



VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

OCTOBER 2013

# Grazing CAP Newsletter

## From the Directors

by Dave Engle & Jean Steiner

Greetings, members of the Grazing CAP!

We welcome Amber Campbell Hibbs to our project as the extension project coordinator. Amber will also serve as editor of the Grazing CAP newsletter, which is an important tool for communicating to our large team. Please send Grazing CAP project information to Amber ([archibbs@ksu.edu](mailto:archibbs@ksu.edu)) to include in the newsletter.

The Grazing CAP is off and running smoothly thanks to your individual and collective work in collaborative teams. A major hurdle for the project was completed on time when the application for continuation (for 2<sup>nd</sup> year funding) was submitted through [grants.gov](http://grants.gov) to AFRI on September 15. Another major hurdle for continued funding remains—for the application for continuation to be approved by AFRI, we must submit our year-1 annual report by November 15 (i.e., 90 days before the end of the first project year of February 14, 2014). If you have not yet received an email from Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation at Kansas State University (OEIE), expect to receive a request from Susanne Kaesbauer or Carina Rebello. Instead of using the online survey to collect project information from you as they did for the continuation application, OEIE

staff members will interview Grazing CAP team members by telephone to gather information to include in the year 1 annual report.

We are in the early stages of planning a meeting of our advisory group. This one-day meeting will be held in Oklahoma City on January 14th. All project personnel are invited to attend in person, but we will likely rely on team leaders to present information for their respective research themes and extension subgroups.

The Extension team is making good progress on the year's major objective of reviewing Extension materials related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Subgroups of the Extension team have compiled lists of Extension materials and are moving into the next phase consisting of identifying gaps in Extension materials. We expect for this objective to be completed by November 30.

The Research themes are moving forward through development of working groups around the different themes. Researchers from the long-term sites had a teleconference on October 9 and discussed the baseline sampling as well as plans for high resolution vegetation mapping at



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Oklahoma sites. If you would like to be included in future calls for this team, contact Jean Steiner. The modeling groups to support Themes 2, 3 and 5 met in Norman in August and plan a follow up meeting in Tarleton later this fall. If you would like more information about their activities, contact Xiangming Xiao or Ali Saleh. The emissions mitigation team met in Bushland in September – for more information about their plans, contact Sam Coleman.

By all means, reserve March 10 and 11, 2014, to attend the second annual Grazing CAP team meeting, which will be hosted by the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

# New Members Join Advisory Team

by Amber Campbell Hibbs

We welcome two new members to the Advisory Group. The new members are Michael Kelsey (Executive Director, Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association) and Mike Grusak (USDA-ARS Children's Nutrition Research Center and Baylor College of Medicine). Kelsey and Grusak join a diverse group of advisors including scientists, producer group representatives, and Extension.

The date for the first meeting with the Advisory Group has been set for January 14<sup>th</sup>. It will be a one-day meeting in Oklahoma City.

Members of the Advisory Board to the AFRI Grazing CAP:

➔ **GREGG HADLEY** - Kansas State University  
Assistant Director, Agriculture,  
Natural Resources and Community  
Development

➔ **ROSS LOVE** - Oklahoma State University  
Assistant Director, Oklahoma  
Cooperative Extension Service

➔ **BILLY COOK** - SR Noble Foundation  
Senior VP and Director, Agriculture  
Division

➔ **BERRIEN MOORE, III** - University of  
Oklahoma  
Climatologist and Vice President,  
Weather and Climate Programs

➔ **RENEE MCPHERSON** - University of  
Oklahoma  
State Climatologist

➔ **BRANDON REAVIS** - Oklahoma - NRCS  
State Grazing Land Specialist

➔ **DAVID KRAFT** - Kansas - NRCS  
State Rangeland Management  
Specialist

➔ **LISA FRENCH** - Cheney Lake Watershed  
Inc.  
Citizens Group

➔ **MICHAEL KELSEY** - Oklahoma  
Cattlemen's Association  
Commodity group (beef cattle, all  
production phases)

➔ **MARK HODGES** - Plains Grains, Inc.  
Commodity group (hard red winter  
wheat)

➔ **MIKE GRUSAK** - USDA-ARS/Children's  
Nutrition Research Center and Baylor  
College of Medicine  
Research Plant Physiologist

## ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

|          |                   |
|----------|-------------------|
| Date     | January 14, 2014  |
| Location | Oklahoma City, OK |

# Field Photo App Launched

by Xiangming Xiao

The Earth Observation Modeling Facility of the University of Oklahoma has released the Field Photo iPhone App. [Field Photo](#) is free and available now from the Apple Store.

