



# New Mexico State University

## Department of Animal & Range Sciences

Number 240

July 23, 2007

### TRAVELS

Attending the American Society of Animal Science meeting in San Antonio on July 9-12 were Dennis Hallford, Clint Löest, Sergio Soto-Navarro, Clay Mathis, Jason Turner, Justin Waggoner, Pablo Luna, and Jared Decker. Papers presented were:

“Effects of *Mannheimia haemolytica* challenge on blood flow and net splanchnic flux of amino acids in fed or fasted steers,” L. O. Burciaga-Robles, Clint Krehbiel, D. L. Step, **Clint Löest, Liang Chen, M. Montelongo, A. W. Confer, J. N. Gilliam, B. P. Holland, and C. L. Goad**

“Effects of endotoxin and dietary protein on N metabolism and serum cortisol and haptoglobin in growing beef steers,” **Justin Waggoner, Clint Löest, Jason Turner, Clay Mathis, Kim Kane, Dennis Hallford, and Mark Petersen**

“An evaluation of SNP associations with calpastain enzyme activity and shear force measures in Brahman steers,” D. E. Franke, **Milt Thomas, Ashley Garrett, and T.D. Binder**

“Scrotal circumference in performance tested bulls: Prediction of measures at 365 days of age from measures at 240 days of age,” **Jared Decker, Pablo Luna, Manny Encinias, and Milt Thomas**

“Promoter region of the bovine growth hormone receptor (GHR) gene: Resequencing, SNP detection, and association with performance traits in Brangus bulls,” **Ashley Garrett, G. Rincon,**

**J. F. Medrano, Gail Silver, and Milt Thomas**

Kelly Allred and Rob Strahan attended the Botany and Plant Biology Conference in Chicago on July 5-12 where they presented a poster, “A morphologic evaluation of the *Aristida gibbosa* Complex (Poaceae:Aristideae), including *A. marginalis*, *A. orizabensis*, and *A. sorzogonensis*.”


Kirk McDaniel will be participating in the NRCS range management meeting in Denver on July 17-19.

### SEARCH COMMITTEE

A departmental search committee has been selected to oversee the process of interviewing for an interim department head. Kirk McDaniel will serve as chair of the committee. Other members are Julie Basile (staff), Sam Fernald, Mark Petersen, Jack Thomas, Milt Thomas, Robert Hagevoort (Extension) and Patrick Sanchez (student). Applications will be accepted until August 1 with seminars and interviews scheduled to begin on August 6. Following the last interview, a ballot vote will be taken separately for faculty, staff, students, and others. The committee hopes to have a candidate on board by the time classes begin.

### MEAT LAB MANAGER

Thane Peterson will be joining the department as the new Meat Lab Manager, filling the vacancy created by the retirement



of Ben Gardner. Thane is a graduate of NMSU with a degree in Agricultural Economics and Business and worked as a student worker in the meat lab from October 2004 thru May 2006. He will begin his duties on July 26.

family on the death of his mother, Beverly, in California.

**BERKOMPAS TO RETIRE**

Lou Berkompas, Horse Center Superintendent since 1977 will retire effective August 31, 2007. Lou has been instrumental in maintaining the facilities and nurturing the horse herd which has resulted in a top line of horses. Lou was recognized in 1999 with the "Stephen W. and Robert E. Roberts Memorial Staff Award," and "President's Star Performance Award" in 2003 for classified and professional staff.

**ETC.**

Congratulations to Richard and Amanda Dunlap on the birth of their son, Richard L. "Hitch" Dunlap III on July 2 in Alamogordo. Richard recently joined the staff as senior research associate at Corona.

Sympathy is expressed to graduate student, Raed Halalsheh and family, on the death of his grandmother in Jordan.

Sympathy is also expressed to Mark and Polly Petersen and

