

Pioneers in Agriculture Series



New technologies, equipment, plant and animal genetics, and production strategies are emerging every day. Combine this with changes in markets both domestically and internationally and the challenges of today's agriculture are unlike anything we have faced. Like the first pioneers who began farming and ranching in this region, today's producers are venturing into new territory. The *Pioneers in Agriculture* series is designed to connect today's producers with the latest research information through a shared experience that draws on our knowledge-building traditions of field days and farm walks. We hope you will join us.

2008—Event 1 *Forages: Back to the Future*

Monday, June 9, 2008 9:00 am-Noon

Texas Tech University Research Farm in New Deal, TX (see *directions below*)

Research Leaders present will include:

- Dr. Dan Undersander** Dr. Undersander's research program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison has four major objectives that include: determining factors affecting alfalfa plant health and survival; best management for harvested forage - big bale wrapping, fermentation of silage; optimum management practices for intensively grazed pastures considering forage, yield, quality, and effect on wildlife.
- Dr. Garry D. Lacefield** Dr. Lacefield is the Extension Forage Specialist for the University of Kentucky. He has authored and co-authored over 300 extension publications, papers, articles and book chapters and is co-author of the book "Southern Forages". He developed and is senior author of a monthly newsletter and writes a monthly column for the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association magazine.
- Dr. Andy Hopkins** Dr. Hopkins is Forage Grass Breeder with the Noble Foundation in Oklahoma. Under his leadership, the breeding program of the Forage Improvement Division is focused on development of cool season perennial grass varieties, and research supporting such efforts. Specific projects include germplasm collection, evaluation, and enhancement; recurrent selection; endophyte screening and evaluation; variety testing; and seed production research
- Dr. Twain Butler** Dr. Butler leads the Noble Foundation's Forage Improvement Division whose focus is on developing best management practices for the new species being developed by the division's forage breeding programs. The research emphasis is on establishment, management and production of cool-season perennial grasses and both cool-season and warm-season legumes. This incorporation of cool-season grasses and legumes into a predominantly warm-season (i.e. bermudagrass) base could provide a year-around forage system that would decrease feed and hay costs, resulting in increased profits for livestock producers.

New Deal is located a few miles North of Lubbock and approximately 35 miles South of Plainview, Texas. Approaching New Deal from either direction on I-27 take Exit 14 and turn East onto FM 1729. Travel 6.4 miles east on FM 1729 and turn right into the Texas Tech Agricultural Sciences Teaching and Research Laboratory facility. There will be a sign at the entrance. The SARE-ACE site is located on the Southwest corner of the front entrance to the Farm facilities. This area is perimeter fenced with a mesh type fence with electric fence dividing individual paddocks. Drive to the southern end of this fenced area and turn right. Welcome to the Sustainable Crop/Livestock/Forage Systems Research Project.

