

EASTERN COLORADO 2012

RANGE AND DROUGHT CLINIC



Date: Tuesday July 31st – 8 am to 5 pm

Location: Community and Education Center, 340 S. 14th St., Burlington, Colorado

Fee: \$20 per person, \$25 per couple, or \$5 for a student.

Lunch will be provided.

To register for the clinic, visit us on the web at www.range.colostate.edu or call (719) 346-5571 for more details.

Itinerary

Morning Session (8 am to Noon)

8:00 Introduction to Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch

Dr. Cody Knutson, National Drought Mitigation Center

The National Drought Mitigation Center has worked with ranchers and advisors throughout the Great Plains to develop "Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch", a drought planning guide. With funding support from the USDA Risk Management Agency, we are able to bring this guide and a discussion of ranch drought planning to ranchers in CO, NE, and KS.

8:30 Writing a Drought Plan: Step by Step

Dr. Pat Reece, Prairie & Montane Enterprises

This presentation will focus on the benefits of having a drought plan, and walk ranchers through a series of steps that will result in a plan for drought tailored to their own operations.

9:15 Forage and Livestock Management Considerations for Drought Risk Management

Dr. Jerry Volesky, UNL West Central Research & Extension Center

This presentation will focus on forage and livestock management options during drought, and discuss how producers might make decisions as to the most appropriate strategies for their own operations.

9:45 **Break**

10:00 Financial Considerations in Drought Risk Management

Dr. Matt Stockton, UNL West Central Research & Extension Center

This presentation will introduce decision-support tools designed to help ranchers choose appropriate actions during drought. In addition, specific considerations for beginning ranchers and landlords will be addressed.

10:30 RMA options: Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage Insurance

Amy Roeder, Risk Management Agency

This presentation is an introduction to Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage Insurance. RMA specialist Amy Roeder will discuss how and when this program might be an appropriate component of a ranch drought plan.

11:15 Producer Reality Check Lessons Learned in Drought Planning for Established and Beginning Ranchers

Ted Alexander, Skinner Ranch

At this time, ranchers who have developed and implemented their own drought plans will reflect on what they have learned through recent droughts, respond to previous presentations, and address questions and comments.

Lunch Break (Noon to 1 pm)

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Afternoon Session (1 pm to 5 pm)

1:00 Regional Climate Outlook

Becky Smith, CSU Drought Specialist – Graduate Research Assistant

As of early April, 98 percent of the state of Colorado was experiencing some level of drought. Drought Specialist Becky Smith will give us an overview of our current regional climate outlook.

1:30 Ranch Business Management

I. Enterprise Budgets for Yearlings and Cow/Calf Pairs on Native Range

II. Mortality Composting

John Deering, CSU Regional Ext. Specialist - Ag Business Management

In this presentation, John Deering will review practical methods for developing enterprise budgets for yearlings and cow/calf pairs grazing on native rangeland. He will also discuss the most recent information regarding mortality composting.

2:00 Basic Feed and Nutrition for Cattle, Sheep, and Goats

Megan Jedlicka, CSU Extension Agent - Livestock

This presentation is a back to basics review of the essential feed and nutritional requirements for ruminants. Megan Jedlicka's discussion will focus on feed and nutrition for cattle, sheep, and goats.

2:30 Cattle

I. What Drives Forage Intake?

II. Nutritional Quality of Eastern Colorado Grasses

Michael Fisher, CSU Golden Plains Area Extension Agent - Livestock

Ever wonder what drives forage intake? In this presentation, Michael Fisher will describe what drives forage intake, as well as his recent research describing nutritional quality of eastern Colorado grasses.

3:00 **Break**

3:10 Opportunities in the Replacement Heifer Segment of Beef Production Systems

Dr. Jack Whittier, CSU Cow/Calf Extension Specialist and Associate Professor

If you are looking for more options, this may be the presentation for you. Dr. Jack Whittier will discuss opportunities in the replacement heifer segment of beef production systems.

3:40 Pointers for Grazing in Riparian and Wetland Areas

Mae Smith, UW Extension Rangeland Resources Educator

Grazing along streams, rivers, and in wetland areas is sometimes more challenging than managing grazing on the uplands. In this presentation, Mae Smith will give pointers for grazing those sensitive riparian and wetland areas.

4:10 Eastern Colorado Range and Forage Research

I. Swath Grazing on Western Wheatgrass Pastures

II. Limited Irrigation for Cool Season Grass Forages

Dr. Casey Matney, CSU Regional Extension Specialist - Range Management

In this presentation, Dr. Casey Matney will discuss his results from recent range and forage research in eastern Colorado. Implications of his research for ranchers and livestock producers in the region will be discussed.

If you are a person with a disability and require any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this program, please contact (719) 346-5571 at least 14 days prior to the event. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. Colorado State University Extension, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating.