February 25, 2008

**PUBLICATIONS**

Recent departmental publications include:


**TRAVELS**

Milt Thomas attended the ASAS mid-year meeting in Indianapolis on January 25-27.

Attending the Southern Great Plains Dairy Consortium Administrative Management Council meeting in Amarillo, Texas on January 29-30 was Tim Ross.

Jason Turner attended an equine embryo transfer techniques course in Amisssville, Virginia on February 14-16.

**SRM Meetings**

Papers/posters presented by NMSU faculty and graduate students at the Society for Range Management meeting in Louisville, Kentucky on January 26-30 are as follows:

“An integrated approach to grassland restoration in a Chihuahuan Desert mesquite-dominated community,” Laurie Abbott, Kendal Young, Rob McNeely, and Lenora Hawkins

“Biochemical and morphological changes in African Rue (Peganum harmala) under water deficit, Gregory Bettmann, Laurie Abbott, Harish Ratnayaka, and Tracy Sterling

“Incorporating invasive species and degraded landscapes into ecological site descriptions,” Nicole Hansen, Jack Alexander, Brandon Bestelmeyer, Joel Brown, Juliane Luck, and Arlene Tugei
“One-seed juniper use by goats: Influence of stocking density and mixed grazing in summer and spring,” Santiago Utsumi, Andrés Cibils, Rick Estell, and John Walker

“Influence of prior exposure and basal diet quality on intake of three locoweed species by naïve heifers,” Jacob Martin, Andrés Cibils, and John Graham

“Using soil moisture to estimate the economic value of rainfall events for range forage production,” Allen Torell, Kirk McDaniel, and Brian Hurd

“Effects of grazing systems on livestock grazing behavior in shrub-dominated semi-arid and arid rangelands,” Derek Bailey and Joel Brown

“Grazing patterns of yearling heifers in juniper woodlands when supplemented away from water,” Derek Bailey, Barbara Witmore, and Andrés Cibils

“Social interactions of hill-climber and bottom-dweller cows in small and large herds,” Emily Pollak, Derek Bailey, and Robin Weinmeister

“Measures of daily distribution patterns of cow calf pairs using global positioning systems on both cows and calves,” Bob Wesley, Andrés Cibils, Emily Pollak, Shad Cos, Travis Mulliniks, Mark Petersen, and Ed Fredrickson

“Impacts of simulated hebivory on small honey mesquite plants, Barbara Witmore and Derek Bailey

“Influence of infrequent heavy defoliation on herbaceous biomass and basal cover of pinyon juniper understory,” Hector Ramirez, Sam Fernald, Andrés Cibils, and Dawn VanLeeuwen

The NMSU Range Club placed 2
d in the Student Chapter Display at the meetings while Jacob Martin received 1st place recognition at the Masters level for his poster and Santiago Utsumi placed 2nd in the Ph.D. level for his poster.

WOOL TEAM
The NMSU Wool team participated in the National Western Collegiate Wool contest in Denver on January 8, 2008. Team members were Pate Chavez (9th in grading, 12th overall), Marissa Ham and Kaitlyn Vega. The team was 5th high in reasons. Coaches for the group are Tim Ross, Cody Terpening, and Trevor Gray. Next competition is March 9-15 at the Houston Livestock Show.

ETC.
Branch Ranch, through its subsidiary, Natural Beef of New Mexico LLC, has gifted $25,000 to CAHE to support marketing research and graduate studies in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Business. Jack
Thomas and Milt Thomas serve as co-advisors to the project.

Sympathy is expressed to Dana and Troy Wiebe on the death of her grandfather on February 8 in California.

Congratulations to:

Kendal and Quinn Young on the birth of their daughter, Cora Isabella, on January 30

And to

Jason and Mindy Turner on the birth of their son, Denny Lynn, on February 10.