

Ranching and California's Drought – A Workshop and Webcast

November 7, 2014

A workshop and webcast on ***Ranching and California's Drought*** will be held **Friday, November 7, 2014**. The workshop will take place at the UC Davis campus and webcast will be available at local satellite locations across California. UC Cooperative Extension County Offices will host the workshop remotely; provide opportunity to ask questions of speakers; and feature local discussion sessions. Topics presented and discussed at the workshop include:

- What the U.S. Drought Monitor means for ranchers
- How California's ranchers are coping with the drought
- New feeding strategies for livestock in drought regions
- NOAA's weather forecast for the coming forage growing season

The Drought Monitor is a weekly map reporting drought location and severity across the Nation. The map is produced jointly by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. The Drought Monitor is the map that is used in discussions of drought and in allocating federal government drought relief.

A major topic at the ***Ranching and California's Drought Workshop and Webcast*** will be presentations from Drought Monitor authors about how the drought location and severity mapping is conducted, what information goes into drawing the map, how the map is used in determining qualifications for drought assistance, and how on-the-ground California data can be included in weekly drought maps. California ranchers have a wealth of first-hand knowledge and experience to share about every aspect of current and historic droughts. This on-the-ground knowledge should be included in drought policy and planning conversations.

Dr. Leslie Roche, UC Davis, will report during the workshop on the results from survey of over 500 CCA members and personal interviews on rancher's knowledge and perspectives regarding ranching during droughts. As we enter this new growing season with the possibility of continued dry conditions, Glenn Nader, UC Cooperative Extension will provide workshop participants with new research on alternative feed strategies to supplement livestock diets as efficiently as possible.

For more information on the event and to register for the workshop please contact Tracy Schohr at tkchohr@ucdavis.edu or (916)716-2643. For a complete agenda and details regarding satellite webcast locations visit the UC Rangeland Watershed Laboratory website (<http://rangelandwatersheds.ucdavis.edu/>). The site will be updated regularly as the workshop and webcast details are finalized.