



Guadalupe County
**Spring Herd Health
Management**
Livestock Profitability Enhancement



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
**College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences**
Cooperative Extension Service
Guadalupe County Extension Office

SITUATION: Agriculture is a major industry in Guadalupe County contributing \$17 million plus to the tax base. The Beef industry, in particular, accounts for 85% of that tax base. Productivity and sustainability all are tied to profitability. Consumer wants/needs change continuously. With ever-varying weather patterns and markets, Producers must be willing to gain information about these changes and seek understanding as to how to meet these changes, while continuing towards profitability. Research based information, as it relates to current production issues, is of key importance for producers as they learn to produce with less available resources, and more consumer demands.

Extension Response: The Agent, collaborating with the newly re-organized County Farm and Livestock Bureau, organized and coordinated a subject matter training for producers related to: calving ease/difficulties; profitability from early breed up; proper immunizations that extend effectiveness in the overall herd health; Regulations on livestock transportation in NM.



Results/Impact: Sixty (60) Producers from Guadalupe County and surrounding areas attended a 4-hour training on the aforementioned subject matter. Upon conclusion of each component of subject matter training, there were an average of 12 questions fielded for clarification. A survey of 25% of randomly selected participants revealed:

- A 50% increase in knowledge regarding calving ease positions
- A 25% increase in knowledge regarding livestock transportation regulations
- A 25% increase in knowledge related to benefits of early calving and profitability

Public Value: A better understanding of effective calving practices assists producers with saving a higher number of calves, leading to a large calf crop and weaning percentage, equaling more profitability; Understanding proper immunization strategies increased health in herds, which requires less health intervention leading to producers spending less dollars on doctoring chronic animals, which, again, leads to less death and replacement percentage adding more profitability.

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