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Utah Scientists to headline Tri-County Poisonous Plant Seminar Dec. 2

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ALPINE – Texas AgriLife Extension Service’s Brewster, Jeff Davis and Presidio county offices and Capital Farm Credit will conduct the "Tri-County Poisonous Plant Seminar" from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Dec. 2 at Kokernot Lodge in Alpine.

Five Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be offered: three in the integrated pest management category and two in the general category.

The morning session will start with Beef Market Update by Rob Hogan, AgriLife Extension economist at Fort Stockton.

Hogan is followed by Dr. Mike Ralphs and Dr. Bryan Stegelmeier with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agriculture Research Service Poisonous Plant Lab at Logan, Utah. Seminar organizers note that the Utah experts are renowned throughout the western U.S. for their locoweed work; a continuing problem in the Texas Trans-Pecos region.

Ralphs will speak on Ecology of Locoweed and Grazing Behavior of Livestock on Locoweed, and Stegelmeier will present Toxicology of Locoweed, Senecio and Twin Leaf Senna.

Afternoon topics and speakers will include: Other Poisonous Plants in the Trans-Pecos and Their Control by Herbicides, Alyson McDonald, AgriLife Extension range specialist, Fort Stockton; and Animal Management to Avoid Toxic Plant Problems, Dr. Bruce Carpenter, AgriLife Extension livestock specialist, Fort Stockton.

McDonald and Carpenter will then both present Grazing Management and Range Monitoring, the program’s final talk.

Individual pre-registration is \$10 by Nov. 25. The fee includes a noon meal.

For more information or to pre-register, call Boswell at 432-837-6207 (office) or 432-249-0265 (cell) or call Jesse Schneider, AgriLife Extension agent in Presidio County at 432-729-4746.