



# Corral

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- NMLB talks about brand rerecord process
- Meet Julie Gauman, senior brand clerk
- EVA, what NMLB is doing in New Mexico
- Dr. England and Deputy Mascareñas retire
- Meet Daniel Manzanares, Executive Director

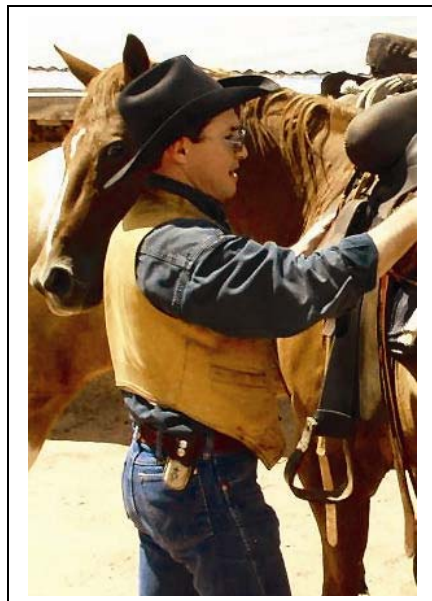
## Director's Report

By Daniel Manzanares, Executive Director

Executive Director, Daniel Manzanares, traveled to Argentina in July. He visited and worked with ranchers, farmers, state veterinarians, feedlot operators, sale barn operators, slaughter house operations "frigorifico's" and RFID vendors. He also had the opportunity to attend the National Agriculture Fair (Palermo) in Buenos Aires. While attending the Fair, Director Manzanares met with personnel from the Utah, Colorado and Montana Department of Agriculture.

Director Manzanares had an opportunity to visit several different types of ranching operations including an island ranch in the middle of the Paraná River. The operation used native geldings which were able to navigate the swampy terrains that included crocodiles and quick sand. "The geldings led us safely through some of the most difficult, but interesting terrain I have ever seen," Director Manzanares explained.

"I also had the opportunity to visit a slaughter operation. Because of the responsibilities the New Mexico Livestock Board, through my lens as the Director, I found the operation to be extremely clean, processing 1,500 head of cattle a day which is exported to the United States as boxed beef.



"I gained a greater understanding that we all face similar problems, similar issues." Director Manzanares explained, "Export and import are constant issues along with increasing veterinarian supply costs. The Argentina ranching industry is using technology to a greater extent than we are, such as electronic fencing to rotate grazing. International influence on the Argentina ranching industry is different than we are facing in our region at this point in time."

## Brand Book News:

The New Mexico Livestock Board, by state statute, is responsible for developing a Brand Book of all current brands registered statewide. The Brand Book is a resource to inspectors and the public for proof of livestock ownership.

A brand may be registered by filing an application for approval with the New Mexico Livestock Board at 300 San Mateo, NE, Suite 1000, Albuquerque, NM 87108. The brand recording fee is \$75.00 and must accompany the application. The fee is subject to change. The payment of the fee for recording a brand confers on the owner of the brand the right to use it until the end of the re-record period in which the brand is recorded.

Ownership of a brand is a property right and may be sold and transferred. The fee for recording the transfer of a brand is \$75.00. The fee is subject to change. The Brand shall not be used until the New Mexico Livestock Board has recorded the transfer. Once the transfer is recorded, the new owner will receive a certificate of brand in the form of a wallet card.

The Brand Book is printed every three years, one year after the rerecord process. The current rerecord process started July 1, 2005 and ended October 1, 2005. The New Mexico Livestock Board is expecting to produce the book early fall 2006.

The rerecording process is the basic updating and registration of all brand holders. New Mexico Livestock Board typically sends notices by mail to all current brand holders and informs them of the renewal form. The organization is responsible for taking in payments, change of ownership and addresses, and a change in the brand image itself. Any brands rerecorded after October 1<sup>st</sup> are considered delinquent.

The Brand Book includes all recorded brands with the owners' names and addresses. New Mexico

Livestock Board has information on brands dating back to 1887. For more information contact the New Mexico Livestock Board at 300 San Mateo Blvd NE Ste# 1000; Albuquerque, NM 87108; (505) 841-6161; Fax: (505) 841-6160; Julie.Gauman@state.nm.us; or visit the website at: [www.newmexicolivestockboard.com](http://www.newmexicolivestockboard.com). Staff support for the Brand Book include: Cherrie Crowley-Arries, Brand Recorder; Julie Gauman, Senior Brand Clerk; Monique Sanchez, Brand Clerk; and Rebecca Arias Valencia, Brand Department Support Staff.



