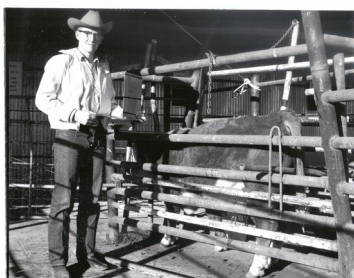


The Rex E. Kirksey Agricultural Science Center

Founders:

Dr. Bobby Rankin, NMSU
Extension Beef Specialist
plus 7 NM Cattle
Producers



Est. 1961



2025

Today:

Dr. Marcy Ward, NMSU
Extension Livestock
Specialist plus 17 Cattle
Producers from NM, TX,
CO, and OK

The Tucumcari Feed Efficiency Test (TFET) Collaborative

The Collaboration:

- NMSU owns the land, producer cooperative built and owns the cattle facilities.
- An extension specialist serves as test director.
 - Role: Collect and manage data, oversee cattle care, organize the sale, offer consultation for future planning.
- AES personnel offer on site support to help maintain the facility and are compensated by the cooperative.
- Cooperators often agree to collaborative applied research using their own cattle.
 - Histone biomarker study
 - Water intake study
 - Industry studies
 - Bovine Cardiac Heart Failure Study – proposed
- Extension programming held at the facility
 - NM Youth Feeder Beef Contest
 - NM Ranch to Rails Contest

The Test:

- Registered cattle are fed at the station from October to March annually.
- Extensive data is collected and compiled monthly with reports posted on the website
 - <https://tucbulltest.nmsu.edu/>
- A production sale is held at the conclusion of the test every March

MISSION:

The TFET strives to lead beef cattle genetic progress by leveraging technology and intensive data collection to monitor and adapt to emerging trends.

IMPACTS:

- Data shows a 35% gain in cattle efficiency and growth from producer selection based on station results since 1961.
- Cooperators invested over \$300,000 in digital feed intake technology, making this one of the largest facilities in the four-state region.
 - Cattle testing capacity has increased by 80%, now testing 288 bulls and heifers.
- Sale averages have increased producer income by 15%.
- Customer base has increased by 18%, reaching 7 states.

The College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences is an engine for economic and community development in New Mexico, improving the lives of New Mexicans through academic, research, and Extension programs.



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