Secretary is Sue Hoffman of Reno with Test as Immediate Past President. New Board members include Dave Armstrong of Reno and Frank Bishop of Minden.

Sue Hoffman of Reno Named New NAF Executive Director/Secretary

There will be a new look to the Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) now as it conducts business. Sue Hoffman of Reno has been named to the post of NAF Executive Director/ Secretary replacing Gail Munk of Lovelock. Munk has served in the position since 2001. While Sue was appointed in January, she was officially recognized at NAF's Annual Meetings held, late April in Reno. Munk will continue as a Board of Directors member.

"Sue has a resume and credentials well suited for the job," said outgoing President Louis Test, Reno Attorney, "and we are blessed with good fortune to have had Munk's outstanding effort in the job and to have Sue take over. We feel she'll provide the same quality performance as has Gail."

Sue became a member of NAF's Board of Directors in 2005 but was well acquainted with the Foundation having served as a NAF Trustee and having worked for years with recipients of NAF educational Awards and other grants. "I've been a supporter of NAF now for a long time," Hoffman said, "because for one thing I've seen the beneficial result of their support for youth programs, primarily 4-H, in which I have been involved. NAF has especially contributed funding to the Nevada Junior Livestock Show which I managed for a number of years. Also, I've known a number of UNR Ag. College students who have been significantly aided by NAF scholarships."

Hoffman retired in 2004 as State 4-H Activities Manager for Cooperative Extension at UNR after 21 years of service, the last 17 of which were in her position at retirement. She began work with Cooperative Extension in 1977 as Extension Livestock Specialist in Washoe County. She was the first woman Livestock Specialist in Nevada and probably the country.

Sue grew up in Redmond, Oregon attending local schools and Blue Mountain Community College where she earned an Associate Degree. She followed this with a BS degree, 1975, in Animal Science from Oregon State University. Sue obtained an MS degree in Animal Science and Animal Nutrition from the UNR College of Agriculture in 1977. Following four years working for Extension she resigned to help the family business in Springfield, Oregon but in 1987 returned to UNR.

The new NAF office address now will be Nevada Agricultural Foundation, 2165 Green Vista Dr. Suite 204, Sparks, Nevada 89431. Phone 1 775 673-2468.

Longtime NAF Members Step Down

Gail Munk of Lovelock who for six years served as the Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) Executive Director/ Secretary stepped down recently. It was announced at the NAF late April Annual Meetings held in Reno. Sue Hoffman of Reno replaces him. Dave Mathis of Reno is also retiring. Since 1988 he has done Public Relations tasks for NAF and has managed its institutional advertising as well as the news category for NAF's web site. Both agreed to continue in a consulting and assisting role for the remainder of the year. Hoffman will also take over his duties. Munk will continue on the NAF Board Of Directors and Mathis as a Trustee.

"Munk has done a highly competent job for us," said outgoing NAF President Louis Test. Reno Attorney, "and Mathis has brought experience and considerable writing skill to his assignments. We much appreciate their efforts."

A 1961 graduate of the College of Agriculture, University of Nevada with a BS degree in Agriculture Munk brought a high degree of agricultural experience to the job. He handled all the day to day NAF business revising, innovating and creating approaches to doing the job better. He solicited applicants for Educational Awards and other grants, was liaison with High School councilors across the State, was in charge of budgetary aspects, arranged all meetings, worked with other Agricultural organizations and the UNR Ag. College, and performed a host of other services. After college graduation Munk served as an assistant County Extension Agent and then as a County Agent in a number of Nevada counties. He worked from 1961 to retirement in 1994. However in 1974, he left Extension to go to work for the Lovelock Seed Company serving as General Manager 1981 to when the company was sold in 1988. He then finished out his career as Cooperative Extension Agent in Pershing County. He is a Lovelock native. He and wife Jeanne have two grown children.

Mathis is a native Nevadan with both grandfathers coming to the State as young men who engaged in farming and ranching. He grew up in White Pine County. He has BA and MA degrees in Journalism from the University of Nevada. His work experience included work on a Nevada news paper, as an Informationist with the Nevada Department of Wildlife and as Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension News Editor in the UNR Ag. College. He retired in 1986 and has done volunteer work since. He has written all NAF news releases, authored a book titled "Following The Nevada Wildlife Trail" in accord with a NAF suggestion and produced two white papers. He has also written all news stories on the NAF web page. He and wife Carolyn have two sons who also live in Reno.

Dave Armstrong and Frank Bishop, New NAF Board Members

The Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) named two new members to its Board of Directors at its recent late April annual meetings held in Reno. Dave Armstrong of Reno and Frank Bishop of Minden were appointed to help guide the Foundation.

"Both have excellent qualifications to serve on the Board, especially in areas of agricultural finance and management," said Louis Test of Reno outgoing NAF President. They replace Dave Mathis of Reno, a three term Board Member and Sue Hoffman also of Reno who was named NAF Executive Director/Secretary.

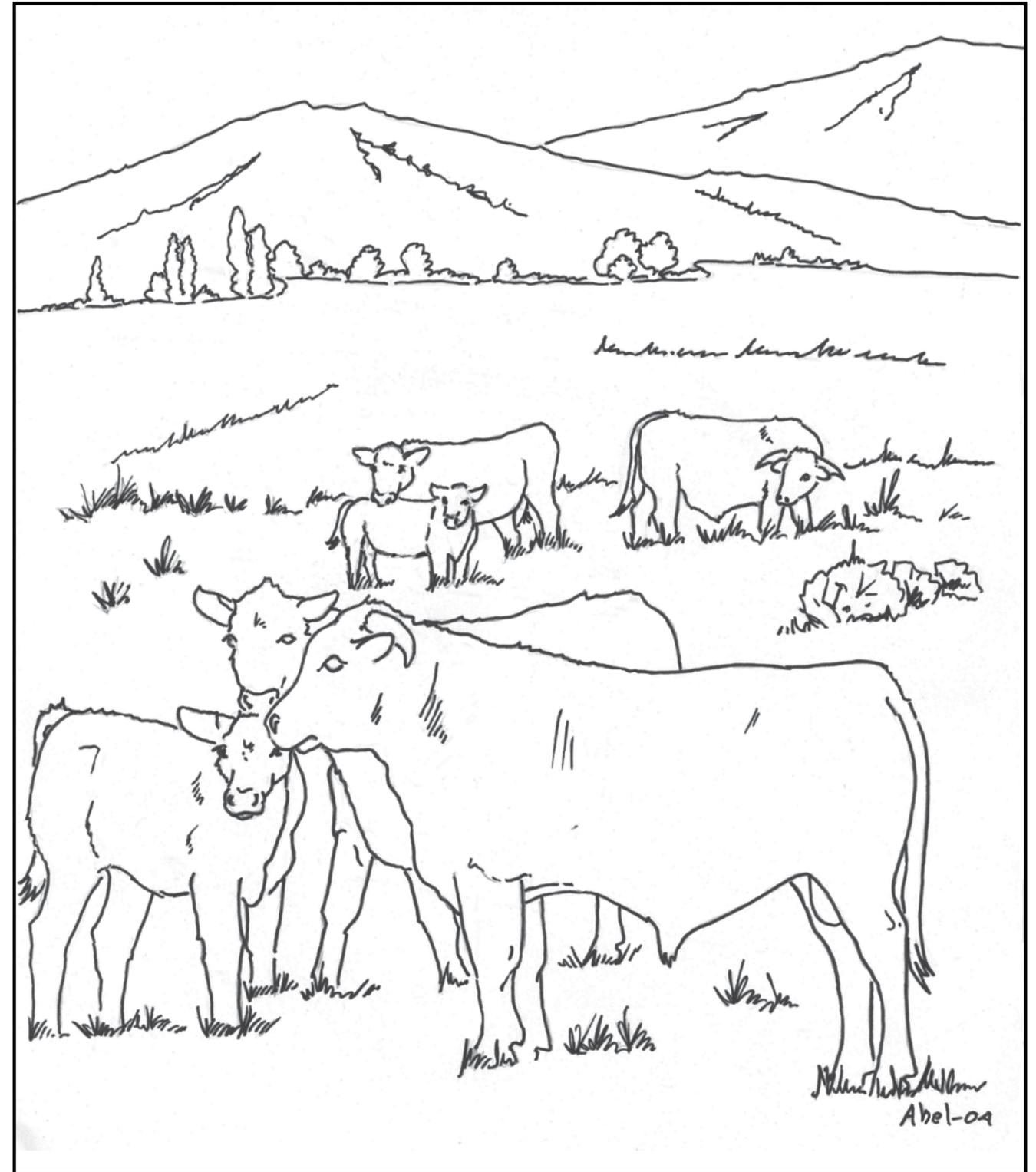
A native Nevadan, Armstrong grew up in the Fernley area in a rural and agricultural environment working with livestock and doing other associated jobs. He attended local schools and enrolled at UNR but then in 1980 transferred to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He graduated in 1983 with a BS Degree in Agricultural Business Management. During this time he served in an internship with Farm Credit, a Federal Land Bank agricultural lending association which works with farmers and ranchers. During his senior year at Cal Poly he was hired by Farm Credit and has been with them for 25 years. He was hired for work back in Nevada and now lives in Washoe Valley. He and wife Tracy have two children, a daughter and a son.

