

# Guadalupe County Livestock Producers Organization

Cooperator



## Trichomoniasis

By Max Tenorio

### Points of interest:

- Trichomoniasis
- Pioneers of Guadalupe County:
- Keeping Good Rain-fall Records
- Hay Pooling
- Dues for 2008
- Classifieds

During the February 12, 2008 GCLPO meeting, Dr. John Wenzel, New Mexico State Extension Veterinarian, gave an invaluable presentation on trichomoniasis.

As you may already know, trichomoniasis is form of cattle venereal disease. It is a sexually transmitted disease that does not make cows or bulls outwardly sick. Cows develop the disease after being bred by an infected bull and once infected these cows will often abort in their early stages of pregnancy. These cows will usually breed back shortly after aborting, resulting in infecting another bull which in turn will distribute the disease to who knows how many other cows. Generally experts believe that 97% of the time an infected cow can clear the infection (protozoa) in about three to five months. The remaining 3% of the cows can become carriers and remain infected through calving. These cows and infected bulls can become a rancher's worst nightmare. Times are bad enough for ranchers without this kind of calf losses.

Dr. Wenzel focused on the importance of following these trichomoniasis control tips:

- Test all bulls 2-3 weeks after the end of the breeding season and cull any *T.foetus* – positive bulls.
- Cull all open cows at preg check and any dry cows at branding.
- Test all incoming bulls that are added to the bull battery.
- Do not share or lease bulls unless a trichomoniasis prevention program is in place.
- Do not add cattle from unknown herds or with unknown calving histories.
- Keep fences in good repair to prevent exposure to neighboring cattle.
- Consider using only virgin bulls.
- No finger-pointing when someone's bulls test positive. We are all in it together and a neighbor's problem is every rancher's problem.

Guadalupe County ranchers are in great need of forming an advisory committee to address the problem of trichomoniasis. Perhaps the best place to start preventing and eradicating trich is with your own herd, be it ten cows or one thousand – test all your bulls and cull all open cows. This would require a change of usual practices and will cost some money but this is the price of staying in the ranching business. If all ranchers in the county are willing to buy into the program we have a chance to prevail. We will have other GCLPO meetings in the near future to discuss, organize and plan ways to curtail this problem.

I would like to close by thanking our Guadalupe County Extension Agent Mr. Gino Lujan and Newkirk rancher Mr. Jim Thorpe for inviting Dr. Wenzel to give us this invaluable workshop. Hope we can continue to attract livestock professionals to our meetings.

## The Vigil Family at El Valle

Original Research by Don Lopez, excerpted by Bill Ortiz

The 1870 population census shows Agapito Vigil as living in "Upper Las Vegas". It shows his household as consisting of himself, age 39; Francisca A. Vigil (second wife), age 38; Doroteo, age 14; Francisco, age 12; Albina, age 10; Maria, age 8; Nemesio Crespín, age 12; Candelaria, age 6 and Manuel, age 4.

The next move in the late 1800's for some of the Vigil family was to an area known locally as "El Valle" in Guadalupe County, New Mexico. El Valle, is located north of Newkirk, between Newkirk and Conchas Lake, and is not officially found on any map. Several members of Agapito's homesteaded at El Valle: amongst them Doroteo, Francisco and Manuel. Agapito apparently moved with them in that he died at El Valle around 1923 at the age of 93.

Doroteo Vigil, born in 1852, was married to Erinea Lopez.

In the book "We Fed Them Cactus", Fabiola C De Baca described Doroteo Vigil as having been a *cibolero* (buffalo hunter). In those days, Hispanics would get together, and travel, as a caravan, to the El Llano Estacado, southeast of Tucumcari to hunt buffalo. People would come from as far away as Santa Fe to the El Llano Estacado to hunt.

Manuel Vigil was born on January 1, 1866 and died on April 5, 1937. He apparently never married and had no children. The stories of Manuel Vigil were quite interesting. He was apparently a very aggressive person that no one "messed with". It was said that at El Valle, whatever Tio Manuel said, was done. He was also very protective of all family members. Manuel was the youngest of Agapito's family.

Francisco Vigil was born in 1854. He was married to Nieves Atencio and they had 6 children: Santiago, Jose, Soledad, Cesarita, Clarita and Rosario (female). After Francisco's first wife died, years later, he married Feliciana Angel, who was from the Puerto de Luna area. Francisco Vigil died of throat cancer, probably at a fairly old age.

