

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

TO: Dolores County Commissioners

FROM: Daniel Fernandez, Director
Dolores County Extension

DATE: September 8, 2009

SUBJECT: August Activity Report

Cross County Effort:

Regular meetings were held with the Montezuma Land Conservancy, El Pomar, San Juan Bioenergy and Montezuma Water - Quarterly meeting was held with Region 9. Because of the proximity of fruit harvest, we are fielding a significant number of regional fruit tree questions on a daily basis. My weekly radio show on KSJD in Cortez continues.

The Fruit Tree Research and Demonstration Project had a quick Peach U-Pick with nearly 100 people showing up at the orchard. The Pears were not harvested because of maturity problems and will be harvested in September. It also appears that our apples are maturing faster than normal and will probably be harvested the third week in September. We still have an exceptional crop throughout the orchard, and based on the phone calls received, a lot of interest for the U-Pick. Irrigation has been reduced to 40% for winter conditioning.

The Economic Development Corporation's (DCDC) Dick and Adelene Weber Business Park continues to move forward with the Antique Tractor and Farm Implement display with additional signage, more equipment arriving weekly and more ground maintenance. The tractor histories have been completed and fixed to each tractor.

DCDC continues to monitor the local economic development situation in the County and continues to work with the new Dove Creek Chamber of Commerce. We have helped with signage at both ends of town and are trying to direct a grant in their direction. DCDC will have a member on their board and the Chamber will do likewise.

With DCTV going digital and all of our channels now digital, we still deal on a daily basis with people who are having problems programming their digital converters or their antenna setup.

Our 4-H program is preparing for fair. I facilitated 3 grants of \$5,000 each to our Health Clinic, Senior Center and the Doves Nest Early Care Center.

Our County Fair continues to decline as does our 4-H participation in the Fair. Six 4-H'ers qualified for State yet none brought their projects to the office to be taken to State.

Office visitors and phone contacts were normal for the month. Moisture for the month was well below normal at .19 inches with normal being 1.49 inches. For the year, we are 43% of normal with 3.80 inches. The bean crop is going to very poor this year while the sunflowers mined the deep moisture and will still have a fairly decent crop.

CONTACTS

(ALL CONTACTS ARE LOGGED WITH NAMES AND CONTACT PURPOSE)

PHONE	284
OFFICE VISITORS	166
AREA SITE VISITS	35
MEETINGS	14
MEETING PARTICIPANTS	698
WORKSHOPS	1
NEWSLETTERS/NEWSPAPER ARTICLES	12
SLIDE PRESENTATIONS & MISC.	0