Bishop is currently COO of the Park Cattle Company in Minden. He grew up on a ranch near Alturas, California, attended local schools, and in 1975 graduated from Cal State University, Sacramento earning a BS degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and a minor in Economics. He worked in the farm credit system in California before moving to Reno 1988 to serve as joint CEO and President of the Sierra Nevada Production Credit Association (PCA) and the Intermountain Federal Land Bank Association. He remained in Reno until 2004 when he retired from AgCredit Financial ACA with 30 years total service in the Farm Credit System. Frank and wife Lee now live in Minden where Frank is a director of Carson River Community Bank and is active in the Business Council of Douglas County.

The Progressive Rancher Coloring Contest

Tear out or copy this page, color it and mail it in. Sponsored by Bill Nicholson and Jeanne King.

\$10 cash to the First Place Winner in each age group every month. Send in a new entry every month - new winners every month. Age Groups: 5-7, 8-10, 11-12. Cash prizes provided by The Progressive Rancher. Mail your entry to: The Progressive Rancher, 1346 Idaho St., PMB 9, Elko, NV 89801. Include your name, address and age on entry.



NAF Board Members Updated at 2007 Annual Meet

Spokespersons for the University Of Nevada College Of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR); and the University's Cooperative Extension Service updated the Nevada Agricultural Foundation (NAF) on current activities of interest at NAF's Annual Meetings. The meetings were held late April in Reno with NAF President Louis Test of Reno setting the agenda.

Educational Awards (scholarships) amounting to \$41,500 were also given at the meetings to 21 Nevada high school graduates either planning to attend or who are currently enrolled in colleges and universities studying agriculture or associated curriculums. The youth come from 11 Nevada counties with seven from Elko, four from Douglas, two from Churchill and one each from Clark, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Lyon Nye, Pershing and Storey. The Awards ranged from \$1,000 one year stipends to \$3,000 a year for a four year scholarship. NAF also awarded grants of \$13,414 for agricultural research, 4-H, the Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board, and for CABNR student internships. Total funds granted in 2007 amounted to \$54,914. NAF also heard from Doug Busselman of the Nevada Farm Bureau and vd on a ranch I learned ways of doing things we had not done. For, example we used flood irrigation but I learned about sprinkler and other methods during the internship."

Sarah Chvilicek, Washoe County Cooperative Extension, described how NAF grants had benefited 4-H youth. Such funding contributed to participation of a Nevada Livestock Judging team at a Louisville, Kentucky competition and supported Nevada 4-H'ers to the National 4-H Conference in Washington DC, and the National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. New local 4-H projects in engineering and science also benefited.

Busselman, Executive Vice President of the Nevada Farm Bureau, reported on the status of Farm Bureau and other needed agricultural legislation at this session of the Nevada State Legislature. He explained that progress was not as hoped.

Mark Elston of Wachovia Securities and financial advisor to NAF and Vern Heppner of Reno, NAF Treasurer, reviewed the Foundation's financial status. Elston described it as favorable with a particularly good last quarter. Heppner presented NAF's 2007-08 budget and explained it to those attending.

NAF Vice President Mike Compston of Smith Valley and chairman of the Foundation's Grants Committee reported on grants awarded. He said it was a difficult task in that grants requests totaled \$84,000 but NAF with carryover obligations had only \$10,000 to spend. "We chose those we felt most fit current needs," said Compston. Dave Mathis, NAF Board member and Public Relations Committee head reviewed PR activities for the past year with Trustee Nancy Henker of Smith Valley reporting on development of a quality NAF brochure providing key information on the Foundation including history, mission, achievement record and other data. President Test outlined present needs and concerns of the organization.

Compston was elected as new NAF President replacing Louis Test, Reno Attorney who now moves to the Immediate Past President position. Named as Vice President was NAF Board member Pete Olson of Fallon. Vern Heppner of Reno remained as Treasurer with Sue Hoffman of Reno becoming the new Executive Director/Secretary replacing Gail Munk of Lovelock. Newly named Board Members included Dave Armstrong of Reno and Frank Bishop of Minden.

What's BUGGING You?

IS IT HARMFUL OR HELPFUL?

JERUSALEM CRICKET

Jerusalem crickets can reach 2 inches in length and have a large, distinctive, bald head. The head, thorax, and legs are generally amber yellow, but the head may be rust to brown to tan in color. Its large eyes are far apart, just beneath its long antennae. Males are larger than females, who have a smaller head and thorax, but a larger abdomen.

Jerusalem crickets are not poisonous and will not bite unless provoked. They to chew roots, tubers, vegetables, and fruits. They also feed on insects and meat, and may help in reducing other soil-borne pests in gardens.



University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, "Identification of Common Landscapes Pests and Beneficial Organisms in Nevada."

Fly Control For Beef Cattle—2007

CALIFORNIA REGISTERED PESTICIDES FOR BEEF CATTLE: 2007

EAR TAGS PRODUCT NAME	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	CHEMICAL CLASS	MANUFACTURER
Co-Ral Plus	Diazinon + Coumaphos	Organophosphate	Baye
Cylence Ultra	beta-Cyfluthrin	Pyrethroid+PBO	Bayer
Diaphos R *	Diazinon + Chlorpyrifos	Organophosphate	Y-Tex
Double Barrel	Cyhalothrin + Pirimiphos	Organophosphate	Schering-Plough
Dominator	Pirimiphos	Organophosphate	Schering-Plough
GardStar Plus	Permethrin	Pyrethroid	Y-Tex
Max-Con	Cypermethrin + Chlorpyrifos	Pyrethroid + Organophosphate	Y-Tex
New Z Diazinon	Diazinon	Organophosphate + PBO	Farnam
New Z Permethrin	Permethrin	Pyrethroid	Farnam
Patriot	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Boehringer-Ingelheim
Optimizer	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Y-Tex
Python & Python Magnum	Zeta-cypermethrin	Pyrethroid	Y-Tex
Saber Extra	Cyhalothrin	Organophosphate	Schering-Plough
Super Deckem II	Permethrin	Pyrethroid	Destron-Fearing
Warrior	Diazinon +Chlorpyrifos	Organophosphate	Y-Tex
X-Terminator	Diazinon	Organophosphate	Destron-Fearing
Zeta Gard*	Zeta-cypermethrin	Pyrethroid	Y-Tex

*Available only through a licensed veterinarian.

SPRAYS

Active Ingredient	Example Brand Names
Coumaphos	Co-Ral
Dichlorvos	Vapona
Permethrin	Ectiban, Permectrin, Atroban, Permethrin, Insectrin
Tetrachlorvinphos	Rabon
Tetrachlorvinphos-Dichlorvos	Ravap
Spinosad	Electro

POUR-ON APPLICATIONS

Active Ingredient	Example Brand Names
Cyfluthrin	Cylence
Fenthion	Lysoff
Permethrin	DeLice, Expar, Hard Hitter, Ectiban, Atroban, Ultraboss,
Cyhalothrin	Saber
Spinosad	Electro

BACK RUBBERS AND FACE RUBBERS

Active Ingredient	Example Brand Names
Permethrin	Ectiban, Insectrin
Tetrachlorvinphos-Dichlorvos	Ravap

DUST BAGS

Active Ingredient	Example Brand Names
Permethrin	Permectrin, Ectiban
Tetrachlorvinphos	Rabon dust
Zeta-cypermethrin	Python

FEED-THROUGH INSECTICIDES

Active Ingredient	Example Brand Names
Tetrachlorvinphos	Rabon oral larvicide
Methoprene	IGR Mineral, Starbar

Please Note: the active ingredients are available under a number of brand names and those listed are examples only and not specific endorsements or recommendations.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW LABEL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.

As I write this column in early April it is easy to imagine that spring might arrive early and that the summer might hot, dry, and long. Also, the fly season may be upon us soon. Cattle pests, such as flies, cost cattlemen by increasing treatment costs, lost production, irritation to the cattle, and because of the diseases they can transmit. Fly infestations cost the U.S. cattle industries more than \$1.6 billion yearly. Horn flies alone cost cattle producers \$876 million a year. Horn flies are very stressful to cattle because they take 24 to 38 blood meals per day—per fly! California cattlemen report that face flies are the worst pests, followed by horn flies.

Face flies, in addition to producing eye irritation due to their feeding behavior, serve as mechanical carriers of the causative agent of Pinkeye in cattle (infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis [IBK] caused by the bacterium *Moraxella bovis*). Pinkeye consistently ranks as one of the top five most costly diseases in California beef cattle. Feeding by horn flies, stable flies, horse flies, and other bloodsucking flies mechanically transmits several disease organisms as well as causing irritation and decreased weight gains.

Both face flies and horn flies develop resistance to insecticides over time. For maximum prevention, it is advisable to switch the class of drug you use each year or two. If you used an organophosphate ear tag last year, use a pyrethroid ear tag this year. Additionally, if you plan to use a pyrethroid ear tag this year, use an organophosphate spray this year. Alternating the classes of drugs in this manner will increase the success of your preventive program. It is also recommended that application of ear tags be delayed until the fly population is relatively high so that the possibility of the flies developing resistance this year is lowered. Sprays, back rubbers, face rubbers, and dust bags can be helpful in reducing the fly populations early in the season, before ear tag application. Then, as the fly populations increase, apply the **fresh** ear tags to achieve maximum benefit. Always follow the manufacturer's label directions for ear tag application. If they call for two ear tags--use two ear tags! **If you need ear tags to prevent Pinkeye in the calves--use the tags in the calves. In the fall always remove the ear tags.** If the ear tags are left in the cattle the flies that over winter—particularly the face flies—will develop resistance to the drug you used and it will no longer be as effective.

