



Eddy County Ag Tab

**Eddy County
Extension Service
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Carlsbad, NM 88220**

May 4, 2007

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UPCOMING EVENTS

May

- 9 Eddy County 40-year water plan, public meeting. 10:00 am -12:00 noon
County Commission Chambers -
County Administrative complex.
- 21-25 Desert Project Tour Starts In Las Cruces
- 31 Cattle producers meeting
Hope Community Center 6:30 pm.

June

- 15-16 New Mexico Dairyman Association Meeting
Ruidoso
- 21 Mule Deer seminar, Ruidoso
- 25 Pesticide training
- 28-30 Cattle Growers Mid year meeting, Raton

July

- 12-14 New Mexico Wool Growers convention,
Roswell

OF GENERAL CONCERN

If you would like to receive this via e-mail, please send your address to whoughto@nmsu.edu.

PROTECT YOUR ASSETS

Adopted from article by Dan Campbell
Drovers Magazine April 07

Farmers and ranchers are aging in our society, long term health care is a concern and how do you pay for it without losing the farm or ranch. There is a way to protect it, and you will need a lawyer who understands Medicaid and the IRS tax code. It is called an "irrevocable intentionally defective grantor trust." This trust has certain provisions that are rather unique:

- The parents retain the right to the income from the trust for their life.
- The children are named trustees.
- The children are named as "remainder-men" of the trust- that is they get what is left over when the parents pass away.
- The parents retain the right to "substitute" assets equal in value to what they put in the trust.
- The parents retain a "special power of appointment" which is the right to change who will receive the trust principal when they are both deceased.
- The parents appoint a "trust protector" who is a "watchdog" and has the power to remove the original trustees if they feel they are not doing their job and appoint someone else.

After the trust is created the parents deed the farm to the trust plus what other assets they may choose. Why use a trust?

- Protect the family farm or ranch
- Parents continue to receive income from the farm and ranch

- When parents pass away the trust gets a “stepped-up basis” for income tax purpose.

See a qualified attorney who is aware of Medicaid planning involving an Intentionally Defective Grantor Trust.

EDDY COUNTY EXTENSION ENDOWED FUND

A number of people have asked where they could give money in memory of my father. This is one choice available that was not a few months ago. Thank you. Every citizen in the state of New Mexico benefits from the Cooperative Extension Service. An endowment has been created specifically for the Eddy County Extension Service. It will allow the county program director to have funds available annually to conduct programs in Eddy County. Giving to the Eddy County Extension Endowment is a way you can be part of the “doing what counts” campaign for NMSU. The great thing about giving to the Eddy County Extension Endowment is that your funds are used to support programs in Eddy County. An endowment is a permanent fund which is held and managed by the NMSU foundation to provide income in perpetuity. The principal in invested and a portion of the annual earnings (4-6% of the principal value) is used for purposes designated by the donor; in this case for extension programs in Eddy County. Earnings above the expendable distributions and fees are returned to the principal of each fund to preserve the purchasing power of the fund over time. Gifts of any amount can be made at any time to increase the principal of the fund. To make a donation contact Barbara Wise; Development Officer
P.O. Box 30003, MSC 3 AG
Las Cruces NM 88003-8003; Phone 505-646-4136 or
E-mail her at bwise@nmsu.edu.

Around and About!

Woodrow Burkum passed away this last month; he was a good farmer and a good person. I will always remember how Woodrow was willing to help when you needed it. As one member of the Agriculture community told me, “Woody was a true Christian, he didn’t just say it, he lived it.”

On a more joyful note **Tom and Teresa Dean** are the proud parents of a baby boy. Both were very active in Eddy County 4-H and have extended family in the Agriculture Community of Eddy County.

Rodeo teams sweep Arizona contest

The NMSU men's and women's rodeo teams earned first place this past weekend at a rodeo sponsored by Dine College in Tsaile, Ariz. Tony Steele of Alamo, Nev., was named all-around cowboy and Bailey Gow of Roseburg, Ore., was named women's all-around champion.

With its sixth in a series of wins, the NMSU women's rodeo team is ranked first in the nation by the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association and continues to dominate the regional standings. The men's team is ranked fifth in the nation and first in the region.

LIVESTOCK LINE

Trichomoniasis

A Livestock Producers meeting will be held in Hope at the Community Center on May 31. Trich in beef cattle and other animal health issues such as imported diseases like foot and mouth will be discussed. Fort Dodge Animal Health will be cosponsoring the meeting with the Eddy County Livestock Producers Association and the Eddy County Extension Service. Paul’s Vet Supply will have some door prizes as well. Cowbelles will be cooking the meal so it will be good! We will eat at 6:30 pm, the meeting will start at 7:30 pm. Please call Robin at 887-6595 or toll free at (877) 887-6595 and let us know if you are coming or you may not get any food.

