



Executive Summary

2022 Joint Stockmen's Convention

Managing New Mexico Rangelands through Long-Term Drought,
Dr. Casey Spackman, Extension Range Management Specialist

Albuquerque, NM—2022 Joint Stockmen's Convention:
Transforming Challenges into Opportunities

Summary:

“It’s simple—no water, no forage,” Dr. Spackman said. He says an appropriate “allocation of resources” is the answer for minimizing negative impacts of long-term drought.

Dr. Spackman urged producers to take into consideration four factors in resource management: timing, intensity, duration, and distribution (TIDD). The TIDD approach is an effective method in outlining resource management plans, specifically in drought conditions. Data collection is of utmost importance. As experts in their own rangelands, producers are responsible with translating their independently known factors such as existing vegetation, water availability, and cattle behavior through data collection.

Key Points:

1. Timing: Know when you are grazing your livestock as it relates the dormancy, growth, and rest of vegetation.
2. Intensity: Identify forage consumption rates as they relate to animal type, stocking rate, distance from water, and slope of land.
3. Duration: Appropriately determine sustainable, viable grazing strategies over a measured period.
4. Distribution: Consider water proximity, vegetation, slope of topography, pests, supplement locations, weather, fencing, livestock type, and herd management strategies in rangeland usage.
5. In drought situations, manage your resources as if they are not going to last.

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