Face flies and horn flies lay their eggs in cow manure and the larvae can only develop in cow manure. Therefore, some of the compounds that are fed or given orally that kill the larvae in the manure pat can be very effective. One example of this is the insect growth regulator methoprene. This compound is an insect growth regulator (IGR), which is safe, and resistance does not develop to this product. It can be used in "feed through" products, where the drug passes through into the manure unchanged and kills the fly larvae in the manure. Other insecticide products are available that can kill the fly larvae when used as a "feed through", such as Rabon. Rabon is an organophosphate and resistance can develop to this compound. Some of the ear tags now contain a compound that increases the effectiveness of the insecticide. One of these compounds is piperonyl butoxide (PBO) and it increases the activity of the primary insecticide in the ear tag.

You may notice that a few of the products available last year are no longer on the market in California and there are a couple of new products. One of the new products is a pour-on and spray from Elanco. This is a new class of insecticides called the spinosads. These products appear to be very safe and effective. Currently they market a pour-on and a spray product; however, they do not have any ear tags approved at the present time. There is a new ear tag called Avenger produced by KMG Animal Health. This tag contains endosulfan, a carbamate (similar to the organophosphate compounds), that may help with resistance problems. This product (Avenger) is not currently approved for use in California; but, may be approved this year.

IMPORTANT DETAILS TO REMEMBER FOR FLY CONTROL AND PESTICIDE USE ARE:

1. Plan ahead for insecticide and ear tag purchases; fly season will arrive.
2. Consult with your veterinarian regarding active ingredient(s) in these products and their record of effectiveness in your area.
3. Always follow instructions, warnings, and precautions: these products can be toxic to you, your children, pets, and others working with them around the chute. Use disposable latex gloves when handling the ear tags. Keep the donuts and coffee away from the tags!
4. Follow label withdrawal times and keep records of treatment dates, products and lot numbers.

NOHA

Nevada Quarter Horse Association

Website: www.nevadaqha.org phone 775 623-9292

Email: nevadaqha@hotmail.com

P. O. Box 953, Winnemucca, Nevada 89446

"Check the web, call, or write for information, statewide events, and schedules."

Youth – Clinics – Versatility Ranch Horse – Trail Rides - Shows

State Affiliate of the American Quarter Horse Association **AQHA**

NOHA Approved Shows 2007

Feb 23-25	2	Early Thaw	Hurricane, Ut
Feb 23-25	3	N Counties	Red Bluff, Ca
March 13-18	4	Silver Dollar Circuit	Las Vegas
April 13-15	4	Early Thaw 2	Hurricane, Ut
April 18-22	4(+1SpecEv)	Nevada April Circuit	Reno
May 5	1n	All Novice Show & Clinic	Spring Creek
May 6	1	NQHA Hairy Horseshow	Spring Creek
May 11-13	3	N Counties	Red Bluff, Ca
May 19	1n	All Novice Show & Clinic	Ogden, Ut
May 25-28	4 (+2 NCHA)	Memorial Day Circuit	Fallon
July 13-16	4	UQHA Rose Circuit	Ogden, Ut
July 19-22	4	NQHA Silver State Circuit	Winnemucca
July 28-29	1,1n	All Nov Sh & Clinic, AQHA 1 day	Gardnerville
August 24		Versatility Ranch Horse	Elko
Sept 8		Versatility Ranch Horse	Winnemucca
Sept 22		Versatility Ranch Horse	Gardnerville
Sept 27-30	4	CCQHA	Rancho Murietta, Ca
Oct 13-16	4	Washington Co HS	Hurricane, Ut
Oct 18-21		Region 7 Experience	Hurricane, Ut
Nov 3		Versatility Ranch Horse	Gardnerville
Nov 10	1n	All Nov Show ,Clinic	Pahrump
Nov 11	1	Open & 1 AQHA Show	Pahrump

Trail Rides—Reno-June 24, Gardnerville-Nov 4, Lamoille-Sept 22, Sweetwater Rch-Oct 20, Pahrump-Nov 12

See website for Clinics, Seminars & Rides as they schedule or change



Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook

Second Edition

by Sherman Swanson, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension State Range Specialist

Most likely, you and your livestock depend on rangelands for your living. Are the rangelands that you depend on meeting objectives that are written down? Is your most valuable agricultural asset, your land and the forage it produces, becoming more productive year by year or less so? If it is changing, are those changes due to livestock management, the growth and reproduction of valuable forage plants, the spread of weeds, the growth of woody trees and/or shrubs, or what? Is this ecosystem becoming more resilient to the disturbance of big events like fire or more at risk? If an agency, your neighbor, an environmental group, or your spouse suggests a change in management, do you have good information about past and present management and its effects to think over their suggestion?

If you have solid answers for all these questions, you may not need the new *Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook* or the new *Ranchers' Monitoring Guide*. Both these Educational Bulletins (06-03 and 06-04) were published by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and are available on line at <http://www.unce.unr.edu>. Then click "publications" and then "2006." Both are also available at many agency offices because the team that developed them represented a variety of different entities. Authors include: Myself and Ben Bruce from University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Barry Perryman, University of Nevada College of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources, Bill Dragt, Duane Wilson, and Valerie Metscher, from BLM, Gary Brackley and Gene Fults from NRCS, Diane Weaver from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Gary McQuin from Nevada Department of Agriculture, James Linebaugh from Nevada State Grazing Boards, Paul Tueller, a rangeland consultant, and Rex Cleary from the Society for Range Management.

In 2004 the Public Lands Council signed a memorandum of understanding with the BLM and the Forest Service to support cooperative rangeland monitoring. The agencies are committed to work with permittees and lessees to develop a monitoring plan. Have you taken advantage of this opportunity?

A year earlier, in June 2003, many ranchers and agency people gathered at the Zaga Ranch south of Elko and Jiggs to discuss rangeland monitoring. We agreed to begin the process of revising the 1984 *Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook*. A lot of progress has been made in rangeland management and monitoring in twenty years and it was time for an update. However, the team that later assembled to accomplish this did not want to start over. We wanted to keep what was working, primarily an emphasis on both short-term and long-term monitoring. (Quotations that follow come from the new handbook) "Short term monitoring addresses three topics: 1) Conformance with the plan, 2) Current, annual, or short-term impacts of the implemented management on resources of interest, and 3) Weather and other unplanned events. This information guides day-to-day and year-to-year management by monitoring within-season triggers and end-point indicators. Accumulated short-term monitoring records help interpret trend and other long-term monitoring information."

"Long-term monitoring measures changes in resource attributes such as vegetation, soils, or streams over time and is used to periodically measure progress toward meeting long-term resource management objectives. It also helps determine the applicability of annual indicators or triggers. Long-term studies are usually done at permanent sampling locations in key areas."

"The 1984 Handbook emphasized monitoring techniques without emphasizing the reasons for monitoring. Today, management is based on goals and objectives set in a planning process that considers the best science and society's mix of values." "Resource objectives state specific attributes of natural resource conditions that management will strive to accomplish, the area or location where this will occur, and the time frame. Resource objectives must be site-specific, measurable, and attainable statements of the desired resource attributes."

Resource objectives are the focus for adaptive management, which is the "continual process of learning from our experiences and managing based on what we have learned. An acceptable plan should include a management program and a monitoring program needed to keep management on track, test assumptions, provide the information needed for future planning, and guide rangeland managers. Adaptive management depends on flexibility. Management plans and monitoring methods flow from objectives."

"Monitoring in the 1980s focused almost exclusively on livestock grazing management. Today, we recognize that, as important as this is, herbivory is only one aspect of land management, and that some monitoring of vegetation change is needed to track and manage problems such as modified fire regimes and invasive weeds that are not resolved with live-

stock management alone. Riparian issues were not addressed in the first handbook. Today, we have learned the importance of riparian monitoring for adjusting management."

Many ranchers will focus on the *Ranchers' Monitoring Guide* which is aimed at providing the tools ranchers will use most. It presents monitoring methods that can be applied without detailed plant taxonomy and that can be applied with tools that will fit into a saddlebag. While many of the tools are for short-term monitoring (photographs, landscape appearance, key forage plant method, grazing use map, and stubble height), some of the tools provide long-term trend (permanent photos, cover by life form transect, plant density, streamside stability). One tool, the grazing response index, is primarily a tool for interpreting short-term monitoring information, combining intensity of use, frequency of use (measured by the length of the grazing period), and most importantly, opportunity (for plants to grow or regrow when they are not being grazed) into a simple score for each pasture or grazing unit. This *Ranchers' Monitoring Guide* is the material that Barry Perryman and others have presented at monitoring workshops in recent years.

Many agency personnel and consultants will focus on the *Monitoring Handbook* which aims to provide the broader context for monitoring. While it provides some specific tools (for example nested frequency), it generally does not repeat information that is easily available elsewhere. It includes sections on: a framework for monitoring, objectives, ecological sites, riparian areas, inventory and assessment of base resources, land use planning - large scale, adaptive management, triggers and indicators, statistical considerations, key areas, key species, and the roles of key people.

