Essential Follow-up to Educational Workshops

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Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
Overview

- What makes a successful business?
- What are we getting from workshops?
- Staying motivated
- Continuing the learning process
- Who to have in the team
- The Red River Graziers
- Future possibilities
Managing for success:

- Critical assessment
- Sound achievable goals
- Inclusive, participatory management
- Getting commitment
- Getting the job done
- Monitoring
- Control
What do we get from workshops?

- Paradigm challenges
- Creative ideas and future planning
- Financial and economic management
- People management
- Marketing
- Production technology
Staying motivated

- Neighbor pressure not to change
- There is a learning curve
- Support network
- Interesting, topical speakers
Continuing to learn

- Balance your learning
- Business connections
- Monitoring, monitoring, monitoring
- Keep looking for deadwood
- Communicate regularly
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<th>Pent-athlete training</th>
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Red River Graziers
Grazing Club
Ranch advisory Program

Ranching Practice

Rancher’s Goal
- Plan
- Replan
- Monitor
- Control

Situation better specified via interaction and information gathering

Improved practice

Rancher plans desirable & feasible change

Grazing Club
Multiple perspectives of ranchers, advisers and researchers

Ecosystem Management Decision Model

Analysis of production system

after McCown et al., 1998
Red River Graziers

Critique List

With reference to rancher goals:

Strengths
Weaknesses
Opportunities
Problems/Threats

Stop
Start
Continue
Change
Grazing Club Recommendations

Waggoner Experimental Ranch - 8 Aug 2001

Continue

- Project for 10 + years
- Burning treatment
- Rotation grazing treatment
- Maintain continuous grazing control
Stop

- Take ‘burn’ out of goals
- 4 pasture treatments
- Influx of ‘green’ cattle
Changes

- More replicates
- Add other tools to deal with brush in addition to fire
- Add more paddocks to ‘cell’
- Define 3 part goal
- Simulate more paddocks within existing paddocks
Future Possibilities

- Targeted monitoring & feedback
- Group consulting
- Benchmarks for key parameters
- Web page
- Guest speakers