

# Investigative Report

## Case Study

Suspected Illegal Exports of  
Geldings by Non-Slaughter Shipment  
From New Mexico to Mexico

By Valerie James-Patton  
November 2007

# Investigative Report

## Case Study Into Suspected Illegal Export of Geldings by Non-Slaughter Shipment From New Mexico to Mexico

November 13, 2007

by  
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### **Introduction**

After several months of tracking the numbers of horses on the USDA Market News – New Mexico Livestock Export to Mexico Reports, and comparing the numbers to the USDA Texas Livestock Export to Mexico Reports, an unusually high number of geldings being exported to Mexico from New Mexico under the non-slaughter status were noted.

Questions regarding these disproportionately high non-slaughter gelding exports are compounded by the fact that no breeding females or breeding males are being exported from New Mexico while the Non-Slaughter gelding exports continue to climb to record levels.

## **Comparative Analysis**

Comparing livestock export charts from both New Mexico and Texas illustrate the unusual ratios of the non-slaughter shipments from New Mexico to Mexico as compared to the same non-slaughter export ratios for Texas to Mexico.\*

Texas exports a relatively comparable number of breeding males, breeding females, and geldings into Mexico.

### **2007 - Current USDA Statistics of Non-Slaughter Horse Exports**

#### **Texas to Mexico - November 6, 2007 - USDA Market News Report:**

Breeding males	785
Breeding females	1,180
Geldings	345

#### **New Mexico to Mexico - November 6, 2007 - USDA Market News Report:**

Breeding males	0
Breeding females	0
Geldings	2,708

With the exception of the export of 43 breeding males, the USDA statistics for 2006 are equally as odd as the 2007 statistics, and compared to the Texas export figures.

### **2006 - USDA Total Exports of Non-Slaughter Horses**

#### **Texas to Mexico - December 29, 2006 USDA Market News Report:**

Breeding males	456
Breeding females	693
Geldings	149

#### **New Mexico to Mexico - December 26, 2006 USDA Market News Report:**

Breeding males	43
Breeding females	0
Geldings	2,217

*\*(All statistics taken from USDA Market News Livestock Export Reports- Attached)*

## **Non-Slaughter Export Numbers**

The numbers alone tell us there is something very different occurring with the non-slaughter geldings exported from New Mexico. As shown in the comparative analysis, the numbers of these horses has dramatically increased well beyond the numbers for the other categories of non-slaughter horses exported from New Mexico, and has far exceeded by the thousands, the number of horses in that same category from Texas to Mexico, not only for this year, but for 2006 as well.

The 2004 year-end total for non-slaughter horses exported from New Mexico to Mexico for 2004, was 312 breeding males, 342 breeding females, and 130 geldings, which is similarly comparable to the statistics of the Texas export chart.

A search of the USDA archive reports for New Mexico livestock exports revealed that the export of breeding males and females came to a halt on August 9, 2005. That report shows only 10 geldings had been exported up until that time.

The first large shipment of geldings began on August 16, 2005, and by the end of the year, 819 geldings had been exported for a year-end total of 829 geldings. After August 16, 2005, no more breeding males were exported, and only 17 breeding females had been exported for the remainder of the year. The export of these geldings has continued weekly, and as well, with the complete absence of breeding males or females. Geldings are obviously not exported for breeding purposes to Mexico. However, because they are exported under a non-slaughter status the question is, why are so many geldings with their numbers in the thousands, being exported to Mexico if their destination is not to slaughter? What other explanation could be even slightly believable?

We know the number of slaughter horses exported to Mexico has skyrocketed due to the closure of the U.S. horse slaughter facilities and because those horses are exported for slaughter, their increased numbers should not affect the number of these geldings, which are exported under a non-slaughter status. Yet the number of geldings exported this same time last year was 1,684 while the current number for this year is 60% higher with 2,708 geldings now being exported. If these geldings are being transported for non-slaughter purposes, why should their numbers dramatically increase as well?

The statistics for Texas shows the same increase for non-slaughter horses, at double the amount of breeding males and females, as well as geldings, for this time last year. But even though their numbers have doubled, and raises doubt there as well, still, it is no where near comparable to the thousands of geldings New Mexico has been exporting, compounded by the complete absence of breeding males and females.

