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Range & Pasture
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATING

CONTENTS

Hearst Ranch Range Fertilization Trial Controlled Brush Burning Schedule

HEARST RANCH RANGE FERTILIZATION TRIAL

On Friday, June 28th, the cattle were given their final weighing to obtain the results of the range fertilization trial carried out on the Hearst Ranch at San Simeon.

The results were outstanding. Beef was produced at a cost of 6.6 cents per pound.

The fertilizer was applied on November 19th and 20th, 1956. One hundred five and one-half pounds of Urea and one hundred five and one-half pounds of di-ammonium phosphate were applied per acre. The treatment was applied by ground rig. The actual fertilizer application consisted of 70 pounds of nitrogen and 55 pounds of phosphorous per acre.

Due to the fact that there was no rain until January, the cattle were not turned in until February 19th. At that time, 40 yearling heifers were turned into the 68 acre fertilized field and 50 yearling heifers were turned into the 153 acre unfertilized control field. On March 7th an additional 30 yearling heifers were turned into the 68 acre fertilized field.

Due to the late rains in May there was green feed well into June, and the cattle were not weighed out until June 28th.

Neither field was overgrazed and there was more feed left in the fertilized field than in the control.

Following is the statistical summary of the trial:

	Control field	Fertilized field
Acres	153	68
No. head	50	70
Fertilizer treatment	none	70# N - 55# P
In weight	444#	450#
Out weight	667#	742#
Ave. daily gain per head	1.74#	2.41#
Total gain per head	223#	292#
Rounds of beef produced per acre	73#	299#
Value of beef produced per acre (at 18 cents per pound)	$13.14	$53.82
Cost of fertilization (including application)		$14.80
Beef produced as result of fertilization		~~266#~~ 226
Value at 18 cents per pound		$40.80
Profit over fertilizer cost		$25.88
Fertilizer costs per extra pound of beef		$ .066

Results such as these are extremely good and indicate the very profitable possibilities of range fertilization. Of course, results will be different in various parts of the county and will vary according to soil, rainfall, etc. However, ranchers should look into the matter of such fertilization as one means of increasing their available feed supplies. If you are interested in additional information, contact the Farm Advisors Office.

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CONTROLLED BRUSH BURNING SCHEDULE

Here is the 1957 controlled brush burning schedule. Attend as many burns as you can, both for your own information and to assist with this important job of converting brushland to grassland.

July	17	A. F. Franscioni	Atascadero
	24	J. W. Dunlap	Paso Robles
	31	Reg Rust	Huasna
August	7	Manuel Avila	Pismo Beach
	14	Maddux-Hill-Briscoe	Arroyo Grande
	21	Don Anderson	Paso Robles
	28	Parker-Graham	Adelaida
September	4	Ed Biaggini, Sr.	Atascadero
	11	Hearst Ranch	San Simeon
	18	Williams-Claassen-Dyck	Adelaida
	25 & 26	Mankins-Baker-Holman	Huasna
October	2	Montgomery and Doko	Arroyo Grande
	9	Manuel Cardoza	Cayucos

Prepared by

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July 3, 1957