The section on short-term monitoring includes: grazing use records, photography, project implementation records, weather data, insects, disease, and rodents, use mapping, utilization, residual vegetation / stubble height, woody species use, and streambank alteration. The section on long-term monitoring includes: ground photography, remote sensing, frequency, production, canopy/foal cover, ground cover, community-type transects, greenline-to-greenline width, riparian shrubs, streambank stability, stream channel attributes, stream survey, water quality, detecting patterns of vegetation change across a landscape, photos or other remote sensing, weed maps, and vegetation measurement across an edge of a community type.

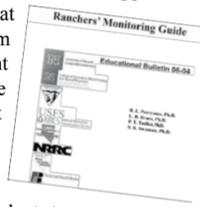
The handbook goes on to discuss supplemental techniques and information; use differentiation among wildlife, livestock, wild horses, and burros, etc; phenology; fire-related monitoring; exclosures and comparison areas; grazing response index; apparent trend; developing a monitoring plan; and interpretation and use of monitoring data.

Appendices include more information about: cooperative monitoring, ecological sites, drought, establishing good objectives, adaptive management, procedures for selecting key areas and key species, remote sensing to monitor rangelands, use mapping, key species method, and proper use, growing condition indicator checklist, frequency sampling procedures, production and plant community objectives, ground cover and canopy cover measurements, monitoring plan tables, interpretation and use of monitoring information, rangeland management agency offices in Nevada, a glossary, and references.

In spite of these many topics, the handbook's emphasis on objectives focuses monitoring on the short list of needed information. The handbook emphasizes the fact that "Monitoring data must be interpreted and used to track progress toward achievement of land use plan and/or activity plan objectives. Monitoring data can help identify linkages among conditions, objectives, and management within the setting. It can be used as evidence supporting decisions to continue or modify existing management. Monitoring data can also be used to validate goals and objectives. To summarize, monitoring data are used to:

1. Determine the effects of management actions on resource production, and economic conditions and values;
2. Determine the effectiveness of management actions in achieving objectives within the planned timeframes;
3. Support management actions and their modification; and
4. Periodically review the validity of resource condition and value objectives.

Monitoring is a key integral component of management, not an end in itself. If monitoring data are not used for these purposes, rangeland managers are not managing. Cooperative monitoring emphasizes sharing the work of monitoring and the data between agencies and ranchers. A documented photographic and quantitative monitoring record over time is one of the most powerful tools that the agency and producers can have if their management actions are challenged or considered for challenge.



Reining Clinic

with *Peggy Pecora*

June 11 & 12
Elko County Fairgrounds

Space is limited to 12 two-day entries \$300 (both days)
Spectators: \$15 per day

Contact: 775-753-6633
KCROSSQH@wellrec.net

Sponsored by Nevada Stallion Stakes Committee and Elko County Fair Board
All proceeds to benefit the Nevada Stallion Stakes August 25-26

This ad is a gift to the Stallion Stakes by the Striegel family.

Peggy Pecora has had many successes in her professional career in the National Reined Cow Horse Association, most recently with Jos Sexy Chexy which was third in the Limited Open last August at the Snaffle Bit Futurity in Nampa, Idaho. Also, her horse, Vintage N Style, was second to Sexy Chexy in a Limited Open class at another NRCHA show.

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Cordially invites you working cowhorse riders to come on over!

Practice **May 12** Gooding County Fairgrounds, Gooding, Idaho
Judge--Shane Demler-Newton, UT

Practice **June 9** Minidoka County Fairgrounds, Rupert, Idaho
Judge Brandon Butters-Snowville, UT

\$10,000 Added Monies
Futurity, Derby, & Horse Show
NRCHA Approved
August 10th-12th, 2007

Minidoka County Fairgrounds
Rupert, Idaho

- Fresh Cattle
- Professional Judges
- A Good Place to Show

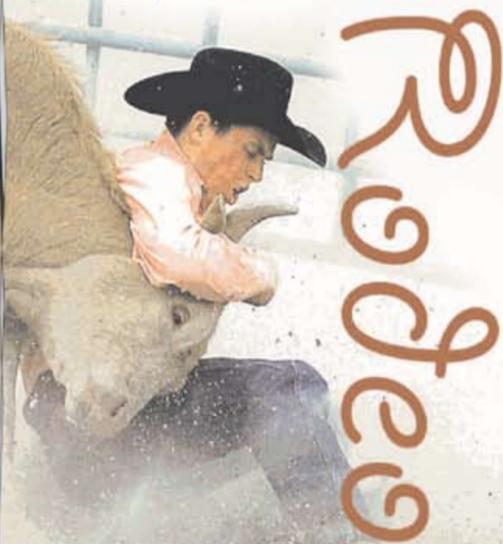
Photo by L. Miller

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Championship Rodeo!

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- ★ 9:30 a.m. July 3, 5, & 6

CUTTING: ★ 7 a.m. July 5, 6, & 7
at Shepard Arena

- ★ Top 15 Finals 6 p.m. July 7

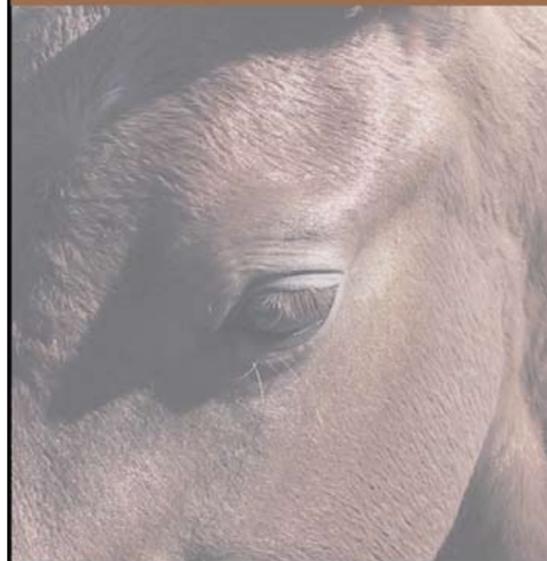
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Nevada Adopts 'Trich' Regulations

Dr. David Thain

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension; College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources

Well Folks! 'Trich' Regulations are coming to Nevada livestock producers starting July 1, 2007. Several years ago at the Nevada Cattlemen's Annual Meeting in Fallon, there was a discussion regarding the need for trichomonosis/trichomoniasis regulations in the cattle industry. The consensus at the Animal Health Committee was not only "NO" by "H_L NO!" Two years later at the 2005

NCA meeting in Reno there was nearly unanimous support for development of some form of 'Trich' regulations to control the disease. An industry committee of NCA, Nevada Farm Bureau and veterinarians developed guidelines for these regulations. The Nevada Board of Agriculture through the State Veterinarian held workshops and hearings to fine-tune these regulations. The Board of Agriculture adopted these regulations in December 2006. The Nevada Legislative Commission's Subcommittee to Review Regulations then approved these regulations on March 22, 2007. These regulations will come into force July 1, 2007. For the full text of these regulations, please visit www.agri.state.nv.us/135-06.pdf.

In Brief, the regulations require the following:

1. All bulls over 8 months of age entering Nevada must be officially tested for trich.
2. All bulls over 8 months of age offered for sale in Nevada must be officially tested for trich unless going to slaughter.
3. Only licensed accredited veterinarians or licensed veterinary technicians under the supervision of a veterinarian may perform official trich testing.
4. All positive bulls must be quarantined, "V" branded and sent to slaughter.
5. Premises with infected bulls must have three negative tests of all bulls before the bull battery is considered clean.
6. Adjacent premises with fence line contact will be considered exposed and must have a negative test of all bulls.

That is in a nutshell! These regulations have been cussed and discussed by the industry for a number of years. Time will tell whether they will reduce the incidence of this venereal disease estimated to be responsible for \$6-10 million dollars in loss to Nevada statewide. For questions about the regulations, give Nevada State Veterinarian Roger Works a call at 775-688-1180. For questions regarding trichomoniasis testing, give Dr. Anette Rink a call at 775-688-1180 ext. 232.

For help with range livestock disease questions call me at: 775-784-1377 or email me at: dthain@cabnr.unr.edu.

The Old Cowboy

One Sunday morning an old cowboy entered a church just before services were to begin. Although the old man and his clothes were spotlessly clean, he wore jeans, a denim shirt and boots that were very worn and ragged. In his hand he carried a worn out old hat and an equally worn out old Bible.

The church had high cathedral ceilings, ornate statues, beautiful murals and stained glass windows, plush carpets and velvet-like cushioned pews. The building probably cost millions of dollars to build and maintain.

The men, women and children of the congregation were all dressed in the finest and most expensive suits, dresses, shoes and jewelry the old cowboy had ever witnessed.

As the poorly dressed cowboy took a seat the others moved away from him. No one greeted him. No one welcomed him. No one offered a handshake. No one spoke to him. They were all appalled at his appearance and did not attempt to hide the fact. There were many glances in his direction as others frowned and commented among themselves about his shabby attire. A few chuckles and giggles came from the younger members.

The preacher gave a long sermon about hellfire and brimstone, and a stern lecture on how much money the church needed to do God's work. When the offering plate was passed thousands of dollars came pouring forth. As soon as the service was over the congregation hurried out. Once again no one spoke or even nodded to the stranger in the ragged clothes and boots.

As the old cowboy was leaving the church the preacher approached him. Instead of welcoming him, the preacher asked the old cowboy to do him a favor. "Before you come back in here again, have a talk with God and ask him what He thinks would be appropriate attire for worshipping in this church," the preacher said. The old cowboy assured the preacher he would do that and left.

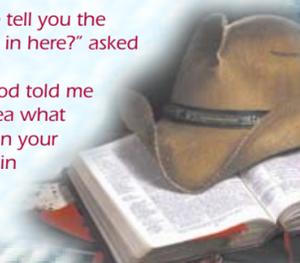
The very next Sunday morning the old cowboy showed back up for the services wearing the same ragged jeans, shirt, boots and hat. Once again the congregation was appalled at his appearance. He was completely shunned and ignored again.

The pastor walked over to where the man sat alone. "I thought I asked you to speak to God before you came back to our church," the preacher said.

"I did," replied the old cowboy.

"If you spoke to God, what did he tell you the proper attire should be for worshipping in here?" asked the preacher.

"Well sir," said the old cowboy, "God told me that He wouldn't have the slightest idea what was appropriate attire for worshipping in your church. He says He's never even been in here before."



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Smart Financial Moves for College Graduates

It's that time of year when students from across the country graduate from college. If you're one of them, you'll be anticipating a new chapter in your life. And that means you'll have to do your homework on a very important topic: your financial situation. It's one subject in which you'll definitely want to earn a passing grade.

Of course, if you're like many recent graduates, the financial issue that might weigh heaviest on your mind is your student loans. To help pay for college, about two out of three students take out loans, with the average debt amounting to more than \$19,000, according to figures from the U.S. Department of Education.

Whatever the amount you have borrowed, you will need to make arrangements to pay for it. If your loans aren't too large, your monthly payments may not be overly burdensome, but, in any case, it's a very good idea to stay current on your payment schedule - falling behind can lead to big problems down the line.

Apart from paying back your loan, though, you'll have other financial considerations upon graduating college.

Unless you're going to graduate school, you might be starting at a full-time job, which means you'll have to quickly learn some money-management skills - and one of the most important of these skills is budgeting. At this stage of your life, you may not have a lot of disposable income - especially after paying for rent, which will probably take up a sizable portion of your paycheck - so you'll want to track your expenses carefully and be as thrifty as possible.

Still, while you're thinking about today, you'll want to plan for tomorrow. If you want to save for a car, or perhaps later down the line, a house, you'll want to get in the habit of investing something on a regular basis. Even if you can just put away \$50 or \$75 per month at first, you may see some accumulation after several months. And just as importantly, you'll get in the "savings habit," which, if continued throughout your working life, can pay off for you in many ways. Dollar cost averaging does not guarantee a profit, nor does it protect against a loss in a declining market. You should always consider your financial ability to continue investing through periods of low-price levels.

If you don't know how you should invest your money, consult with a financial advisor - and don't be deterred from seeking out professional help because you're "only" a "small" investor. Many highly qualified financial advisors will be more than willing to meet with you and help you out - you just have to find someone who's right for you.

You might also get some investing help, in a way, from your employer. If you've landed a job with a company that offers a retirement plan, such as a 401(k), take advantage of it. While retirement may be quite far from your mind at the moment, an employer-sponsored retirement plan offers the chance to invest on a tax-deferred basis, which means your money will grow faster than it would if you invested it on an account in which you paid taxes every year. So, put away what you can afford - at least enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered - and increase your contributions as your salary rises over time.

By following these suggestions, you can start your life in the working world with a solid grasp on your finances - and that's a grip you won't want to relinquish.

Cautions When Feeding Distiller Grains

Dr. L. Ben Bruce

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources

Dr. David Thain

The major shift in ethanol production from corn is due to global warming concerns, skyrocketing petroleum costs and politically directed tax incentive. This trend is driving corn prices to near record highs and will allow large amounts of distillers grains (a byproduct of ethanol production) to become available. When using distillers grains in feeding ruminants, there are a couple of things to keep in mind. First there are a bunch of different kinds of distiller's grains and think of these products as supplements and not main ingredients. They may be fed at higher levels than other kinds of supplements but should not be the main ingredient because of some inherent problems with these products.

There are several classes of distiller's grains. Distiller's grains are a by-product of ethanol fermentation (and a few other processes). First, these may come from a variety of grains. Primarily it is corn that is used but these products are also made from sorghum, wheat and mixes of various grains. Mostly we will be dealing with the corn by-products. About 40% of the various products are in a wet form and the rest dry. The dry products make more sense for us because of storage problems, and are called DDG (distiller's dried grains).

DDG can be fed as a replacement for protein supplements, such as soybean meal. There are two kinds of proteins in a ruminant's diet, those that the bugs degrade and use and those that pass through the rumen intact. DDG is about half and half. A thumb rule to make sure the bugs get what they need is to feed about 2.5 pounds of DDG for each pound of soybean meal you are replacing. The by-pass protein is not bad, in fact a good thing in young cows and replacement heifers. They get some extra boost from the by-pass protein from DDG, but the rumen's requirement needs to be met first.

DDG nutrient content is going to vary a lot, it is best to analyze for the nutrient

content. The upper limit for feeding DDG is 40% of the dry matter. I recommend less, and to think of it as a protein supplement. Under our conditions, I would consider 15% as a maximum. DDG is high in phosphorus and sulfur. Most of our forages are low in phosphorus, so this works. The high levels of sulfur can be a real problem. The high levels can cause polioencephalomalacia (a brain disease caused by thiamine deficiency, excess sulfur in the rumen can cause this deficiency). High levels can also cause copper deficiency. We have already seen one case of copper deficiency associated with feeding DDG in a herd of goats. Some of our livestock water is already high in sulfates, so this can be an issue with high levels of DDG.

Some kinds can be high in fat, which can depress intake. DDG can be heat damaged, if it is dark and has a burnt molasses odor somewhere along the line it got to hot, and its value is less. There are numerous reports of poor quality DDG (heat or mold damaged) causing significant production decrease in dairy operations. DDG should be purchased

from a reputable source, have a guaranteed analysis, be inspected for quality, and incorporated into the diet as a balanced ration. Ration balancing software is readily available both commercially and as free-ware. The computer has replaced the calculator for correct ration development. Several web sites have software for download that will aid

in ration balancing. We have identified several available at different universities. A link to these sites is being developed at: http://www.cabnr.unr.edu/nevada_beef/. No endorsement is associated with these links. Several commercial software programs are also available for similar purposes. As with all feedstuffs, a careful consideration of the economics is in order. Distiller's dried grains may be considered as a supplement, and they can

work well for you. There are potential problems and limitations, so be aware of those.

For help with range livestock production problems call us at 775-784-1624 (Dr. Bruce); 775-784-1377 (Dr. Thain) or your local Extension Educator or email us at bbruce@unr.nevada.edu or dthain@cabnr.unr.edu.

Distiller's dry grain can be fed as a replacement for protein supplements, such as soybean meal.

SPOTTED KNAPWEED

Asteraceae

Centaurea maculosa Lam.

With its origins from Eurasia, the Spotted Knapweed is a biennial or short-lived perennial with a stout taproot. It has one or more branched stems and grow 12 to 36 inches tall. The leaves grow alternately along the stem. Basal leaves grow up to six inches long, are narrowly elliptical to oblanceolate, and are entire to pinnately parted. The leaves higher up the stem are pinnately divided. Single flowers develop at the end of branches with stiff bracts at their bases that are tipped with dark comblike fringe. The ray flowers are pinkish purple, or rarely cream-colored, and are produced from June to frost. The seed are 1/8 inch long and are tipped with a tuft of persistent bristles.

In Nevada, this plant may dominate rangelands that receive less than ten inches of annual precipitation. There is evidence that knapweeds release chemical substances that inhibit germination and growth of surrounding vegetation.

The seed is dispersed by vehicles, by sale of dried specimens for floral arrangements, and by movement of contaminated sand, gravel, and soil. As a first line of defense, prevent its movement. A variety of insect have been released on spotted knapweed to reduce seed productions, including insects that damage the roots, shoots, leaves, and flowers. Burning and fertilization are ineffective. Cultivation, grazing, or mowing may have some positive effects. Careful hand pulling of small infestations can provide effective control if entire plants are removed before they produce seeds. Herbicides are available, but regular reapplications are necessary until the seed in the soil have all germinated.



University of Nevada Cooperative Extension "Invasive Weed Identification for Nevada" by Wayne S. Johnson, Robert E. Wilson, and Jessica Graham

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Four Trade Resolutions Become Policy

Billings, Mont. – R-CALF USA members, via mail-in ballot, have approved four new resolutions that deal with international trade, which become organizational policy effective immediately. R-CALF USA Region VII Director Eric Nelson chairs the group's International Trade Committee.

"I look forward to working with the R-CALF USA Animal Health Committee on various trade issues," he said. "Trade and animal health go hand-in-hand because all this global trade actually makes the United States vulnerable to animal health issues. As part of R-CALF's trade policy, we have to make certain we don't cause any further animal health problems that could potentially devastate the domestic cattle industry. Hundreds of thousands of men haven't died fighting for this country just to have the borders between Canada, the United States and Mexico erased.