*Meet Julie Gauman, Senior Brand Clerk*

Julie worked at the New Mexico Livestock Board as an inspector in 1996 then left to start a business as the owner of Western Way Custom Meats in Moriarty, N.M. Honored by ABC News story called A Day in the Life of the American Woman, Julie was highlighted as a woman entrepreneur. She has recently come back to the New Mexico Livestock Board as the senior brand clerk. A graduate of the University of Arizona with a degree in Animal Science-Livestock Industry, Julie has lived in New Mexico for ten years.

## The NAIS in NEW MEXICO

By: Ron Parker

Animal ID Specialist, New Mexico Livestock Board

Few programs have caused as big a stir across the nation's livestock industry as the NAIS, the National Animal Identification System. Although there are a number of livestock owners out there who recognize the value of the program, there are others who are adamantly opposed to it. I am not going to side with either group. One can always be sympathetic of those who oppose any more interference into our lives by our government. And, one can understand the concerns of those who see the introduction of foreign or domestic animal diseases as an economic threat to our livestock industries. What I do anticipate is that a mandatory animal identification system in this country is inevitable! USDA has said that the program will be voluntary ... if certain targets are met voluntarily by the industry. I don't see that happening; thus, I believe a mandatory program is inevitable.

Those who are vocally in opposition to the program cite numerous claims as to what the program will and/or will not do. An example is the often cited argument that the program will not stop disease. In fact, it was never designed to stop disease. It is designed to provide a vehicle to assist in the timely containment of disease when detected. As stated in the NAIS Implementation Strategies dated April, 2006, "The ultimate long-term goal of the NAIS is to

provide State and Federal officials with the capability to identify all animals and premises that have had direct contact with a disease of concern within 48 hours after discovery". This is the only goal listed. It has nothing to do with stopping the accidental or intentional introduction of disease into our livestock. The full text of the Strategies can be viewed on the Internet at <http://animalid.aphis.usda.gov/nais/index.shtml>.

The New Mexico Livestock Board has the goal of developing a program in the state that will impact livestock producers as minimally as possible, yet will meet the needs of traceback if and when it is needed. There are fourteen western states that have brand laws governing the movement of livestock. New Mexico is looked upon by other states as having the premier brand inspection system in the country. The New Mexico Livestock Board is attempting to develop a system that will meet the requirements of the NAIS while still allowing livestock to move interstate on our present brand inspection system. Hopefully this state can band together with other western "brand" states in developing a system that will be compatible to all. Of course, when animals are moved across state lines the receiving state dictates the import requirements. New Mexico is no exception.

## Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) News

By Dave Fly, DVM:

EVA is an acute, contagious, viral disease that affects equine. It cannot be spread to humans or domestic animals. Primarily a viral infection of the equine respiratory tract, it can be transmitted through a stallion's semen and is also causes abortions in mares.

Action has been taken to limit the spread of the disease. The New Mexico State Veterinarian, Dr. Steven England is working with the Gluck Equine Center in Kentucky and the equine industry in order to formulate plans to minimize the impact of this disease on producers in the State of New Mexico.

In an interview for August 2006 edition of The Horsemen's Voice, New Mexico's Deputy State Veterinarian Dave Fly stated, "The disease is not running rampant in the state as of this date." However, he described the outbreak as the largest EVA spread on record in New Mexico. Several horses in the state have shown evidence of the disease, and horses in 16 states and two Canadian provinces have exposed to the virus from New Mexico horses. At the time of the interview, five states were experiencing outbreaks.

Dr. Fly noted that there is considerable concern at the state level. "EVA is a big issue," he said. "There have been lots of abortions. It is a serious issue at the race tracks and with Ruidoso horse sales. Economically it can be devastating."

He also emphasized that many people are working to keep the disease contained to the "primary affected and primary exposed horses." In addition, he said that breeding farms and veterinarians are working hard to keep it from spreading, and all farms affected are now under quarantine.

Meetings and consultations are taking place with the New Mexico Racing Commission, State 4-H leaders, farm owners, sale barns and Equine Veterinarians.

Daniel M. Manzanares, Executive Director of the New Mexico Livestock Board, Cliff Mascareñas, Deputy Director and the Livestock Inspectors through out the state are ensuring that movement of horses both in state and out of state follow established procedures to minimize spread of this disease. Affected farms are working closely with the New Mexico Livestock Board to limit the spread of this disease.

EVA can be difficult to diagnose because horses rarely show symptoms until they are acutely affected. Because the symptoms mimic a number of other respiratory diseases, EVA is difficult to diagnose without blood samples. Often times, abortion in a pregnant mare is the first, and only, indication of an infection. Although EVA does not kill adult horses, it can devastate an entire breeding season via abortions. Infected mares, geldings and sexually immature colts eliminate the virus naturally and develop immunity to re-infection, but stallions are likely to become lifelong carriers that transmit the disease during breeding. Infected mares can pass the disease on to their fetuses, which triggers abortion and infected foals usually die within a few days.