While the focus of this report is on the unusually high numbers of geldings exported under the non-slaughter status, it is worth noting that the probability of many of those counted as "slaughter exports" may also contain a large percentage of geldings, perhaps even from the same source as the non-slaughter geldings.

Where would so many horses, all exclusively geldings and numbering into the thousands be available and readily supplied every week for export to Mexico through New Mexico?

### **Point of Origin**

There is currently only one known source capable of supplying such a continuous flow of geldings for export by New Mexico and preliminary evidence points to the Bureau of Land Management, National Wild Horse and Burro Program.

### **Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Long Term Hold Facilities**

As of Sept 9, 2007, BLM has contracted 10 long-term holding facilities in the United States, two of which were recently added after July 2007. Six of the facilities are in Oklahoma, three in Kansas, and one in South Dakota, with each facility being either a 'mares only' facility or a 'geldings only' facility.

### **Geldings Only**

Six out of BLM's ten long-term holding facilities are exclusively 'gelding only' facilities and according to the September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007 BLM Facility Inventory Chart, there are 11,756 geldings in these long-term holding facilities. (*Attached*)

Whitehorse, South Dakota, the newest long term gelding facility, is starting out with 580 geldings and the Kansas, Tetervillw East gelding facility currently holds 2,083.

The other 4 gelding facilities are all located in Osage County, all of them holding over 2,000 geldings at each facility, with the current total for Oklahoma at 9,093 geldings. The facility in Foraker, currently holds 2,495 geldings, and the Hulah facility holds 2,199 geldings.

The other two Oklahoma BLM long-term 'gelding only' facilities are contracted to John Hughes, an Oklahoma cattle rancher, who keeps about 4,400 geldings between his two 2 ranches, both in Osage County, one located in Bartlesville, and the other located in Catoosa.

In August, 2007, Tamie Semler, an Oklahoma resident and president of Angel Horse Rescue, reported a neighbor had come to her inquiring if she knew what had happened to all the horses that used to be on the facility at Catoosa, and claimed the horses were now all gone.

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007, I interviewed John Hughes by telephone to ask about his facilities and the BLM long-term geldings.

Mr. Hughes stated he still had all of his geldings, over 4,000 of them, and that he had heard of the large shipments of geldings for export to Mexico under a non-slaughter listing. He said he was positive that they were sent for slaughter, but he did not think they were BLM horses. He also stated that once any horse is taken into long term holding, they are never again for sale or offered for adoption to the public, and not at any time since his contract with BLM began in 1998, has BLM ever taken or removed any geldings from either one of his ranches. He said once they come, they live out their lives here until they die.

In an article released by the Associated Press on July 17, 2004, titled "Homeless Horses: Wild Animals Major Challenge for Feds", the article stated, "*On the Oklahoma plains, John Hughes keeps burial pits ready for those too weak to survive another winter. No matter how many horses Hughes buries, he does not have to wait long before another trailer full of live ones comes rumbling down the road.*" (Associated Press, July 17, 2004, published by The Billings Gazette, Wyoming -See Attached)

However, from the statistics shown on the BLM Facility Report, 7-23-07, there are approximately 11,115 horses under the age of 10, and approximately 8,767 horses 11 years and over, in all the long term holding facilities. It does not seem feasible that John Hughes should have so many horses dying, that they need to be replaced by the "trailer full rumbling down the road." (BLM Facility Reports - Attached)

BLM does not report the flow of horses that are sent to long-term facilities and there is virtually no way to track this *flow*. In other words, they don't show the flow of horses being sent to each facility or of those deceased. One hundred horses could easily disappear and be replaced within a week and the reports would not show these figures. BLM facility reports only provide a "snapshot" of containment numbers, not the flow of horses moving in and out of the holding facilities.

Additionally, all the paperwork for the Oklahoma and Kansas BLM long and short term holding facilities, as well as the processing of all the adoption paperwork of wild horses for both Oklahoma and Kansas, is handled by the BLMs Administrative Program Office in New Mexico. (As shown on the BLM facility reports by state initials next to each facility - Attached)

## **New Mexico's Santa Teresa Port Of Entry**

New Mexico's largest port of entry for the import and export of livestock is the Santa Teresa Port of Entry (POE). Santa Teresa is owned and operated by the Union Ganadera Regional de Chihuahua, known in English as the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association of Mexico. Here the animals are inspected on one side, and walked across the border for inspection on the other side. Both USDA officials and Mexican Border Authorities are employed at Santa Teresa.

