

Guadalupe County Livestock Producers Organization



A Word from Your President, Max Tenorio

Once again it seems that the cattle market is looking promising and hopefully the prices will maintain at their current level for the rest of the year. We have contacted Mr. Mike Wolfe and he has indicated that he is interested in purchasing our calves again this year. We will schedule a meeting with GCLPO members and Mr. Wolfe as soon as possible. We will be contacting you by phone to let you know of the place, date, and time.

The next GCLPO meeting is tentatively scheduled for 7:00 PM at the new Santa Rosa Middle School Cafeteria on Tuesday, August 7, 2007. Please make plans to attend.

Points of interest:

- A Word from Your President, Max Tenorio
- Next GCLPO meeting
- GCLPO web site
- Terrorism in my town??
- Reminder about Learning Center
- NAP Insurance
- Stocker-feeder prices
- Trading Post

GCLPO

Guadalupe County Livestock Producers Organization
P.O. Box 119, Santa Rosa, New Mexico 88435
Phone: 505-472-3210 or 505-799-8812, e-mail: info@gclpo.org

Max Tenorio, President Bill Ortiz, Vice-President Yolanda Tenorio, Secretary/Treasurer

The purpose of the GCLPO is to organize the local livestock producers to address problems concerning the livestock industry, and to share ranching ideas and experiences in raising and marketing livestock in Guadalupe County.

ABOUT US	RESOURCES	MISCELLANEOUS	"COMING SOON"
Contact Us	Printable Forms	2007 Guadalupe County Fair Info	Area Brand Index
Officers	Handy Dandy Phone List	Photo and Slide Show Gallery	Planned Activities
Members	Carbon Credits Information	Featuring Area Youth	Help or Work Wanted
Minutes from Meetings	Free Software Downloads	Gardening Page	Notes of Interest
Organization Bylaws	Online Shopping Links	Recipe Corner	Downloadable Free Clipart: Ranch and rural themes
Newsletters	Trading Post	Yeah It Happened	Links to other livestock producers organizations' websites
Recent Events	Calendar of Events (Please e-mail us about meetings and other events!)	Kids' Art and Coloring Pages	
	Selected NMSU Livestock and Range Publications	Miscellaneous Links	
	Links to Livestock-related Resources	Comments/Suggestion Box (sign guestbook)	
		Book Guide: A Quick Reference for Ordering Regionally-Oriented Books	

GCLPO members: Please advise members who do not have Internet access that the Guadalupe County Extension Office features a Learning Center that includes Internet-accessible computers available for public use, with assistance provided for people unfamiliar with computer use and/or navigating the Internet. The Learning Center is open Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.

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Have you checked out the GCLPO web site lately? It's at www.gclpo.org and has been recently updated. We are actively soliciting input for the various sections on the site, along with suggestions for additions and improvements.

Terrorism in my Town??

Commentary by: Alice Velasquez
Agriculture Education/Instructor
Santa Rosa High School

Last week I had the opportunity to take an Agro terrorism class in Albuquerque, and to tell you the truth I was dreading it as I figured it would be just another one of those workshops that would bore you to death and make an attempt to pass generic information that can be delivered in one hour but they force you to sit for a least three days. Pleasantly to my surprise this provided some of the most useful information anyone involved in the field of agriculture could imagine and although the information presented was disturbing, I feel compelled to pass this info on to you and let you know that the threats of Agro Terrorism are real, and every one of us needs to be educated as to its potential threat on our country as well as our food supply.

In the Homeland Security Act of 2002, terrorism is defined as any activity that is dangerous to human life, destructive to the infrastructure, or a violation of criminal laws of the US that is used to intimidate a civilian population, influence government or conduct mass destruction. The United States has suffered attacks from both domestic and international terrorist groups during the last 10 years. The acronym WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) when mentioned bring to mind the horrific scene in our heads of a nuclear weapon exploding over a populated area. Today the terrorists are more creative than we can ever imagine and are prepared to use the smallest of weapons to create huge impacts. Biological agents are now in their hands and how we prepare ourselves must be considered as our weapon against them.

Bovine Tuberculosis, Foot and Mouth Disease, Asian Bird Flue, and Anthrax are a few that diseases that we discussed. It amazed me in a scenario created in class how a rancher could innocently purchase cattle at a sale barn and create an international incident simply as a terrorist sprayed a spray bottle of Foot and Mouth Disease onto a cattle hauler that also became airborne and spread to three ranches in two states within a two-day period. Could that happen in our small town? The answer is yes, because we are the targets that go unnoticed and we as producers need to be more vigilant as we move stock in and out of our farms and ranches. Insect carriers can acquire diseases as well and indirectly transmit the diseases simply and quickly. Some we know are Equine encephalomyelitis, West Nile Virus, Rift Valley fever, and the plague, just to name a few.

Do we know what happens to our ranches if a suspected case appears? Are our local officials prepared to handle situations that will arise? These are questions that need to be considered as well as putting plans into place. Are we prepared for a quarantine that could surround our ranches and do we know whom to call if this should happen to us?

Should we be alarmed of the potential threat? No, but I feel that we need to be educated and realize that we do not know what many of these diseases are and how they are contracted and what are some preventative measures that we can take on our farms and ranches to keep our animals and homes safe. The New Mexico Department of Agriculture is ready to bring classes and presentations for our area farmers and ranches, and I encourage you to become involved and take the classes as they are offered to you.

This reminder comes from County Extension Agent Gino Lujan: The Guadalupe County Extension Office features a Learning Center that includes Internet-accessible computers available for public use, with assistance provided for people unfamiliar with computer use and/or navigating the Internet. The Learning Center is open Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.

