

# Low-cost management ideas on tap at July 22 Corona Field Day

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Innovative range research coupled with low-cost management techniques are featured July 22 during Field Day at New Mexico State University's Corona Range and Livestock Research Center.

In looking forward to the event, Mark Petersen, a range animal nutritionist with NMSU said, "We're geared to implementing management strategies that call for spending as little money as possible while still improving animal performance. I think you'll see that goal reflected across a broad range of projects we have under way here."

The free field day program begins at 9:30 a.m. and includes a noon luncheon followed by ranch tours. Tour participants will learn about current brush control projects and animal identification technology.

In addition, NMSU experts will present information on grazing distribution

and heifer development. Other topics include reproduction, bull selection, feed supplement strategies, and deer population dynamics.

The research center, located near the center of the state just east of the village of Corona, is a 27,000-acre working ranch laboratory. It is considered a prime component in a number of NMSU research range and livestock studies.

"The Corona research center offers a unique research environment for scientists interested in piñon-juniper-blue gramma grasslands," said Petersen. "You will not find the type of research work being done at the Corona center anywhere else in the nation."

At Field Day Kirk McDaniel, an NMSU range management specialist, will discuss the results of a 15-year experiment on burning pastures infested with snakeweed, while Andres Cibils, a livestock grazing expert, will review results of how winter grazing influences cattle distribution.

Results of new aerial wildlife surveys will be covered by Jon Boren, a wildlife specialist with NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service. Dean Hawkins, an associate professor in NMSU's animal and range sciences department, will talk about the economic return for raising replacement heifers.

Petersen and Corona Ranch manager Shad Cox will report on results of several ongoing feed supplement studies. Clay Mathis, a livestock specialist with NMSU Extension, will review the performance of Corona Ranch calves participating in the New Mexico Ranch-to-Rail Program.

Tim Ross, an NMSU animal science professor, will review factors affecting range lamb mortality, as well as the use of Akbash dogs for predator protection.

For more information about the field day, or if you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, contact Petersen in advance at 646-1750 or e-mail [marpeter@nmsu.edu](mailto:marpeter@nmsu.edu).



COURTESY PHOTO

**Mark Petersen**, a range animal nutritionist with New Mexico State University, holds an experimental 33-pound, high-protein range supplement block for cattle. Research aimed at improving animal and range performance will highlight a July 22 field day at New Mexico State University's Corona Range and Livestock Research Center