

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

ANIMAL AND RANGE SCIENCES
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For those interested in cattle and horses,

This is the 56-day performance report for growing bulls on the NMSU campus.

Calves were weaned from the breeding programs of the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center (CRLRC) and the Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center (CDRRC) near Las Cruces.

This calf crop faced extremes. Winter and spring of 2008 was droughty while late summer yielded an abundance of rain; thus, herds produced average weanlings. We started this group on feed slowly to reduce cost. Nonetheless, calves are healthy and easily ranked for the trait of average daily gain (ADG). We plan to select a few replacement herd sires, several replacement heifers, and then sell the remaining yearling bulls and heifers we identify suitable for arid-rangeland beef production systems. We are expecting a strong heifer offering and we are excited about the ¼-blood cattle included in the test as they are of good quality and compatible phenotype for arid rangeland production.

The 27th Annual NMSU Cattle and Horse Sale will be Saturday, April 25, 2009. Cattle will be sold at 10:00 am and horses later that afternoon at the NMSU Horse Center in Mesilla Park, NM. Cattle can be viewed in the livestock facilities at the corner of Gregg Street and Sam Steele Way until the morning of the sale.

To stay informed, visit the department's website: <http://cahe.nmsu.edu/academics/anrs>, then click on "Annual Cattle and Horse Sale". In late March, we will post pictures, video, and the catalogue on this website. The catalogue will include growth performance, carcass ultrasound, EPD, pedigree as well as genotype information. A second performance report with sale lot information will be mailed at the end of the bull test, but the full-cattle catalogue will only be available on-line and at the sale. The NMSU equine program is expecting to market ~20 to 25 horses. Also note the College has changed its acronym to: ACES = **Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences**.

For more information contact:

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