"Show me the money," he exclaimed. "I want to review the real impacts that previous free trade agreements (FTAs) have had on independent U.S. cattle producers. I look forward to negotiating terms important to independent cattle producers, but also look forward to scrutinizing trade agreements already in place to make certain they have had the favorable impact to producers that they were purported to have when they were being negotiated.

"We've got to step back now and really analyze existing trade agreements, do more comparisons between what proponents promised when various trade agreements were authorized, versus where we actually are today," Nelson

emphasized. "If these deals are not benefiting domestic cattle producers, we need to ask Congress and the USTR (U.S. Trade Representative) why support should even be continued.

"I want to make certain trade policies are in place that will allow independent producers to benefit from trade through enhanced profits on cattle they raise," he noted. "Investing in multinational ag corporations shouldn't be the only way for producers to benefit from trade."

R-CALF USA members approved the following international trade resolution with a 3,267-13 vote: WHEREAS, USDA-APHIS published a proposed rule in the Jan. 9, 2007, Federal Register that would declare the southern region of Argentina foot-and-mouth disease-free; WHEREAS, the U.S. policy was built on protecting U.S. producers of food and fiber, and not managing a disease once it gets here. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that R-CALF USA opposes the weakening of any animal health or food safety standard concerning importation of cattle or beef into the United States.

The second measure passed with a vote of 3,269-18: WHEREAS, the health of the U.S. cattle herd is vital to independent cattle producers, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that R-CALF USA opposes any federal rule change permitting the regionalization of countries with foreign animal disease problems if the change compromises the animal health and import safety standards R-CALF USA

subscribes to.

With a vote of 3,280-8, R-CALF USA members approved the following policy: "WHEREAS, international trade policy has a significant impact on the long-term profitability of independent U.S. cattle producers, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that R-CALF USA requires, and will continue to work to ensure, that the following provisions be included in all trade agreements:

1. Classification of cattle and beef as perishable and cyclical items, and considered like/kind products.
2. Quantity and price safeguards.
3. Rules of origin (born, raised and slaughtered).
4. Upward harmonization of import health and safety standards."

Additionally, R-CALF USA members – at 3,201-48 – voted to do some housecleaning with passage of the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution IT2001-2: "1 – Be it resolved – R-CALF USA opposes the fast-track for the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas."

is a duplicate of Resolution IT2000-04: "Be it resolved – R-CALF USA opposes all further fast-track trade negotiating authority."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Resolution IT2001-2 be removed from policy.

Margene Eiguren Appointed as Region I Director

Billings, Mont. – R-CALF USA Past National Membership Committee Co-Chair Margene Eiguren was appointed by the organization's board to the Region I Director position, previously held by Dennis McDonald. Region I includes Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. Eiguren also will continue in her role as R-CALF USA Oregon Membership chair. Additionally, she serves as the secretary for the Oregon Livestock Producers Association (OLPA), an R-CALF USA affiliate organization. In January, at the group's annual convention, Eiguren received the 'Top Hand' award.

Eiguren said her primary goal as director is to serve R-CALF USA by doing her part to carry out membership-set policy.

"That's our job," she said. "R-CALF members are very well educated on matters that affect their industry, and it's my job to help the rest of the board decide the best way to accomplish the directives of the membership. I hope to be an educated spokesperson for R-CALF and to do my part to fulfill any other obligations board members have."

Eiguren said she stepped down from her duties on the national membership committee to spend more time with her grandchildren, so she would understand if members had ques-

tions about her reasons to participate as a director on R-CALF USA's board.

"When all of the turmoil happened within R-CALF, I firmly supported the majority of the board's position to uphold membership-set policy," Eiguren said. "The reason I believed in R-CALF so much was that this organization gave me hope in the future of the cattle industry. R-CALF gave me hope because it was willing to stand up for the producer, willing to draw the line in the sand.

"I know of no other way for our segment of the industry to effect change, other than to stand on principle, truth and be unwavering in our stance for change," she continued. "When I was asked to fill this board position and serve with a board that did not believe in compromising the needed changes that producers must have to remain viable, I couldn't turn that down. I hope I can make a meaningful contribution to the process. I have the utmost respect for the principles for which R-CALF was founded upon, and it is my desire to always work to maintain them.

As far as the future goes, Eiguren said she sees R-CALF USA being the catalyst for long-needed changes within the U.S. agricultural system.

"R-CALF will be the voice responsible for changes that address the economic challenges and opportunities facing producers today and tomorrow," she explained. "There is no other organization that is advancing positive and meaningful changes to the agricultural debate, especially the debate on restoring and maintaining open, competitive markets for all producers, whether domestic or international.

"R-CALF has an invaluable wealth of human resources within its organization who provide expertise on issues affecting the profitability of U.S. cattle producers, as well as professional experts who support R-CALF USA's positions on various issues," said Eiguren. "With all the hard work and dedication that R-CALF and its involved members have, I see success for R-CALF. Will it be easy and immediate? No, but we will succeed. Like Mark Twain once said, 'It's not the size of the dog in the fight; it's the size of the fight in the dog.'"

4 Private Property Rights Policies Take Effect

Billings, Mont. – In 2006, R-CALF USA members voted to establish a Private Property Rights Committee, and just one short year later, members have overwhelmingly approved four new policies on the topic.

"Water is what all of us need to be focusing on," said Kimmi Lewis, who chairs the R-CALF USA Private Property Rights Committee. "Most of the government land grabs are really water grabs. We need to become more educated on the rights that we possess as private property owners, and the best way to save our private property rights is to use them. In other words, find out what your rights are and use them daily, which include water rights.

"Do not let some government agency tell you what your rights are," she emphasized. "Investigate it, educate yourselves, and use your rights.

"Our constitution makes it very clear that we have rights to own and keep private property," Lewis continued. "This country was founded upon the principles of private property. The ability to own private property is what makes this country strong, so we need to keep our judicial system's feet to the fire.

The first measure, passing with a vote of 3,151-88, states: WHEREAS, vested and/or riparian water rights are being threatened and compromised by a variety of methods, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that R-CALF USA will make every effort to educate members as to their ownership of vested and/or riparian water rights and will help whenever possible in defending and protecting those vested and/or riparian water rights."

The second resolution, which members approved 3,221-45, states: "WHEREAS, U.S. citizens have a constitutional right to keep and own property and make decisions determining its use, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that R-CALF USA will work aggressively to protect those constitutional rights."

The third resolution, passing with a vote of 3,170-91, states, WHEREAS the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) as it relates to private property rights must remain voluntary at all levels, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that no level of government, nor any private entity, may use any form of coercion or ultimatum to elicit producer compliance with NAIS. Furthermore, animal owners should be entitled to an 'opt-out' option of their premises' ID."

The final property rights measure, which members approved 3,222-44, states: "WHEREAS, R-CALF USA strongly believes that judges are to rule according to the law and not legislate from the bench, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that R-CALF USA will, whenever necessary, take all action at their disposal when judges act in a legislative capacity rather than upholding the laws and constitutions regarding our private property rights."

Thursday, July 19th
Gymkhana - 2:00 p.m.
 Stake Race, Tire Race, Scurry Race, Balloon Race, Pole Bending, Water Race, Rescue Race, Ribbon Race
 Gymkhana ages: 9 & under, 10-15, 16 & up
 No early entry necessary

Friday, July 20th
Ranch Sorting & Branding - 9:00 a.m.
 (Call Neva at 775-238-5387 to sign-up)
Rodeo - 5:00 p.m.
 Events include: Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc, Ranch Bronc Riding, Barrel Racing, Steer Riding, Mutton Busting, Calf Roping, Break-away Roping, Top 10 Teams Roping from Gary Lanes Team Roping
 (Call Annie at 775-238-5375 to enter)

Saturday, July 21st
Pioneer Day Parade - 9:30 a.m.
 Theme: Looking to the Future
 sign-up at 8:30 a.m.
Pioneer Program - 11:00
Bar-B-Que - 12:00 p.m.
Kids' Games & Adult Horseshoes
Rodeo - 5:00 p.m.
Fireworks - at dark

Lund Rodeo Qualifying Team Roping
 July 20th & 21st ~ 9:00 a.m. ~ Lane's Arena
 Call Gary Lane at 775-238-5244
 Warm-up Draw Pot 2 Steers: \$15/man ~ 12 (was 8) - 3 Steers: \$30/man ~ 11 (was 7) - 3 Steers: \$30/man
 Top 10 teams daily combined points of roping will qualify for the Lund Rodeo.
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photo by Chrissy King

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Cattle Producers Criticize USDA-Led Effort to Claim U.S., Canada Have Same BSE Risk

Billings, Mont. – U.S. cattle producers today were disappointed to learn that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) did not aggressively seek a more favorable disease risk classification for the U.S. cattle industry from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). According to media reports, USDA is well satisfied with OIE's decision to lump the United States and Canada into the same risk category for bovine spongiform encephalopathy, classifying both countries as a "controlled" risk for the disease.