“Trich” is a highly contagious venereal disease resulting in early embryonic death. Indications of Trich infection include a high percentage of open cows at pregnancy check and/or a prolonged calving period. In addition to vaccination, Trich should be managed by culling open cows identifying and removing infected bulls, and using artificial insemination.

BIOSECURITY

HEALTH PROTECTION AND SANITATION STRATEGIES FOR CATTLE

From information supplied by:

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**College of Veterinary Medicine – Kansas State
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This Fact-sheet describes management strategies to prevent the introduction of disease to a farm with particular reference to Foot and Mouth Disease. Although the Fact-sheet refers specifically to cattle, the general strategies are applicable to other farm livestock.

At the time of this writing, Canada, the United States and Mexico are free of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). This unique status is shared with Australia and New Zealand in the Southern Hemisphere. Several other countries in the world are also free of FMD. However, many Asian countries, several in South America, Africa, and most recently the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and France are experiencing outbreaks of the disease. This month United Kingdom has been declared to be FMD free.

On-farm Control

Eddy County livestock producers prevent the introduction of FMD (and other foreign animal diseases) by common sense and practical on-farm strategies. FMD virus is easily killed by common procedures for cleaning or washing clothes - dry cleaning, bleach or washing soda. People may harbor the FMD virus in their nasal cavity for up to 2 days. The best available knowledge confirms that persons who have been working with FMD animals must stay away from healthy animals for at least five days.

To prevent the introduction of foreign animal diseases from infected animals on farms in countries with the diseases, Eddy County producers should follow these guidelines:

A. Management of New Arrivals - Prevent the Introduction of Disease

1. **Maintain a closed herd** The first method is not to purchase cattle. A truly closed herd does not allow the

introduction of any outside animals. For practical reasons, there are few truly closed herds in Eddy County or the United States. **In the case of a Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak owners should maintain closed status until the outbreak is contained.**

- Do not allow the introduction of any outside animals to the herd
- Prevent fence line contacts of livestock with other herds
- Use artificial insemination for breeding and do not bring in bulls
- Do not exhibit at shows
- Restrict visitors.

2. Know the source of incoming animals

- Require health certification on all incoming animals.
- Receive incoming animals during daylight and inspect all animals off the truck for signs of disease.

B. Management of Farm and Ranch Traffic - Prevent the Spread of Diseases

Minimize traffic between farms, ranches, and feedlot operations. Farm visitors wearing boots or clothing freshly contaminated with infectious agents can spread cattle diseases among farms. Birds, rodents, pets, people, equipment, and vehicles contaminated with manure (or other bodily excretions) should be considered potential disease carriers. This is not possible on Public lands until an outbreak has occurred, but the producer should be aware of movement on their ranch.

1. Control birds, rats and mice

Pigeons, sparrows, starlings, rats and mice may act as carriers of infectious agents (on their feet and within their digestive system).

2. Control people and pets

People and pets can spread contaminated material on footwear, hands, clothing and fur.

To decrease the spread of contaminants:

- inform herd workers, visitors and truckers of your farm protection methods and insist upon cooperation from these individuals

- keep visiting vehicles out of areas accessible to livestock
- insist visitors wash/disinfect their boots before entering and leaving
- supply rubber boots and clean coveralls for visitors
- provide a footbath containing an effective disinfectant
- control the movement of dogs and cats between farms
- wash farm clothing with detergents and bleach or washing soda
- ask foreign visitors about their attendance on farms in their country of origin
- restrict visitors from their farm if the visitor has been on a farm with a contagious foreign animal disease within the previous 5 days

3. **Equipment**

Disease can spread from farm-to-farm indirectly by small and large equipment. To reduce this spread:

- use your own equipment: halters, nose tongs, clippers etc. rather than borrowing them
- thoroughly wash and disinfect the inside, outside, and tires of equipment shared with neighbors

4. **Use disinfectants**

Information about disinfectants is available on the product label or from farm supply dealers, veterinarians, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the product manufacturers. For best results disinfectants should be applied to clean surfaces. That is - wash the equipment then disinfect.

| Product | Dilution | Mixing Instructions | Notes |
|------------------------------------|----------|---|--|
| Bleach - 5.25% Sodium hypochlorite | 3% | Add 3 gallons of bleach to 2 gallons of water | Even this high concentration is not effective on dirty surfaces |
| Acetic Acid | 4-5% | Add 6.5 oz of glacial acetic acid to 1 gallon of water | Undiluted vinegar, (4% acetic acid) may be used |
| Sodium Hydroxide (lye) | 2% | Add 1/3 cup of lye pellets to 1 gallon of cold water | Highly caustic, - use rubber clothing, gloves, and safety goggles. ALWAYS add the lye to the water.- NEVER pour water over the lye |
| Sodium Carbonate (Soda Ash) | 4% | Add 1 pound of sodium carbonate to 3 gallons of hot water | Mildly caustic - may dull painted or varnished surfaces |

C. **Monitoring and Reporting** Provide training to employees on recognition of signs of FMD. Monitor livestock and promptly report any symptoms of FMD to your local veterinarian, County Agent or Livestock Inspector. FMD may cause high fevers, blisters around the mouth or on the feet, reduced appetite, and lameness. FMD can be confused with several other, but less harmful diseases such as vesicular stomatitis or swine vesicular disease. Failure to promptly report a suspected case of FMD will endanger your neighbors and the entire US livestock industry.

CROP LINE

RCCP Crop Insurance

A number of producers met two years ago to help get this started in New Mexico. This is a program to insure revenue to the whole farm. Contact your FSA Office for more information.

COTTON- Boll weevil this year will basically be a maintenance program of trapping. Jetta Brown will be doing all of the work for the program. Some notes however need to be brought up. First, still plant as late as possible - first week of May will not hurt your yield. Second, keep up the good work of sanitation, and keeping field and surrounding area clean. You, the producer, have done an excellent job in working to get this pest out of here, let's not have to do it again.

ALFALFA

It has already been a different year. I have found a lot of cut worm damage in some alfalfa fields. One producer had a spring planted field that he will be planting again thanks to this pest. I also have been seeing a lot of weevils around but it is spotty.

Fertilizer

We have had this discussion a number of times now, but I thought I would briefly review some important items. First, the best way to determine plant need is with both a soil sample and a tissue sample. That said Phosphorus is the most deficient nutrient in alfalfa in Eddy County. If you want to produce 8 ton of hay and your Phosphorus level is low you will need 120 to 180 lbs of actual phosphorus per acre. If your phosphorus level is marginal, which is where most farms are at, will take 60 to 90 pounds per acre. If you are high in Phosphorus it will take 0 to 45 pounds per acre. Remember this is actual Phosphorus. To calculate how much of a particular fertilizer it will take per acre is not hard. Example: 100 acres and you need 75 pounds of Phosphorus. You are going to use 11-54-0. You need a total of 75 pounds per acre * 100 acres or 7500 pounds of Phosphorus. But 11-54-0 only has 54 units per 100 pounds so you divide 7500 by 0.54 which equals 13888.89.

Potassium or potash is the second most needed nutrient and for 8 tons per acre if you are low it will take 300-400 pounds of actual Potassium; moderate 150-200 and high 0-100 pounds per acre. At high rate due to the salt index of Potassium fertilizer it is best to apply after ever other cutting. So if you are moderate and need 190 pounds of potassium and are using muriate of potash (0-0-60) for the above example - take 190 pounds needed times 100 acres for a total of 19000 pounds of actual Potassium. But we are going to split the application three times so 19000 divided by 3 equals 6333.33 pounds per application. So we take 6333.33 divided by 0.60 units per pounds for 10555.55 pounds for 100 acres.

This should be a good alfalfa year!



New Mexico State University Agricultural Science Center at Artesia

With the algae, the canola, and the paulownia trees blooming, the New Mexico State University Agriculture Science Center at Artesia is into another growing season. We are in full swing as we prepare our fields for planting. The 2007 variety trials include trials in alfalfa, canola, chile, corn, cotton, rosemary, and sorghum. Aside from our standard variety trials, there are also ongoing studies with irrigation, fertility, plant populations, insects, and alternative fuels such as biodiesel.

For those who are not familiar with the Ag Science Center, we are located south of Artesia east of Highway 285 at 67 E. Four Dinkus Rd. We have an excellent group of Faculty and Staff that are heavily involved with research in agriculture, range, turf and ornamentals, and alternative fuels in the Pecos Valley and throughout New Mexico. Our faculty consists of Dr. Keith Duncan which is the Brush and Weed Specialist for NM, Dr. Jane Pierce an Associate Professor and Entomologist, and Dr. Robert Flynn an Associate Professor and our soil and fertility expert. I invite anyone interested to come by and tour our farm. Also, keep an eye out for our faculty and their presentations, they are always busy putting on presentations throughout the state in our public schools, conferences, meetings, and extension programs.

Once again, the Faculty and Staff of the NMSU Agriculture Science Center at Artesia invite anyone to come by for a tour or share any questions you may have about the ongoing projects.

Thanks for your Support!

Lupe Carrasco
NMSU-ASC Superintendent



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