Evidence has found ties exist between the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association and Oklahoma state through an agricultural program set up by Oklahoma State University and Chihuahua University, funded entirely by the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association, called the Cattlemen's Program of Excellence, in which Chihuahua cattlemen are introduced to Oklahoma ranchers for hands on education to gain experience in beef production. (*"Connecting Cattlemen of Excellence"*, *Cowboy Journal, Okstate, fall '07- Attached*)

## **USDA**

John Langenegger, the USDA Officer In Charge (OIC) at Santa Teresa, is the USDA official who compiles the USDA statistics for the USDA Market News Reports covering the import and export of livestock animals for the U.S. / Mexico border charts.

I spoke to John Langenegger by telephone on Sept 19, 2007, and asked him about the high number of geldings being exported from Santa Teresa. He told me that the high numbers of geldings was not his business or his concern, as he only went to the border at Santa Teresa every morning just to collect figures from the USDA inspectors. I asked him if he could give me a name and contact information for any USDA inspector at the border who could give me any information on these horses, to which he replied he could not.

## **On Site Investigation by Animals' Angels**

In a report from Animals' Angels, conducted on September 4, 2007, at Santa Teresa POE, the USDA veterinarian, as well as the USDA manager of the horse pens, reported to Animals' Angels investigators that the current load of horses there, were the first load of horses they had seen in 4 weeks. As well, the USDA officials informed Animals' Angels they could not take pictures or film any of the horses.

Yet USDA Market New Reports for that week and for the 4 previous weeks, showed there were only 2 weeks in which no slaughter horses were exported, and the geldings have been exported weekly for over 2 years.

Clearly, the USDA veterinarian and the manager of the horse pens gave false information to the Animals' Angels investigators.

## **Conclusion**

Geldings shipped from New Mexico to Mexico are obviously not being exported for breeding purposes. What other purposes could be served for exporting thousands of non-slaughter geldings into Mexico if their final destination is not slaughter? There is little doubt that most, or even all of these geldings are actually going over the border for slaughter as their final destination due to the sheer numbers being exported.

There is also an obvious lack of concern by the USDA inspectors and other border authorities, as to whether or not they are being shipped illegally, if their shipping papers have been falsified. The inspectors and border authorities were also not willing to give out information regarding these geldings and what little information they have given out has proven to be false.

BLM is also not willing to release information to the public on the flow of horses that are going into their long-term holding facilities and the evidence strongly suggests that these two government agencies, the USDA and the BLM, are working to hide the truth about American geldings being exported from the United States into Mexico.

Due to the extremely high and unexplained numbers of geldings being exported from New Mexico to Mexico, and because there is also an unexplained absence of breeding males or breeding females as compared to the statistics from Texas exports to Mexico, further investigation should to be conducted into the highly possible illegal shipment of these horses.

Even with the hopeful passage of the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act, without intervention, these horses shipped under a non-slaughter status will not find protection from export under that Act as the legislation of the Act will prohibit only the transport of horses intended for slaughter.

## References - Attachments and Internet Links

### Attachments

#### Appendix I

1. USDA Export Charts
  - a. Current USDA Market News Livestock Export Reports for Texas and New Mexico
  - b. USDA Market News Livestock Report, final year-end reports for Texas and New Mexico, 2005 and 2006
  - c. New Mexico USDA report for August 9, and August 16, 2005
  - d. Internet links for USDA Market News Livestock Export Reports for Texas and New Mexico to Mexico

#### Appendix II

2. BLM facility charts
  - a. July 1, 2007 BLM Facility Report
  - b. September 24, 2007 BLM Facility Report
  - c. BLM article regarding long-term facilities and John Hughes, "Homeless Horses: Wild Animals Major Challenge for Feds", Associated Press, July 17, 2004, The Billings Gazette, Wyoming

#### Appendix III

3. Santa Teresa articles
  - a. The Union Ganadera: "Santa Teresa's Cattle Crossing" by Greg Bloom, FNS Editor
  - b. Excerpt from PDF article entitled 'Livestock Traders Beef Up the Border', Sam Steel Way, Alumni Newsletter, Summer 2002, Issue 14
  - c. 'Connecting Cattlemen of Excellence', Cowboy Journal, Oklahoma State University, Fall '07

#### Appendix IV

4. Animals' Angels Report at Santa Teresa -Sept. 4, 2007- Pages 15-20

## **Internet Links for the USDA Market News Reports on the New Mexico and Texas Livestock Exports to Mexico**

The Internet links for the USDA Market News Livestock Reports, New Mexico and Texas to Mexico, are listed below. These links always reveal the most current charts on the USDA Market News website. The Texas charts are reported once daily, with each new week beginning every Thursday. The USDA New Mexico Livestock Reports are reported once a week, on Tuesdays.