"The question of whether the U.S. at least meets OIE's controlled risk category for BSE has never been disputed," said R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard. "The real question is why didn't USDA seek the more favorable category of a BSE 'negligible' risk country? Under a negligible risk, the most favorable designation of the OIE, a country cannot have had a BSE case born in the previous 11 years. The younger of the two BSE cases detected in the U.S. was determined to be 10 years old, and this was more than a year ago. Therefore, as of today, the youngest case detected in the U.S. was born more than 11 years ago, meeting the standard for a BSE negligible risk country.

"The problem with lumping the U.S. into the same category as Canada is that the rest of the world knows that Canada has an inherently higher risk for BSE than the United States,

so the U.S. has basically sold itself short," he continued.

"Canada has had six cases of BSE born after its feed ban, the youngest being born in 2002," Bullard noted. "This suggests that Canada's feed ban has not been effective in halting the spread of the disease. There is no evidence – despite the U.S. having tested hundreds of thousands more cattle than has Canada – to suggest that the U.S. feed ban was not effective in preventing the spread of the disease here in the United States.

"Even with limited available data due to insufficient testing of Canadian cattle, USDA estimates that the BSE prevalence in Canada is 6.8 times greater than in the United States," he emphasized.

"Evidence shows that Canada has had several generations of the disease expressed within its herd, based on the five-year average incubation period for the disease," Bullard explained. "There is no evidence of multiple generations of the disease in the United States. The two native-born U.S. cases detected in the U.S. both were over 10 years of age, and both were determined to be atypical – a different strain than was discovered in Europe and Canada.

"It is unfortunate that USDA continues to insist that the U.S. cattle industry should be

viewed as a North American cattle industry, and that the beef produced from foreign cattle should be undifferentiated from beef produced in the USA," Bullard lamented. "As a result, the U.S. cattle industry is not able to distinguish itself as having a much lower risk for BSE than its competitors, and the reputation of the U.S. cattle industry is effectively and improperly tied to the disease problems of our competitors.

"It is also disconcerting that USDA, while asserting that other countries should comply with OIE guidelines, does not itself follow the guidelines with respect to Canada," Bullard pointed out. "For example, the OIE recommends that specified risk materials (SRMs) from a controlled risk country should not be used for animal food or fertilizer. However, USDA imposes no restrictions on SRMs from Canadian cattle, and these high-risk tissues are available for non-ruminant animal feed and fertilizer here in the United States.

"Moreover, the proposed rule to allow older Canadian cattle into the U.S. (OTM Rule/Rule 2) does not propose to close this loophole," he warned. "Therefore, in our view, USDA's proposed OTM Rule does not comply with OIE guidelines.

"USDA has a long history of trying to pick and choose among OIE standards in order to prematurely relax U.S. import standards against countries affected by BSE," Bullard

continued. "For example, when OIE required an eight-year, effectively enforced feed ban, USDA argued that a five-year feed ban in Canada was good enough. At that point, USDA made it clear that countries are not bound by OIE standards, that OIE standards are simply guidelines.

"This OIE designation has no effect on the question of whether older Canadian cattle, and beef products from such older cattle, are safe to enter the U.S. under the relaxed conditions proposed by USDA's OTM rule," Bullard concluded. "This proposed rule remains deficient because it does not address the fact that empirical evidence shows BSE-contaminated tissues continued to enter the Canadian feed system many years after Canada implemented its feed ban."

Note: See below to view a supplement prepared by R-CALF USA titled "Historic and Present BSE Risk: Greater in Canada than in the U.S.," or visit the "BSE-Litigation" link at www.r-calfusa.com.

HISTORIC AND PRESENT BSE RISK: GREATER IN CANADA THAN IN THE U.S.

*Prepared by R-CALF USA
March 12, 2007*

Although APHIS estimates that BSE prevalence in Canada is about 6.8 or more times greater than in the United States (0.68 vs. 0.1 per million),¹ this does not adjust for the important fact that the first BSE case in the United States was imported from Canada. Beginning with the initial discovery of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in a cow in the United Kingdom in 1986, the United States took aggressive, proactive steps to protect the U.S. cattle herd and U.S. consumers from the introduction of the disease. The preventive steps taken by the U.S. far exceeded those taken by Canada, which now finds itself with a persistent BSE problem. Canada's historic and present BSE risk is far greater than the historic and present BSE risk of the United States, the following discussion demonstrates.

A. Canada's history of inadequate measures.

From the outset, Canada has lagged far behind the United States in taking appropriate measures to protect against the spread of BSE. The U.S. made BSE a reportable disease in

1986,² the same year BSE was first detected.³ Canada waited several years, until November 1990, to make BSE a reportable disease.⁴ The U.S. then prohibited the importation of ruminants and most ruminant products from all BSE-affected countries in 1989.⁵ Canada first instituted its ban on only live cattle from the UK in 1990, after importing 14 head of cattle and 6 head of sheep from the UK that year.⁶ Canada did not institute a ban on cattle from all countries where BSE had been diagnosed in native cattle

until 1994.⁷ And, it was not until 1998 that Canada instituted a ban on the importation of sheep and goats, and it did so at that time in order to harmonize its import policies with that of the United States.⁸

The U.S. implemented a BSE surveillance program in 1990.⁹ Canada did not begin its surveillance program until 1992.¹⁰ Canada discovered its first case of BSE in December 1993, in a cow imported from the UK,¹¹ after having "potentially rendered" 68 cattle imported from the UK prior to that discovery.¹² Ten of these cattle were known to originate from BSE-infected farms in the UK, two of which were also known to be herd mates of the BSE-infected cow discovered in 1993.¹³ The Harvard Center for Risk Analysis states that while the U.S. may have rendered 173 cattle imported from the UK prior to 1989, "none came from a birth cohort [same birth farm and year] in which a BSE case is known to have developed."¹⁴

From 1996 through September 20, 2006, the U.S. tested 851,427 U.S. cattle considered to be of highest risk for BSE (included, also, were 21,216 cattle considered healthy slaughter cattle). Although three positive cases were detected from this sample, one was known to be a Canadian-born cow imported from Canada, and the two considered to be of native origin were both over 10 years of age and considered infected by "atypical" BSE, which has a different phenotype than the "classical" BSE cases diagnosed in the UK, Europe, and Canada.¹⁵ From 1996 through February 23, 2007, Canada tested only 158,838 cattle considered of highest-risk for BSE, and 10 Canadian-born BSE-infected cows have been detected from

among this sample (including the 2003 Canadian-born cow detected within the United States).¹⁶ In 2004, the year immediately following the United States' discovery of an imported cow with BSE, the U.S. increased its BSE testing from 20,543 cattle to over 176,460 cattle.¹⁷ The year immediately following Canada's discovery of an imported cow with BSE, Canada decreased its BSE testing from 645 cattle to 426 cattle.¹⁸

The U.S. had its feed ban in place for over 6 years prior to detecting BSE in even an imported animal (August 1997 to December 2003). Canada, however, did not implement its feed ban until over 3 years had lapsed following its discovery of BSE in an imported cow (December 1993 to August 1997). Note, however, that the Canadian Risk Assessment completed in 2002 states that Canada's August 4, 1997 feed ban was "[i]mplemented in October of 1997."¹⁹

APHIS has found that Canada's history of exposure now encompasses several generations of BSE infectivity. According to APHIS, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has postulated that Canada's exposure was the result of two generations of the disease:

The first introduction of BSE would have been cattle imported from the early part of the UK epidemic (approximately 1986 to 1988). These animals would have reached a likely age to express the disease (three to six years) in the early 1990s during a period of lower surveillance testing. They would have then entered the rendering process and subsequently be re-fed back to rumi-

nants. This second generation would have then been old enough to express the disease at about the time of the feed ban in 1997. The current third generation cases would have been infected by MBM from the second generation of infectivity in 1997 and would be expected to express the disease in 2002 to 2005.²⁰

B. Canada's current BSE-positive cases.

Given Canada's history of inadequate responses to BSE risk, it is not surprising that Canada continues to suffer BSE cases even as other, previously infected countries have not. Contrary to APHIS' three-generation postulate, six new BSE cases were detected in Canadian cattle in 2006 and 2007.²¹ Far from the end of a BSE infection cycle, these cases demonstrate additional BSE infectivity that is just now expressing itself in the Canadian cattle herd. The Proposed OTM Rule, however, contains assumptions that contradict this finding.

In the face of this irrefutable evidence of new BSE infection, the Proposed OTM Rule's risk assessment reports that the CFIA believes (incorrectly) that Canada's recent BSE cases "represent the second generation (or amplification cycle) in that country."²² The evidence therefore undermines the reasonableness of relying on CFIA conclusions about these new cases. Moreover, the heightened level of BSE-exposure in Canada is unprecedented anywhere else in North America. By contrast, the United States' history of BSE exposure – with one case detected in an imported cow of Canadian-birth in December 2003, and two atypical cases detected in cattle over 10 years of age in 2005 and 2006, respectively, pales next to Canada's multi-generation exposure and ongoing disease expression. Accordingly, the Proposed OTM Rule's relaxation of cattle and ruminant-product importation from Canada at time when Canada's BSE infection rate is defying hemispheric trends is unreasonable.

Cattle in Canada, December 2002, Administrative Record, attached hereto as Attachment A, at AR002561.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ See Evaluation of the Potential for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the United States, Harvard Risk Assessment, 2003, Administrative Record, attached hereto as Attachment A, at AR003720.