Many local producers took part in the recent brush control spraying by North Star Helicopter out of Jasper, TX. The spraying was done in an effort to control the mesquite in the area. Many producers participate in the EQIP program managed by the NRCS. Over 10,000 acres have been sprayed in the last few weeks. Thanks to Sean Lewis for coordinating the spraying.

Natural Disaster Insurance By Max Tenorio

Most of us farmers and ranchers try to supplement our ranch and farm losses by purchasing insurance made available by our government, better known here as **NAP** or Crop Disaster Assistance Program. It is a great program; those of you who have bought this insurance before know that it is valuable. During those years when we produce less than a 50% crop in the County because of hail, floods, drought, etc., NAP can help to offset some of the unexpected expenses. However, the methodology used to assess the farm and range conditions, which ultimately results in whether we qualify for assistance or not, are not to the satisfaction of most County Locals or consistent with other adjoining districts.

Last year Guadalupe County farm and range conditions were audited by two independent assessors, Mr. Jim Norris, District Conservationist, NRCS and Mr. Eugenio Luján, County Extension Agent, CES, and their conclusion was that Guadalupe County had sustained a 15% loss which did not exceed Nap's 50% loss threshold – Guadalupe County did not qualify for NAP assistance.

With all due respect to these two gentlemen and the entities they represent, many local ranchers feel that the assessment process they are given to work with needs to be looked at very closely and perhaps changed so that we can have a more accurate assessment, one which gives a more accurate condition of the County's condition. The present method used to assess the loss is not a true indicator of the conditions of the whole county for the whole year. It is too late to appeal this denial for qualification of NAP for 2006. Too late for all of us except for maybe Mr. Jim Thorpe because he filed a timely appeal and is scheduled for a hearing with Mr. Robert V. Moreno, Hearing Officer, on the last week of July 2007 at Tucumcari, New Mexico.

In talking with Mr. Jim Thorpe, he was hoping that his appeal would represent all Guadalupe County ranchers who had NAP insurance; however, regulations from the United States Department of Agriculture deem it necessary for each individual to file their own appeal; our deadline to appeal has expired.

However, some ranchers of Guadalupe County might still have a chance for some input on the request for changes on the criteria used in our county to assess agricultural losses. That is if the hearing is held as scheduled and the issue is not settled between these two entities beforehand. I will be attending the hearing scheduled between Mr. Jim Thorpe and Mr. Robert Moreno. I am anticipating that I will be asked some questions regarding my position on this matter, and hopefully I will have the opportunity to give some input. I will inform you on the results of the issue during our next meeting.

This notice came from Drovers Alert on Stocker-Feeder prices
By Drovers news staff (7/16/2007)

Prices for all classes of stocker and feeder cattle were lower during June, according to Drovers' 50-market auction summary. Prices for steer calves were 6 percent below April's high, but remain 4 percent above January's prices, the lowest point in 2007 to date. Prices for steer calves weighing 400 to 500 pounds averaged \$119.08 per hundredweight during June, a decline of \$4.03 per hundredweight. Yearling steers weighing 600 to 700 pounds declined \$2.85 per hundredweight to \$106.39. Heifer calves weighing 400 to 500 pounds dropped \$2.36 per hundredweight to \$109.74. Yearling heifers weighing more than 600 pounds averaged \$96.48 per hundredweight, a decrease of 16 cents per hundredweight during June.



Mr. Benny Wooten from Roswell Livestock Auction has indicated that he would be willing to attend a GCLPO meeting and talk about a program he is trying to implement for his clients. The program is similar to VAC45 where calves are vaccinated following a prescribed program and weaned for a specific time period. These calves would enter the sale ring with an ID tag and be sold at a premium price. Mr. Wooten will give us more information at our next meeting.

Wild turkeys can weigh over 18 lbs, and their diet consists of 80% grass. Turkeys are one of nature's best pest controls, since they thrive on grasshoppers. Many area producers have indicated that turkeys are making a comeback in the county, thanks to the cooperative efforts of the farmers, ranchers, and hunters.

GCLPO

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Organized for the future

**We're on the web
www.gclpo.org**

The GCLPO staff is strictly a volunteer organization. None of the members charge for their time or services. The GCLPO would like to encourage all area producers to participate in special fund-raising events to help promote our area youth in agricultural endeavors.

If you would like to become an official member and be put on the quarterly newsletter mailing list, we would appreciate a \$20 annual donation. This would help with newsletter postage and printing, and would also finance the GCLPO web site to post newsletters, free classified ads, schedules of events, special promotions, etc. (The web site costs are minimal since we are maintaining the site ourselves.)

We would encourage all Guadalupe County Livestock Producers to become members. If you know of any producers that might like to become members, please have them contact us by phone, mail, or e-mail.

Please send your \$20 donation to GCLPO, P.O. Box 119, Santa Rosa, NM 88435.

Newsletter organizers: Max Tenorio, Bill Ortiz

Proof readers and constructive critics: Yolanda Tenorio, Joan Ortiz

Trading Post

(Advertising in the Trading Post is free for GCLPO members. Call Max or Bill, or e-mail your item to info@gclpo.org)

Wanted: Used calf table, call Robert Hall 868-1701 or 512-6025

Wanted: Used pickup cake feeder, call Bill Ortiz 868-9625 or 512-7020

Wanted: Used meat saw, grinder, tenderizer, and slicer, call Bill Ortiz 868-9625 or 512-7020

For Sale: Used pump jack and 8" auger for 3 pt hitch both in excellent condition, call Max Tenorio 472-3210 or 799-8812

GET WELL SOON to Tony Gallegos and Sam Cowden

Make plans to attend the 17th annual Guadalupe County fair on August 2-5 2007. Fair books are available by calling the county extension office. 472-3652