USDA Market News Reports, Texas Livestock Exports to Mexico:  
[http://www.ams.usda.gov/NMsearch'](http://www.ams.usda.gov/NMsearch)

USDA Market News Reports, New Mexico Livestock Exports to Mexico:  
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/>

### **Archived Links for Submitted Reports**

Texas current chart, Nov 6, 2007

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2007/nov/11-06-2007/al\\_ls600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2007/nov/11-06-2007/al_ls600.txt)

New Mexico current chart, Nov 6, 2007

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2007/nov/11-06-2007/al\\_ls604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2007/nov/11-06-2007/al_ls604.txt)

Texas Year End Report 2006

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2006/dec/12-29-2006/al\\_ls600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2006/dec/12-29-2006/al_ls600.txt)

New Mexico Year End Report 2006

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2007/jan/01-03-2007/al\\_ls604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2007/jan/01-03-2007/al_ls604.txt)

Texas Year End Report 2005

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/dec/12-30-2005/al\\_ls600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/dec/12-30-2005/al_ls600.txt)

New Mexico Year End Report 2005

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2006/jan/01-03-2006/al\\_ls604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2006/jan/01-03-2006/al_ls604.txt)

New Mexico August 9, 2005\*

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/aug/08-09-2005/al\\_ls604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/aug/08-09-2005/al_ls604.txt)

New Mexico August 16, 2005\*

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/aug/08-16-2005/al\\_ls604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/aug/08-16-2005/al_ls604.txt)

Texas Year End Report 2004

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/jan/01-03-2005/al\\_ls600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2005/jan/01-03-2005/al_ls600.txt)

New Mexico Year End Report 2004

[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2004/dec/12-28-2004/al\\_ls604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnarchive/2004/dec/12-28-2004/al_ls604.txt)

\*\* August 9 and August 16, 2005 reports included to show when the high increase of non-slaughter geldings from New Mexico to Mexico began, as well as to show that when the increase began, it marked the decrease and eventual complete halt of the non-slaughter breeding males and breeding mares to Mexico.

# Appendix I

## USDA EXPORT CHARTS

AL\_LS600

Texas to Mexico Daily Livestock Exports

Las Cruces, NM Tue, Nov 6, 2007 USDA Market News

Species	Exports 11/5/2007	Current Week-T-D	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D
Beef Cattle				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0
Hogs				
Slaughter	564	564	97,006	150,329
Breeding Males	0	0	771	743
Breeding Females	0	0	5,188	12,252
Total Hogs	564	564	102,965	163,324
Sheep				
Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	244
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	99,949	99,204
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	99,949	99,448
Dairy Cattle				
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	5,343	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	5,343	0
Goats				
Angora	0	0	0	773
Spanish	0	0	13,964	10,405
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	13,964	11,178
Horses				
Slaughter	207	207	24,828	1,637
Breeding Males	20	20	785	392
Breeding Females	78	78	1,180	571
Geldings	10	10	345	128
Burro/Mule/Pony	1	1	37	2
Total Horses	316	316	27,175	2,730
Exotics	0	0	407	103
Grand Total All Species	880	880	249,803	276,783

Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM  
John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868  
[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\\_LS600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL_LS600.txt)

0900M AP

AL\_LS604

Las Cruces, NM Tue, Nov 6, 2007 USDA Market News  
New Mexico to Mexico Livestock Exports

Species	Current Week 11/3/2007	Previous Week 10/27/2007	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D*
Beef Cattle				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0
Hogs				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Hogs	0	0	0	0
Sheep				
Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	0	0
Dairy Cattle				
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	754	63
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	754	63
Goats				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	0	0
Horses				
Slaughter	182	341	12,646	6,530
Breeding Males	0	0	0	43
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Geldings	82	28	2,708	1,684
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	0	0
Total Horses	264	369	15,354	8,257
Exotics	0	0	0	2
Grand Total All Species	264	369	16,108	8,322

Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM  
John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868  
[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\\_LS604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL_LS604.txt)

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AL\_LS600

Texas to Mexico Daily Livestock Exports

Las Cruces, NM Fri, Dec 29, 2006

USDA Market News

Species	Exports 12/28/2006	Current Week-T-D	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D
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Beef Cattle

Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0

Hogs

Slaughter	299	456	157,301	138,573
Breeding Males	0	0	790	746
Breeding Females	0	0	14,049	10,557
Total Hogs	299	456	172,140	149,876

Sheep

Slaughter Lambs	0	0	244	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	124,099	78,422
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	124,343	78,422

Dairy Cattle

Breeding Males	0	0	9	0
Breeding Females	0	0	569	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	578	0

Goats

Angora	0	0	773	0
Spanish	0	0	13,950	2,476
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	14,723	2,476

Horses

Slaughter	0	0	2,488	1,633
Breeding Males	0	5	456	537
Breeding Females	0	0	693	937
Geldings	0	0	149	128
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	2	10
Total Horses	0	5	3,788	3,245

Exotics

	0	0	103	11
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Grand Total All Species	299	461	315,675	234,030
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Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM

John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868

[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\\_LS600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL_LS600.txt)

0800m jdl

AL\_LS604

Las Cruces, NM      Tues, Dec 26, 2006      USDA Market News  
New Mexico to Mexico Livestock Exports

Species	Current Week 12/23/2006	Previous Week 12/16/2006	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D*
<b>Beef Cattle</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0
<b>Hogs</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Hogs	0	0	0	0
<b>Sheep</b>				
Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	0	0
<b>Dairy Cattle</b>				
Breeding Males	0	0	0	6
Breeding Females	0	165	228	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	165	228	6
<b>Goats</b>				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	0	0
<b>Horses</b>				
Slaughter	262	410	8,592	6,188
Breeding Males	0	0	43	357
Breeding Females	0	0	0	17
Geldings	81	67	2,217	829
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	0	0
Total Horses	343	477	10,852	7,391
Exotics	0	0	2	0
Grand Total All Species	343	642	11,082	7,397

Source:      USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM  
                 John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861      FAX (505) 527-6868  
                 www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\_LS604.txt

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AL\_LS600

Texas to Mexico Daily Livestock Exports

Las Cruces, NM Thu, Dec 29, 2005

USDA Market News

Species	Exports 12/28/2005	Current Week-T-D	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D
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Beef Cattle

Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0

Hogs

Slaughter	1,379	3,342	138,573	178,105
Breeding Males	0	21	746	619
Breeding Females	0	138	10,557	2,285
Total Hogs	1,379	3,501	149,876	181,009

Sheep

Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	78,422	79,835
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	78,422	79,835

Dairy Cattle

Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	0	0

Goats

Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	2,476	3,765
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	2,476	3,765

Horses

Slaughter	0	0	1,633	1,772
Breeding Males	0	4	537	828
Breeding Females	0	2	937	1,065
Geldings	0	0	128	202
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	10	35
Total Horses	0	6	3,245	3,902

Exotics	0	0	11	122
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Grand Total All Species	1,379	3,507	234,030	268,633
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Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM

John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868

[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\\_LS600.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL_LS600.txt)

0735M JDL

AL\_LS604

Las Cruces, NM Tue, Dec 27, 2005 USDA Market News  
New Mexico to Mexico Livestock Exports

Species	Current Week 12/24/2005	Previous Week 12/17/2005	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D*
Beef Cattle				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0
Hogs				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Hogs	0	0	0	0
Sheep				
Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	0	0
Dairy Cattle				
Breeding Males	0	0	6	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	6	0
Goats				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	0	0
Horses				
Slaughter	225	219	6,188	2,285
Breeding Males	0	0	357	312
Breeding Females	0	0	17	342
Geldings	30	101	829	130
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	0	42
Total Horses	255	320	7,391	3,111
Exotics	0	0	0	0
Grand Total All Species	255	320	7,397	3,111

Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM  
John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868  
[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\\_LS604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL_LS604.txt)

0940M JDL

AL\_LS604

Las Cruces, NM Tue, Aug 9, 2005 USDA Market News  
New Mexico to Mexico Livestock Exports

