

## **NEWSPAPER INSERT**

The January 2007 newspaper insert, “The Year of Water – and Beyond,” features several AES and CES initiatives, and overall it showcases a university-wide extension approach to solving the region’s water problems. The publication was inserted in a Sunday edition of the *Albuquerque Journal*, the *Santa Fe New Mexican* and the *Las Cruces Sun-News*.

### **From the Cooperative Extension Service:**

- A feature article on Bernd Leinauer’s research on salt-tolerant turfgrasses. Much of the state’s underground water supplies are too brackish for human consumption without expensive treatment. If poor-quality water can be used to irrigate yards, parks and recreation fields, there is less pressure on the limited supplies of potable water for human use.

### **From the Agricultural Science Center at Clovis:**

- Sangu Angadi’s research on ultra-short-season crops. The central focus of this work is making the most efficient use of limited water, in irrigated or rainfed conditions.

### **From the Sustainable Agriculture Science Center at Alcalde:**

- Sam Fernald and his research team are studying the hydrology of northern New Mexico’s acequia irrigation systems. A better understanding of factors such as seepage from ditches and groundwater return flow will make for better management of the watershed.

### **From units of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics:**

- Thomas Schmugge, Gerald Thomas Chair in Food Production and Natural Resources, uses remote sensing via satellite imaging to measure water use and water available on the surface.
- David Cowley, Fishery and Wildlife Sciences, is leading a research project that aims to find a way to provide water for endangered species like the silvery minnow while still providing water for agriculture. He’s looking at pockets of water that serve as refugial habitat for the fish, and the possibility of creating more of these pockets to catch some of the water returning to the Rio Grande after being used for irrigation.

- Brian Hurd, Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business, developed a survey to look at homeowner attitudes regarding water-wise landscape practices and the factors that might prevent them from using more efficient practices.

#### **University-wide extension activities:**

- The lead article in the newspaper insert looks at the work of the Water Resources Research Institute and NMSU's long history as the state's leader in water research and outreach activities. About 100 NMSU faculty members are involved in water-related research.
- The Institute for Energy and the Environment in the College of Engineering is featured in two articles: One about the collaboration with General Electric on low-cost technologies for treating water, and the other about efforts to help small communities meet new EPA standards for arsenic in drinking water.
- The Water Resources Technician Training Program for American Indians is an outreach program led by the Department of Civil Engineering. Participants in this summer program come from tribes all over the country.
- In the Department of Geography, College of Arts and Sciences, Chris Brown is engaged in several programs dealing with difficult binational water policy issues in the border region.

#### ***RESEARCH & RESOURCES MAGAZINE, SPRING 2007***

#### **Cooperative Extension Service is featured in:**

- The cover story on water research
  - Otero County workshop focusing on irrigation techniques at pecan and pistachio orchards.
  - Work by Craig Runyan, water quality specialist in the Extension Plant Sciences Department, as part of the Rio Grande Basin Initiative.
  - Research on salt-tolerant turfgrasses by Bernd Leinauer, CES turfgrass specialist.
- An "Outreach" feature about NMSU's involvement in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Iraq Extension Revitalization Project.

#### **Agriculture Experiment Service is featured in:**

- Article about testing of prototype Spider tractor by Tracey Carrillo, senior research specialist, Agriculture Experiment Station.
- Cover article about NMSU energy research includes
  - Project at Agricultural Science Center in Artesia that is looking at ways to grow and harvest algae for biodiesel production.
  - Clovis Science Center's involvement in wind resource assessment project.

**Other College of Agriculture units featured in:**

- Feature article on Jornada Experimental Range and Jornada Long-Term Ecological Research project.
- Short article about grass seed royalties passing the million-dollar mark (Plant and Environmental Sciences).
- Short article about robotic insect-sorting system being developed by Jeff Drake, Biological Control Laboratory.
- Two books featured in the "Press Check" section: *Environmental and Natural Resource Economics* by Frank A. Ward, Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business; and *Risk Management for Agriculture*, by Lowell B. Catlett, Dean, and James D. Libbin, Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business.

**University-wide extension initiatives featured in the magazine:**

- Diabetes education outreach by College of Health and Social Services.
- College of Education reaches out to public schools with Southern New Mexico Academy for Young Scientists, targeting fifth-graders.
- Tire dump cleanup and community health education campaign in Luna County involved College of Health and Social Services and College of Arts and Sciences.
- Geographer Chris Brown's work on binational water policy issues.