Individuals with concerns about possible exposure should contact their veterinarian. Veterinarians are asked to report suspected cases to the New Mexico Livestock Board. Information and updates can be found at:

<http://www.newmexicolivestockboard.com> under "critical events" and at the USDA website: [www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/naahps/equine/eva/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/naahps/equine/eva/)

## Bovine TB News

By Terry Beals, DVM:

The New Mexico Livestock Board has produced a brochure for *Bovine Tuberculosis in New Mexico Cattle Herds*, with the assistance of the Extension Service at New Mexico State University and Ron Parker, PhD. It is available through the office and can be found on the NMLB website. In addition, an article called *Cattle Tuberculosis in New Mexico, some history & facts* is available on the NMLB website.

Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by a bacterium, *Mycobacterium bovis*. This bacterium is infectious to all warm-blooded animals, including people. Human TB is generally caused by a different species, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Although bovine TB (*M. bovis*) is rarely diagnosed in human beings, in recent years cases have been confirmed and traced to cheese manufactured from non-pasteurized milk. All species and age groups of animals are susceptible to *M. bovis*, with cattle, goats and pigs most susceptible, and sheep and horses showing a high natural resistance. Bovine TB may also affect in deer, elk, bison and birds, and these animals may act as sources of infection for cattle. As an example, infected whitetailed deer in Michigan transmit TB to cattle herds.

Since the mid 1980's tuberculosis (TB) in cattle in the state of New Mexico has fluctuated from a matter of low level concern to one of a very high level of concern. The disclosure of two affected dairy herds in 2003 led to the forfeiture of the State's TB Free status by USDA. This had far reaching implications for the breeding stock export for sale and contract growing segment of the almost two billion dollar beef and dairy industries in New Mexico.

New Mexico was awarded the Accredited TB Free status in 2000 and remained at that level until the disclosure of the two affected dairies in the Clovis-Portales area in 2003. Two TB infected cull cows, one from each of the herds, discovered at the time of slaughter, were traced back and the required herd testing led to the confirmation of TB in other animals within each herd. It is noteworthy that the DNA analysis of the TB organisms, from the two herds, was conclusive in that the cases were, without doubt,

unrelated. The epidemiological investigations indicated the "most probable source" to be purchased replacement heifers in one case and exposure to Mexican roping steers in the other case. Subsequently the entire State was reclassified by the USDA down to the Modified Accredited Advanced level of status. For detailed explanation of the 5 levels of status, a table is available in an article titled *Cattle Tuberculosis in New Mexico....some history and facts* found on the NMLB website:

<http://www.newmexicolivestockboard.com/Files/Animal%20Health%20Regulatory%20Programs/Bovine%20Tuberculosis.htm>.

In mid 2005, with the exception of a small zone in the Clovis-Portales area of eastern New Mexico, the State was reinstated to the Accredited Free status level for TB. The zone remained at the lesser Modified Accredited advanced level of status. This action is termed "zoning or regionalization" **and provides for a part of a State**, with a particular livestock disease situation, to be sequestered, classified and treated differently, from the rest of the State. This procedure has been successfully used in the El Paso milkshed of Texas, the lower peninsula of Michigan and now in eastern New Mexico.

In early 2005 one of the affected dairies in the zone did opt to depopulate or liquidate the herd, clean and disinfect the premises and re-enter the dairy business at another site outside the State. In July of 2005 the New Mexico Livestock Board, working closely with their USDA-Veterinary Services counterpart was successful in gaining approval by USDA of their zoning or regionalization request. To do so it was necessary to effectively respond to the defining elements for a zone and 11 other factors considered crucial for sound livestock disease control and eradication principles, when applied to an area with limits other than a State boundary.

For complete information, go to the New Mexico Livestock Board website:  
[www.newmexicolivestockboard.com](http://www.newmexicolivestockboard.com)

**Bovine Trichomoniasis News:**

The New Mexico Livestock Board has implemented regulations to protect producers from this highly infectious, contagious disease. Rules adopted are consistent with other state regulations governing this disease. The regulations are available on the NMLB website.

