



ABOUT 20 local producers attended a Forage Field Day held near Bird City to learn the value of planting grass or a combination of grass with alfalfa for nutritional value.

Herald staff photo by Malinda Basnett

Grass pastures are being planted on irrigated ground for feed stuff

By Melinda Basnett

Planting grass, it's something everyone in this area thinks of just for their lawns. Not anymore. With the increase in cattle production many are planting grass pastures on their irrigated ground.

Brock Ketzner, Eastern Colorado Seed employee recently held Forage Field Day near Bird City on a trial field owned by Ernie Ketzner. About 20 local producers heard Mr. Ketzner along with others representing Eastern Colorado Seed, Burlington, Colo. as they spoke on the importance of good quality feed stuffs.

Results show that by planting grass by itself or in combination

with alfalfa a producer gets better palatability and higher nutritional values with less watering and fertilizing than traditional crops. The varieties are winter hardy, stress and disease resistant and produce a high energy and protein rich forage designed for grazing or haying. Season length is also beneficial.

In the trial near Bird City, the field was seeded Oct. 1, with a mixture of ryegrass, fescue, and clover. On April 15 50# nitrogen was applied. The field was divided into two sections 60 acres and 55 acres. May 1, 75 pairs were turned on 60 acres (2000 lb) beef per acre. The cattle were rotated every 3-4 days.

The cattle were pulled off twice for watering, two days each. On June 10 the cattle were pulled off for 10 days for fertilizing and watering applying 25# nitrogen. One June 20, 25 acres were restocked with 4800 pounds of beef per acre. The cattle remained until July 14 then were pulled off and the 25 acres were mowed to prevent spot grazing, and watered. On July 16 the cattle returned and rotated 3 days on irrigated and 4 days on native pasture. The north 35 acres were allowed to grow since June 10 and swathed July 25.

The grasses remained tender and grew back quickly as the cattle were rotated.

Historical Society holds business meeting on the 8th

The Cheyenne County Historical Society members held the first business meeting in several months on Tuesday, Aug. 8. There had been programs at the meetings so the business meetings were moved to a later date.

Those present answered roll call by recalling the first job they had held and what they had been paid for doing it.

Some of the members felt that having more than four programs in a year was hard to keep up with, while others felt that they had not been given the time for their input into the meetings. The members voted to limit the programs to four a year and business meetings in the other months.

Elmer Kellner, Nominating Committee chairperson, spoke to the group about the need to have people interested in running for office in 2007. He handed out forms for each member to write in a person they felt would be a good officer. They were also encouraged to write in their own name if they would like to run for an office. Committee members, Mr. Kellner and Milton Lampe, will call those people to ask them to run for office.

Mr. Lampe asked why he could not have a key to get into the office area of the Museum. He stated that, for 20 years, he had his own key and now because he was not an officer, he was locked out. He went on to say that it was very embarrassing to have to tell people that he did not have a key and he thought that since Margaret Bucholtz, president, lived in the country, it was very unhandy to call and have her come in.

President Bucholtz said that, in the past, the copy machine had been abused and some items such as pictures and an accession book were missing. That is why the board had decided that only board members should have a key.

Since changing the locks, no more items were missing and the copies have been accounted for.

Mr. Lampe said he still thought that it was unfair. The president explained that the board did not feel that they could pick and choose who had a key and limiting it to the seven board members was the fairest method.

In other business

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The repairs that need to be done to the Ole Country Church were discussed. Mr. Lampe, Tobe Zweygardt and Rueben Schultz had looked the building over and made some suggestions as to the needed

repairs. The members voted to have Mr. Lampe oversee the project but some volunteer help will be needed to do scraping and painting.

There was a discussion about having a scholarship for a Cheyenne County senior. Several ideas were expressed and it was decided to appoint a board to set up the rules and criteria for this scholarship. Those serving on the board will be Rueben Schultz, Lucille Rossbach and Mrs. Bucholtz.

It was decided to reprint the Flood Book which features stories about the 1935 flood in this area. The lowest number of books a publisher will print is 100. The Lampes

will take the book to Wichita to be printed.

September meeting

The September meeting was discussed and it was announced that Kent Chapman, Emporia, will be coming to talk about General Custer and the time he spent in Cheyenne County. After the talk, the members and guests will go to the Kidder Massacre Monument to learn more of the history of Lt. Kidder and General Custer.

The public is encouraged to attend this historical meeting on Sunday, Sept. 10. It will begin at 1 p.m. and the meeting place will be announced at a later time.

Family members meet for reunion at fair time

The Duncan family reunion was held during the Cheyenne County Fair weekend. Many arrived on Friday afternoon for visiting and a pizza meal was served to 60.

Saturday was the big day. Everyone watched the great parade in the morning. The noon meal was held at the United Methodist Church fellowship hall. There were 104 family present.

Many of the younger ones played mud volleyball until 3:30 p.m. At 4 p.m. they held the family auction which consists of

crafts, paintings, quilts and woodwork. Tom and Matt Smull handled this event to everyone's enjoyment.

This was followed by a sandwich lunch early so many could attend the fair and all of the carnival events that night.

There was family from Connecticut, Ohio, South Dakota, Oregon, New Mexico, Colorado and Kansas. The family appreciated Tom and Sandy Smull, Pat and Janet Duncan for organizing and overseeing the time together.

Dinner held to honor lady's 94th birthday

Helen Peter was the guest of honor to a delicious dinner for her 94th birthday at the home of Eddy and Sherry Schultz on Aug. 6.

The following guests were present: Annabelle and B.A. Prater of Hopedale, Ill., Shauna

Hausback of Shawnee, Kelli and Megan Gartland of Denver, Matt Githens of Denver, Martha Schultz, Willard Peter and Reuben Burr.

Arlene Peter was an afternoon visitor.

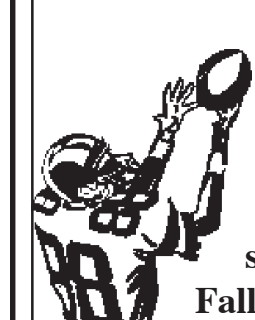


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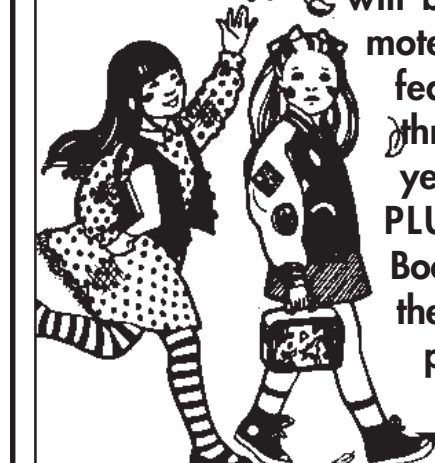
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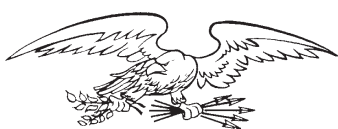
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