¹⁵ See Texas BSE Investigation, Final Epidemiology Report, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, August 2005, attached hereto as Attachment B; see also Alabama BSE Investigation, Final Epidemiology Report, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, May 2, 2006, attached hereto as Attachment C; see also Hueston et al. Declaration, *R-CALF USA v. USDA*, June 7, 2005, attached hereto as Attachment D, at 31; see also On the Question of Sporadic or Atypical Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, Paul Brown, et al., Emerging Infectious Diseases, Vol. 12, No. 12, December 2006, 1816-1821, attached hereto as Attachment E; see also A New Form of Mad Cow? Dennis Normile, Science, Vol. 303, February 27, 2004, attached hereto as Attachment F.

¹⁶ See Hueston et al. Declaration, *R-CALF USA v. USDA*, June 7, 2005, attached hereto as Attachment D, at 31; see also BSE Enhanced Surveillance Program, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, attached hereto as Attachment G.

¹⁷ See Hueston et al. Declaration, *R-CALF USA v. USDA*, June 7, 2005, attached hereto as Attachment D, at 31.

¹⁸ See Risk Assessment on Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in Cattle in Canada, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, December 2002, Part B, Administrative Record, at AR002622.

¹⁹ *Id.* at AR002665.

²⁰ U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summary of the Epidemiological Findings of North American Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Positive Cattle, U.S. Department of Agriculture, April 2005, attached hereto as Attachment H, at 24.

²¹ See 72 Federal Register at 1108. (Five of these six cases were detected prior to publication of the Proposed OTM Rule, with three of these cases born years after the feed ban – in the years 2000 and 2002, the latest, sixth case, was reported after the rule's publication on February 7, 2007.)

²² Assessment of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Risks Associated with the Importation of Certain Commodities from BSE Minimal Risk Regions (Canada), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, October 27, 2006, at 12.

What Every Horse Owner Should Know About

West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus is here to stay. The virus first appeared in the United States in the late nineties and has now become endemic across the entire country. Every year there will be mosquitoes with the ability to transmit virus. The good news is that we have some very effective ways to prevent infection.

West Nile Virus is carried by infected birds (280 different species can carry the virus). Mosquitoes feed on these birds and then transmit the virus to mammals when feeding on them. The incubation period from when a horse is bitten by an infected mosquito to the onset of signs of infection is 5 to 15 days. Clinical signs of West Nile Virus may include muscle tremors, lethargy, incoordination, fever, anorexia, depression, abnormal mental status, weakness, stumbling, paralysis, inability to rise, seizures and death. Some horses will only show minor signs and others may present down and paralyzed. Of the horses that show clinical signs of West Nile Virus, 30-35% will die or be euthanized. Not all horses become ill when exposed to West Nile Virus, unfortunately, we have no way of predicting which horses will be sub-clinically infected. Clinical signs of West Nile Virus can last 3-21 days. Some horses may never fully recover.

There is no treatment for West Nile Virus. Supportive medications are used to try and

decrease the inflammation in the nervous system until the virus runs its course. Many horses (70%) can survive the illness but many will have long term neurologic problems. A small percentage of vaccinated horses may develop signs of West Nile Virus encephalomyelitis but these horses have a much better survival rate and rarely develop long term problems compared to horses that haven't been vaccinated.

The best prevention is through vaccination. There are now three vaccines available to protect against infection with West Nile Virus. All three vaccines are safe and effective. The chart below summarizes the different vaccines.

	Intervet PreveNile™	Fort Dodge Innovator®	Merial RecombiTEK®
Type of vaccine	Live Flavivirus Chimera	Inactivated Whole Virus (killed)	Recombinant Canarypox Vector
Adjuvant	No	Yes	Yes
Dose (primary immunization)	1 dose	2 doses 3-6 weeks apart	2 doses 4-6 weeks apart
Revaccination (booster)	1 dose annually	1 dose annually	1 dose annually
Duration of immunity	12 months in yearlings or older horses after 1 dose	12 months after 2 doses	12 months after 2 doses
Cautions	None	Local reactions at injection site may occur	None

The newer modified live vaccines can be used as a booster in a horse that was previously receiving the killed vaccine. If the modified live vaccines have been used it is best to not use the killed vaccine as a booster. It is also important to remember to vaccinate well before the onset of warm weather and mosquitoes. If a horse is administered a vaccine for the first time it takes a few weeks to develop protective immunity. The onset of immunity varies with each vaccine. If your horse has never been given a West Nile vaccine, has skipped an annual booster or has unknown vaccination history, it should be given the new Intervet vaccine (single dose) or the primary series (2 shots 4-6 weeks apart) of the Merial or Fort Dodge vaccine. Horses that have had adverse reactions to vaccines can often be vaccinated safely with another type of vaccine. Reactions are typically caused by the adjuvant (carrier) in a vaccine. Using a vaccine without an adjuvant can prevent reactions. If your horse has had adverse reactions to vaccines, consult your veterinarian.

All horses should be vaccinated against West Nile Virus, including pregnant mares. Previous rumors of problems associated with West Nile vaccination and pregnancy were not validated scientifically and were refuted in case studies of large groups of pregnant mares. The new West Nile vaccine studies had hundreds of pregnant mares involved in the clinical trials and there were no problems. Pregnant mares should be vaccinated 1 month prior to their due date to provide immunity to the foal through colostrum.

Insect control is another very important aspect of West Nile Virus control. Avoid stagnant water build up and keep troughs clean. Use insecticides on horses to repel insects.

West Nile Virus is going to continue being a threat. Vaccination is the best way to protect your horse. The investment in protection is well worth it when compared to the costs associated with trying to save an affected horse. New vaccine technology has made our ability to avoid this devastating disease even better.

Clover Valley Farm:
This 580 acre farm has 290 water righted acres. One newer 125 acre pivot is approx. 1/4 in sod and the balance is being seeded into alfalfa. Seller would contract with new owner for sod. Two modest mobile homes for residences. Located approx. 15 miles South of Wells on Hwy. 93. Price: \$595,000.

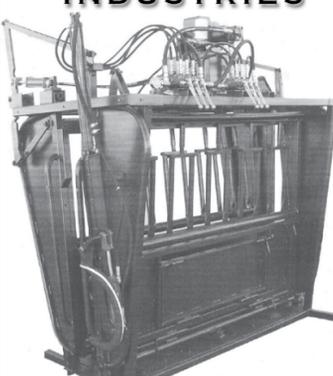
Carlson Cow Camp:
Great 1/2 Section retreat property with running water of which approx. 14 acres have irrigation rights. Old tie cabin with a gravity flow water system. Great rock outcrops on the property. Antelope and deer are common visitors. Price: \$320,000.

Great 40 acre livestock property near Lamoille/Spring Creek:
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MARTIN BLACK

What it takes to stop...

It is always interesting to me when working with riders to see what they demonstrate when asked to stop their horse. Some may trot or lope out and perform a nice, soft, straight stop with the horse using their hind quarters, supple from their poll through their hocks, stopping, and then stand quiet and relaxed. That would be my idea of a nice stop, smooth, putting out effort then stand quiet until ask for something else.

What we see is the horse resisting the bridle, stiff in the poll which usually transfers to being stiff through the body down through the legs. Resistance to the bridle can also cause the horse to travel crooked while stopping. If the horse is uncomfortable, or worried while trying to stop they may not stand quiet when asked to stop.

Basically we can have a lot of reasons that our horses don't stop well for us. Pulling harder is often the choice to improve the stop but rarely that is the answer to the problem.

Regardless of what other issues may be in our way of getting a good stop, the one thing that we need is for the horse to stand relaxed and stand quiet when stopped. If the horse stops and then wanders off, or is nervous and doesn't stay in their tracks at the end of the stop they are not thinking stop and will not be preparing and putting the effort into the stop that they could if they were looking forward to some quiet time. Backing a step or two at the end of a stop may help reinforce the horse to pull with the hindquarters, but making it to traumatic can cause resistance and distract the horse's thoughts.

The relief of being stopped can be a mayor motivator, even softening our hands as the horse shows effort going into the stop can motivate them to think stop. Where more pressure from our hands may discourage and make it difficult for then to stay supple and want to stop. We need to be aware of the energy level in our horse before we school our horse on stopping. When they are in the mood to play and be fresh they will not be thinking stop like they would be if

they were a bit tired or needing to air up. If your horse is energetic use that energy up first then work on stopping and they will appreciate it more. With these things working for you the horse will be mentally ready to stop and they can fill in a lot of other details needed for a good stop.

Some other things that will help are to have the horse moving freely in a straight line when asking to stop. You can be loping a circle or traveling around the arena but if you just straighten out for just a few strides the horse can stop straight. If the horse is reaching a long full stride, the hind feet will be farther underneath the horse so when we ask for the stop it will be easier for the horse to use the hindquarters. There are a lot of ways to motivate a horse to stop; some have certain side effects that you may need to deal with later. But if you can make it easy for them to stop with comfortable contact from the bridle, good footing, shoes, and possibly protective leg wear that makes stopping more favorable, then let them stand and relax, the horse will fill in and help us if we make it desirable for them.

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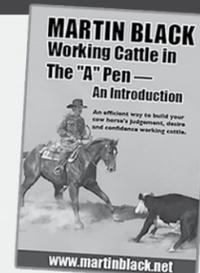
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