**Effective immediately,** Bovine Trichomoniasis testing will be done using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology. This change will result in greater sensitivity and specificity for overall increased test accuracy. Handling of preputial samples, transport, collection techniques, etc., can compromise the quality of the sample using traditional culturing technique. Traditional culturing methodology: does not detect dead parasites, only identifies the presence of *Trichomonas*, and does not differentiate between *T. fetus* and other species of *Trichomonas*. Because PCR technology is DNA based, this methodology can detect infection that has been missed by traditional cultural technology because of very low organism numbers or dead/dying (in transit) organisms. However, accuracy of test results using PCR may be compromised if the sample is received more than 3 days after collection. With increased accuracy, some increased expense is incurred. Trichomoniasis PCR testing (including the pouch) will now be \$17. The cost for out-of-state cattle will be \$25.

**MOVEMENT OF TRICH INFECTED, EXPOSED, NONEXPOSED CATTLE THRU AUCTION MARKETS**

Bulls: Virgin

- Virgin Bulls <12 months old can move unrestricted

- Bulls 12-24 months can move with notarized affidavit stating they are virgin bulls (recommend culture)
- Bulls going to production bull sales should be cultured negative

Bulls: non-virgin, exposed or infected

- "N" Brand reserved for known infected or exposed bulls going to slaughter
- Bulls from herds not known to have trich going to auction markets to slaughter will have a USDA medal tag ID and ID recorded on purchase sheet, and indicating that it is going to slaughter only Includes bulls going to feed then slaughter
- Bulls sold as breeding stock going to NM pasture (recommend culture prior to sale) or may go under quarantine with mandatory isolation and culture within 10 days

Cows: from affected herds

- open cows or cows less than 120 days breed shall be "N" branded and go to slaughter only
- cows more than 120 days bred as certified by sale barn approved Tech or certified Vet. may move unrestricted
- Virgin heifers may move unrestricted

Feeder Cattle

- Heifers and steers less than 1 yr old may move unrestricted

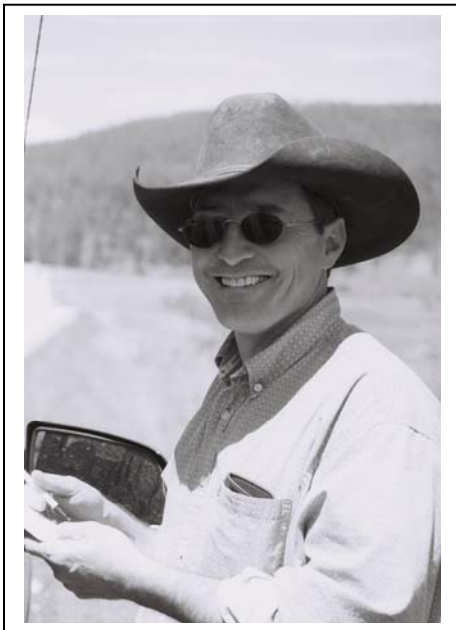
New Mexico Livestock Board encourages producers to assume bulls sold at auction markets to be of unknown status unless laboratory culture documentation is provided.

New Mexico Livestock Board has a list of Trichomoniasis Certified Vets on its website at <http://www.newmexicolivestockboard.com>.

News from New Mexico Livestock Board

During the Two Hundred Eighty Third Session of the New Mexico Livestock Board on September 14, 2006, Executive Director Manzanares announced that Deputy Director Cliff Mascareñas and State Veterinarian, Steven England will be retiring in October 2006. Deputy Mascareñas started as a New Mexico inspector in District 9 in 1997 and became Deputy Director in September 2003. Dr. England started his career with a yearling and cow/calf practice in Nebraska, and then went to Texas specializing in cattle and equine. He has been with the New Mexico Livestock Board for 22 years as the State Veterinarian. The New Mexico Livestock Board extends their appreciation for the long hours these special gentlemen have worked, their guidance and friendship they have provided to the well being of the industry. They will be missed!

*Meet Daniel M. Manzanares*



Daniel M. Manzanares was selected on May 27, 2003 as Executive Director of the New Mexico Livestock Board. A native of New Mexico, Director Manzanares grew up in the ranching industry north of Abiquiu, New Mexico where his family has been an integral part of the area for 350 years. He remains active in managing his family's working ranch.

Director Manzanares holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education (1984) as well as a Master of Science degree in Range Science (1986) from New Mexico State University. He is married to Eleonora Vasquez-Mansilla, a native from Argentina from a ranching family.

"The objective of all NMLB employees is to represent the agency in a professional manner and set an example of exemplary conduct. The laws of the NMLB officers are empowered to enforce and the services we are charged with providing, are important to the livestock industry and to the citizens of New Mexico. Those people must be protected equally and fairly, without exception," Director Manzanares explained.

The primary responsibility of the New Mexico Livestock Board is to protect the industry from loss of livestock by theft or straying, to help control the spread of infectious and contagious diseases and to provide the meat packing and processing industry an inspection service that assures the consumers they are being provided a clean, wholesome, properly labeled and safe product.

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