Species	Current Week 8/6/2005	Previous Week 7/30/2005	Current Y-T-D	Previou Y-T-D
Beef Cattle				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0
Hogs				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Hogs	0	0	0	0
Sheep				
Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	0	0
Dairy Cattle				
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	0	0
Goats				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	0	0
Horses				
Slaughter	57	246	2,961	416
Breeding Males	22	32	357	167
Breeding Females	0	0	0	213
Geldings	0	0	10	81
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	0	1
Total Horses	79	278	3,328	878
Exotics	0	0	0	0
Grand Total All Species	79	278	3,328	878

Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM  
John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868  
[www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\\_LS604.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL_LS604.txt)

0740M AP

AL\_LS604

Las Cruces, NM Tue, Aug 16, 2005 USDA Market News  
New Mexico to Mexico Livestock Exports

Species	Current Week 8/13/2005	Previous Week 8/6/2005	Current Y-T-D	Previous Y-T-D*
<b>Beef Cattle</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Beef Cattle	0	0	0	0
<b>Hogs</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Hogs	0	0	0	0
<b>Sheep</b>				
Slaughter Lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter Ewes	0	0	0	0
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Sheep	0	0	0	0
<b>Dairy Cattle</b>				
Breeding Males	0	0	0	0
Breeding Females	0	0	0	0
Total Dairy Cattle	0	0	0	0
<b>Goats</b>				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Goats	0	0	0	0
<b>Horses</b>				
Slaughter	140	57	3,101	526
Breeding Males	0	22	357	168
Breeding Females	0	0	0	214
Geldings	27	0	37	82
Burro/Mule/Pony	0	0	0	27
Total Horses	167	79	3,495	1,017
Exotics	0	0	0	0
Grand Total All Species	167	79	3,495	1,017

Source: USDA Market News Service, Las Cruces, NM  
John Langenegger, OIC (505) 527-6861 FAX (505) 527-6868  
www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/AL\_LS604.txt

0800M AP

# **Appendix II**

## **BLM HOLDING FACILITIES**

BLM Facility Inventory as of 12/25/06

Facility Inventory

Facility Name	PREPARATION FACILITIES		
		Facility Cap	12/25/2006
Palomino Valley/NV	WOF53	1,800	633
Kingman/AZ	AZF52	240	119
Litchfield/CA	CAF52	1,000	704
Ridgecrest/CA	CAF56	1,000	715
Burns/OR	ORF52	600	449
Rock Springs/WY	WYF54	600	144
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	5,240	2,764
	MAINTENANCE FACILITIES		
		Facility Cap	12/25/2006
Elm Creek/NE	WOF54	500	370
Canon City/CO	COF85	850	905
Canon City/CO/Mens	COF87	35	40
Ewing/IL	ESF59	150	173
Piney Woods/MS	ESF55	50	6
Mequon/WI	ESF56	30	0
Lorton/VA	ESF58	50	0
Boise/ID	IDF51	150	1
Challis/ID	IDF54	150	0
Pauls Valley/OK	NMF56	600	592
Helena/OK	NMF84	50	46
Hutchinson/KS	NMF85	350	252
Fallon/NV	NVF93	2,500	1,881
Carson City/NV	NVF83	650	680
Salt Lake/UT	UTF52	600	407
Delta/UT	UTF54	350	136
Mantle/Chugwater/WY	WYF55	120	85
Riverton/WY	WYF83	170	181
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	7,355	5,755
	<b>TOTAL</b>	12,595	8,519
	CONTRACT HOLDING FACILITIES		
Sanctuaries		Facility Cap	12/1/2006
Bartlesville/OK/G	NMF94	2,300	2,108
Catoosa/OK/G	NMF95	2,000	2,000
Long-Term Holding			
Pawhuska/OK/M	NMF90	4,200	4,131
Foraker/OK/G	NMF91	2,400	2,368
Hulah/OK/G	NMF92	2,200	2,207
Grenola/KS/M	NMF93	2,200	2,236
Teterville West/KS/M	NMF97	2,200	2,328
Teterville East/KS/G	NMF98	2,200	2,055
	<b>TOTAL</b>	19,700	19,433
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		27,952