The app is part of a larger citizen science effort and will contribute to the [Global Geo-Referenced Field Photo Library](#). The team has completed the integration of mobile phone, web-based field photo library and global MODIS image data. The goal of the creation of the app was to make it easy for people to contribute their field photos to the Field Photo Library and improve documentation of land use and land cover change, fire, drought, flood.

### App Store Description

*Field Photo is a citizen scientist application from the Earth Observation Modeling Facility at the University of Oklahoma. Field Photo allows students, scientists, researchers and citizens to take photographs of their environment, geotag them and add land cover metadata and field notes. The photos may then be uploaded to the Earth Observation Modeling Facility for later geospatial analysis.*

The Field Photo application helps the Earth Observation Modeling Facility in its mission to promote community remote sensing and citizen science to address the grand challenges in our dynamic and rapidly changing planet Earth and the society.



## KSU Awarded \$50,000 Conservation Innovation Grant

The USDA-NRCS awarded researchers at KSU a three year, \$50,000 Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) to study the costs/benefits of the incorporation of covers/forages into cropping systems in Kansas. Matching funds have been provided by KSU, KSAAC, Kaufman Seed, Green Cover Seed. This grant offers another opportunity to collect data from producer-owned, on-farm sites for the CAP project. Most of the CIG sites will be grazed, forage quantity and quality samples will be taken from ungrazed plots.

| QUICK FACTS            |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Grant Title            | Soil Health and Water Use: Effects of cover crops in producer-owned crop rotations |
| Principal Investigator | DeAnn Presley  |
| Agreement number       | 69-6215-13-0004  |
| Grant Period           | 12/1/2013 to 11/30/2016  |

## Project Domain Name Selected

Following a series of online surveys a clear winner has been determined for the project domain name. The majority of team members preferred [cattlegrazing.com/.net/.org](http://cattlegrazing.com/.net/.org) in the original survey, but this name was price prohibitive to obtain. In a second survey which incorporated suggestions provided by team members in response to the original survey, team members overwhelmingly preferred [greatplainsgrazing.com/.org/.net](http://greatplainsgrazing.com/.org/.net). The domain name will be secured within the next week.

77%

[greatplainsgrazing.com/.org/.net](http://greatplainsgrazing.com/.org/.net)

14%

[greatplainscattle.com/.org/.net](http://greatplainscattle.com/.org/.net)

5%

[greatplainsbeef.com/.org/.net](http://greatplainsbeef.com/.org/.net)

# Forage Research

by Doug Shoup & DeAnn Presley

Doug Shoup, DeAnn Presley, and Jaymelynn Farney have begun grazing research at eight research sites in Kansas. Two sites in Osage County will be used in a study examining livestock gains, forage production, forage quality, subsequent crop yields, and changes in soil qualities between a monoculture cool season cereal pasture versus a multiple plant species mixed pasture. They expect to have preliminary results from this study by December 2014 and 2-yr results to share by December 2015.

A second study will involve wheat and wheat with a tillage radish companion crop in grazed and ungrazed treatments. Two on-farm research plots which will be grazed were planted in Barber County in September 2013 with the cooperation of Tim Marshall, Barber County Extension agent, and two land owners. Additional sites have been planted in Harper, Harvey, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. These sites will not be grazed but available forage will be quantified. Effects of management on both the soil and forage will be quantified in late spring 2014.



## GIS Day Expo

Celebrate International GIS Day at the OU GIS Day Expo. The event will feature exhibitions from across campus, government agencies, private industry and more. A broad range of research, education and outreach activities in geospatial science, technology and application will be showcased.

Registration for exhibitors, attendees and contests is open for the GIS Day Expo to be held November 20<sup>th</sup>. For questions or accommodation on the basis of disability contact Melissa Scott at [mescott@ou.edu](mailto:mescott@ou.edu) or 405-325-4871.

## Student Job Opportunity

DeAnn Presley has an opening for a graduate student (M.S.) to work on the soil and forage aspects of two on-farm research projects. The projects involve wheat, wheat with a tillage radish companion crop, and also three grazing treatments: none, half season, and full season). Presley will write a job description and advertise for a student at a professional meeting in November, 2013.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

DeAnn Presley  
[deann@ksu.edu](mailto:deann@ksu.edu)

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## Upcoming Events and Deadlines

### GIS Day Expo

November 20, 2013

The Molly Shi Boren Ballroom

Oklahoma Memorial Union

900 ASP Avenue, Norman, OK 73019

[\(http://union.ou.edu/\)](http://union.ou.edu/)

Free to register

### Advisory Group Meeting

January 14, 2014

Oklahoma County Cooperative Extension Service Office

930 N. Portland

Oklahoma City, OK73107

### Annual Team Meeting

March 10-11, 2014 in

Samuel R Noble Foundation

2715 Sam Noble Parkway

Ardmore, OK73401