Clarita Vigil Ortiz lived at El Valle until the latter years of her life when she moved to Tucumcari. She was born on August 4, 1893 at Tecolote, New Mexico. She was married to Pedro Ortiz who preceded her in death, having died in 1947. Clarita Vigil Ortiz died on May 12, 1958 at Tucumcari, New Mexico. The names of their offspring: Antonio Ortiz, Soledad (Lala) Ortiz Martinez, Nieves Ortiz Pacheco, Agapito (Pete) Ortiz, Terécita Ortiz Benavidez, Cleotilde (Tillie) Ortiz Benavidez and Josephina Ortiz Arellano.

Agapito Ortiz was married to Amalia Benavidez. Agapito Ortiz is the only surviving member from that family (2008).

The branch of the Vigil family that lived at El Valle, at least the name, has nearly disappeared. The only exception is Gavina Vigil from Las Vegas. Some members of the family never married, some had no children and others had mostly female offspring that did not carry on the Vigil name. Despite the fact that there is only one known Vigil left, there are many descendants that carry other names. The names Ortiz, Benavidez, Martinez, Lopez and many others, are amongst them.



Clarita Vigil Ortiz, Pedro Ortiz at family homestead at El Valle, circa 1946



Pete Ortiz, Agnes Ortiz O'Connell, Nancy Ortiz Hall, Bill Ortiz, Sylvia Ortiz Netzer, last Vigil descendants living at El Valle, circa 1953

## **Keeping Good Rainfall Records**

By Bill Ortiz

Many of us keep rainfall records for our own use and information. We often use them as bragging rights when we get .40 and our neighbor only get .25, or in the case of the Newkirk station owner who blesses his rain gauge with a squirt from the water hose before he reads it.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers a Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). Native forage is covered under the NAP insurance and will only pay when the production falls under 50% of normal. Two independent assessors, the NRCS and NMSU Extension, make determination of the percentage loss from normal. These two assessors must determine the loss of native forage before it is presented to the FSA committee. If producers from throughout Guadalupe County would submit rainfall records to the NRCS, it would help the independent assessors make a more accurate determination at the end of the growing season.

During the 2006 growing season, irregular or incomplete rainfall records were submitted to the NRCS, and the determination at the end of the growing season was a 15% loss and therefore no payment by NAP. During the 2007 growing season more complete rainfall records were submitted to NRCS by local producers (as well as four field inspection trips by the FSA County Committee), and the result was a 74% loss and a payment that is currently being processed by NAP.

Producers can obtain an official rain gauge from Erica Chavez at the NRCS office or by calling (575) 472-5400/5401 or emailing [Erica.Chavez@nm.nacdnet.net](mailto:Erica.Chavez@nm.nacdnet.net). The producer can then mail, call, or e-mail the monthly totals to Erica at the end of each month. You can help yourself and others by keeping and sharing good rainfall records.

## **GCLPO HAY POOLING**

By Max Tenorio

The 2006-2007 drought has made for an interesting winter in Guadalupe County. No one I know made any grass to speak of in 2007, and of course that means that ranchers in Guadalupe County have had to feed more than usual in spite of the fact that this winter has been very mild. Lately Guadalupe County has been hit by some more than welcomed snowstorms. There is some moisture in the ground and it seems like if it continues we will have a good spring, and we can stop feeding in a few weeks. At least that is what we hope for.

This winter some GCLPO ranchers have pooled together and bought hay from a farmer in Tucumcari and from a farming outfit out of Colorado. GCLPO officers have made the contacts and arranged for most of the deliveries of 11 semi truckloads of good affordable hay. The first four loads from Tucumcari were top grade hay grazer. We were able to purchase it for around \$90.00 per ton. The other six truckloads came out of Colorado. The first two truckloads from Colorado was alfalfa/oat horse quality hay, and we were able to buy that hay for \$130.00 per ton delivered. The last four semi loads out of Colorado were grass hay, and we were able to purchase it for \$115.00 per ton delivered. We are very pleased with the GCLPO hay pooling experience.

We, the officers of GCLPO, hope that we can continue providing these kinds of services in the future. We wish you all a good spring and good LUCK with your livestock operation.

## **GCLPO**

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**Organized for the future**

**We're on the web**  
**[www.gclpo.org](http://www.gclpo.org)**

### **Dues are Due**

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.

Your renewed membership will be active until December 2008. We would encourage all of you to recruit at least one new member. Remember that there are many benefits if you are a member of GCLPO. You can sell your calves in the fall at the contracted price with the rest of the members, advertise on the newsletter and website at no cost, purchase hay and other items at a co-op price, and be kept abreast of any new developments that will affect you, the producer.

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

### **Classifieds**

Wanted: Small walk-in cooler and a meat saw. Call Bill Ortiz (575)868-9625, (575)512-7020.

If you are interested in testing your bulls for trich contact Bill Ortiz or Max Tenorio.