/G=Gelding

/M=Mare

**Wild Horse and Burro Numbers in Holding Facilities**  
**(Report Date: July, 23, 2007)**

Facility Name	Facility Cap	Horses		Burros	
		7/23/2007	7/23/2007	7/23/2007	7/23/2007
Palomino Valley/NV	1,800	890		27	
Kingman/AZ	240	26		207	
Litchfield/CA	1,000	465		24	
Ridgecrest/CA	1,000	586		219	
Burns/OR	600	6		0	
Rock Springs/WY	600	175		0	
Elm Creek/NE	500	332		83	
Canon City/CO	850	806		14	
Canon City/CO/Mens	35	34		0	
Ewing/IL	150	163		5	
Piney Woods/MS	50	10		0	
Mequon/WI	20	12		6	
Lorton/VA	50	0		0	
Boise/ID	150	0		0	
Challis/ID	150	0		0	
Pauls Valley/OK	600	434		59	
Helena/OK	50	24		0	
Hutchinson/KS	350	236		1	
Fallon/NV	2,500	1,935		2	
Carson City/NV	650	813		0	
Salt Lake/UT	600	511		40	
Delta/UT	300	156		0	
Gunnison/UT	600	217		0	
Mantle/Chugwater/WY	120	93		0	
Riverton/WY	170	108		3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,135</b>	<b>8,032</b>		<b>690</b>	
Long-Term Holding Facilities		Horses		Burros	
	Facility Cap	7/1/2007		7/1/2007	
Bartlesville/OK/G	2,300	<b>2,391</b>		0	
Catoosa/OK/G	2,000	<b>2,018</b>		0	
Pawhuska/OK/M	4,200	<b>4,068</b>		0	
Foraker/OK/G	2,400	<b>2,500</b>		0	
Hulah/OK/G	2,200	<b>2,204</b>		0	
Grenola/KS/M	2,200	<b>2,222</b>		0	
Teterville West/KS/M	2,200	<b>2,388</b>		0	
Teterville East/KS/G	2,200	<b>2,091</b>		0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>19,882</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>27,914</b>		<b>690</b>	

Age of Horses in STH			
0-4 yrs	5-10 yrs	11+ yrs	Unmarked
5,589	1,696	517	230

Age of Horses in LTH			
0-4 yrs	5-10 yrs	11+ yrs	Unmarked
1,419	9,696	8,767	0

BLM Facility Inventory as of 9/24/07

Facility Inventory

Facility Name	PREPARATION FACILITIES		
		Facility Cap	9/24/2007
Palomino Valley/NV	WOF53	1,800	1,389
Kingman/AZ	AZF52	240	160
Litchfield/CA	CAF52	1,000	693
Ridgecrest/CA	CAF56	1,000	656
Burns/OR	ORF52	600	246
Rock Springs/WY	WYF54	600	762
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	5,240	3,906
	MAINTENANCE FACILITIES		
		Facility Cap	9/24/2007
Elm Creek/NE	WOF54	500	376
Canon City/CO	COF85	850	709
Canon City/CO/Mens	COF87	35	38
Ewing/IL	ESF59	150	153
Piney Woods/MS	ESF55	50	1
Mequon/WI	ESF56	30	0
Lorton/VA	ESF58	50	0
Boise/ID	IDF51	150	135
Challis/ID	IDF54	150	0
Pauls Valley/OK	NMF56	600	454
Helena/OK	NMF84	50	21
Hutchinson/KS	NMF85	350	248
Fallon/NV	NVF93	2,500	1,882
Carson City/NV	NVF83	650	750
Salt Lake/UT	UTF52	600	510
Delta/UT	UTF54	350	210
Gunnison/UT	UTF88	600	340
Mantle/Chugwater/WY	WYF55	120	74
Riverton/WY	WYF83	170	87
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	7,955	5,988
	<b>TOTAL</b>	13,195	9,894
	CONTRACT HOLDING FACILITIES		
Sanctuaries		Facility Cap	9/1/2007
Bartlesville/OK/G	NMF94	2,300	2,385
Catoosa/OK/G	NMF95	2,000	2,014
Long-Term Holding			
Pawhuska/OK/M	NMF90	4,200	4,087
Foraker/OK/G	NMF91	2,400	2,495
Hulah/OK/G	NMF92	2,200	2,199
Grenola/KS/M	NMF93	2,200	2,212
Teterville West/KS/M	NMF97	2,200	2,376
Teterville East/KS/G	NMF98	2,200	2,083
Herd/OK/M	NMF99	1,000	440
Whitehorse/SD/G	MTF93	1,100	580
	<b>TOTAL</b>	21,800	20,871
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		30,765

<http://www.billingsgazette.com/newdex.php?display=rednews/2004/07/17/build/wyoming/35-horses.inc>

## **The Billings Gazette**

### **Wyoming**

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#### **Homeless horses: Wild animals major challenge for feds** **Associated Press**

OSAGE COUNTY, Okla. (AP) - On the Oklahoma plains, rancher John Hughes keeps burial pits ready for the horses too weak to survive another winter.

