

### **Graduate Assistantship: Cattle foraging behavior and toxic rangeland plants**

A graduate assistantship in the department of Animal and Range Sciences at New Mexico State University (MS or PhD) is available to study the influence of social induction and among-individual variation on the ingestion of toxic rangeland plants by cattle. The goal of this study is to understand how peers influence diet selection choices of naïve animals exposed to white locoweed (*Oxytropis sericea*), and to investigate the mechanisms responsible for among-individual differences in the selection of this toxic plant. We are seeking a motivated individual with a degree in Range Science, Animal Science, or related discipline who is interested in conducting foraging behavior research. The assistantship will be available beginning January 2006. Coursework will be completed at NMSU in Las Cruces and research will be conducted mostly during the summer months at the Corona Ranch (Corona, NM) and/or NMSU's Clayton Livestock Research Center (Clayton, NM). Responsibilities will include development of a research proposal, conducting pen experiments, producing peer-reviewed publications, and assistance with teaching. Stipend is 17,357.00 to 17,602.00 for a 12-month assistantship appointment. To apply please send résumé including relevant course work, and statement of research interest to:

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