DEPARTURES

Terrell ("Red") Baker, Coordinator of the Range Improvement Task Force, accepted a position as Head of the Department of Forestry at the University of Kentucky on July 1, 2010. Red joined the Cooperative Extension Service at NMSU in September, 1998 as a riparian management specialist, and studied stream banks and other riparian areas in New Mexico. His education background includes a B.A. in economics from University of the South (Sewanee, Tennessee), M.S. in forest resources from Clemson University and Ph.D. in forest biology and ecology from Auburn University. He received the College of Agriculture/Home Economics "Extension Early Career Award". Dr. Sam Smallidge, Extension Wildlife Specialist, will become Director of the RITF.

Clay Mathis, Extension Livestock Specialist since 1998, has accepted a position as Director of the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management at Texas A&M University – Kingsville beginning in July. Clay came to NMSU after completing his doctorate at Kansas State University in ruminant nutrition. His B.S. (animal science) and M.S. (physiology of reproduction) degrees were earned at Texas A&M University. He was awarded the Western Section, American Society of Animal Science “Extension Award.”

PUBLICATIONS

Recent departmental publications are as follows:


“Sizing plastic pipeline for water on the range,” reviewed by Chris Allison, Extension Guide B-810.

TRAVELS
Attending the American Society of Microbiology meeting in San Diego, California on May 24-27 was Shanna Ivey.

Milt Thomas attended WERA- beef cattle breeding for Western United States – meeting in Reno, Nevada on June 15-17. He also attended the Lead 21 conference, a leadership program of land grant universities, in Indianapolis on June 20-25. On June 29-July 2, Milt will talk to the emerging technologies committee of the Beef Improvement Federation meeting in Columbia, Missouri.

STUDENT NEWS
Kasey DeAtley, Ph.D. student in animal science, working with Milt Thomas, has been awarded a merit-based enhancement fellowship from the NMSU Graduate School for the academic year 2010-2011.

Ahmed Mohamed, range science doctoral student, has received an Outstanding Graduate Assistantship award by the Fellowship Committee of the Graduate Council.

Staci Stanbrough, animal science junior from Capitan, NM, placed 2nd in the breakaway roping and 13th in goat tying at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming in June. She was also named recipient of a Walt Garrison Rodeo Scholarship and was elected the National Student President of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA).

NEUMANN COMPETITION
The 26th annual A. L. Neumann Animal Science Graduate Student Paper Competition was held on July 1 with eight students participating. Papers presented include:

“Effect of supplemental protein source during the winter on pre- and postpartum glucose metabolism,” Flint Harrelson, Shanna Ivey, Shad Cox, Richard Dunlap, Travis Mulliniks, Boone Carter, Clint Löest, and Mark Petersen

“Grazing patterns of Angus, Brangus and Brahman cows in the Chihuahuan Desert,” Morgan Russell, Derek Bailey, Milt Thomas, Barbara Witmore, and Calvin Bailey

“Bayesian QTL inference for first service conception trait in Brangus heifers,” Sunday Peters, K. Kizilkaya, D. J. Garrick, R. L. Fernando, J. M. Reecy, R. L. Weaber, Gail Silver, and Milt Thomas


“Arginine supplementation does not alter nitrogen metabolism of beef steers during a lipopolysaccharide challenge,”
Boone Carter, Clint Löest, Garret Gilliam, Brock Graham, J. A. Carroll, C. T. Collier, and Dennis Hallford

“Effect of wet distiller’s grains with soluble on rumen bacterial community profiles in individually fed cattle,” Laura Tracey, Johnette Browne-Silva, C. H. Ponce, J. B. Osterstock, J. C. MacDonald, M. Brown, and Shanna Ivey

“Effects of rumen-protected methionine on performance and health of growing feedlot heifers,” Reid McDaniel, Derek Walker, Katie Taylor, and Clint Löest

“Propionibacterium acidipropionici P169 and glucose precursors to improve rumen parameters associated with low quality forage,” Patrick Sanchez, Laura Tracey, Johnette Brown-Silva, Mark Petersen, and Shanna Ivey

First place honors went to Boone Carter with Laura Tracey placing second. Honorable mention went to Morgan Russell. Serving as judges were Sergio Soto and Kasey DeAtley (2009 Neumann winner).

ETC.

Congratulations to Fatima and Mohammed Al-Lataifeh on the birth of twin boys, Nassar and Khaled on June 2, 2010. Fatima is working on her doctorate with Clint Löest.

Sympathy is expressed to Laurie Abbott and family on the death of her father in Ithaca, New York in mid-June.