No matter how many Hughes buries, he doesn't have to wait long for another trailer full of live ones to rumble down the road.

And there are always more. These are the legendary wild horses of the American West - for some a living symbol of America's natural strength and beauty, for others a feral pest overpopulating dwindling public lands.

The horses of this herd represent a growing problem. They are old - 15 years on average - and unwanted.

This year the federal government is spending about \$17,500 each day just to feed wild horses protected from slaughter and too old to adopt out. Some will live more than 30 years.

"These horses are truly a great story of institutional resistance," says former Bureau of Land Management Director Pat Shea, who struggled under the Clinton administration to control and manage the wild herds. "No one has the gumption to actually deal with them."

#### **Too many horses**

More than 20,000 wild horses and burros have accumulated in recent years in government corrals and sanctuaries. About 36,000 more roam public space managed by the BLM, competing with cattle for food, stressing the ecosystem, reproducing at a rate that can double their population every four years and facing few natural predators.

Taxpayers are picking up the bill, which is increasing rapidly. In 2000 - when the total wild horse and burro population was about 51,000 - the program cost about \$21 million. In its current budget request - with 36,000 horses on the range and 20,000 in holding pens and sanctuaries - the BLM is asking for \$42 million.

"It's just dealing with all those numbers of horses," said Jeff Rawson, group manager of the BLM's National Wild Horse and Burro Program. "It has a cumulative effect of an increasing need for money."

Federal efforts to manage the herds, as mandated by the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, have been historically unsuccessful.

Over the years, managers - and wild horse and burro advocates - have proposed an array of solutions.

One plan, to round up excess horses and adopt them out for about \$125 a horse (the cost to taxpayers was about \$1,400 each) led to thousands being sent to slaughterhouses in the 1980s and early 1990s.

Restrictions enacted in 1997 require adopters to sign an affidavit that they don't plan to sell an adopted animal for slaughter and requiring adopters to keep the horse for a year before they can receive a title. That has reduced the number eventually reaching the slaughterhouse to about 600 a year, according to the attorney representing the two remaining horse slaughterhouses in the United States.

Another plan, to use a birth control vaccine on wild mares, is working, but has been used for only about 1,500 horses since 1992.

A third option, Internet bidding for the horses, is now available and being used by a limited number of potential owners.

The BLM has begun studying a fourth option: a pilot program in Wyoming where two ranchers took about 30 wild horses each in exchange for a one-time payment of \$1,800 a horse.

## **Saving the horses**

Historians say more than 2 million wild horses roamed the United States at the turn of the 20th century, some of them descendants of horses brought here by Spanish conquistadors in the early 1500s. Others are the offspring of farm, cavalry, ranch and mining animals that escaped or were turned loose on public lands.

As cattle boomed, competition for grazing land prompted ranchers - as well as hunters and "mustangers" - to gather, and often randomly shoot, the wild horses. In the 1950s, Nevada's Velma Johnston, dubbed "Wild Horse Annie," started a letter-writing campaign, predominantly among schoolchildren, to save the animals.

In 1971, when poachers had reduced the estimated wild horse and burro population to about 25,000, President Nixon outlawed the hunting and killing of the animals and designated them as a natural resource.

## **An impossible law**

The BLM has never had what it calls an "appropriate management level" of horses on the range, meaning the number of horses the land can support as determined by the government.

Now, the BLM says it's as close as it has ever been to achieving that. It hopes to trim the herd of 36,000 wild horses across the country to 26,000 by 2006.

To do that means rounding up horses and sending even more into sanctuaries in the Midwest, where ranchers who won competitive contracts are paid between \$1.22 and \$1.30 per horse a day to keep horses in perpetuity.

Today, seven ranches - four in Oklahoma and three in Kansas - keep around 13,600 wild horses. That's almost as many horses as what is left on the range in all Western states except Nevada and Wyoming.

The BLM plans to open up to four more sanctuaries.

But is this what the act intended, to keep so many horses in a never-ending welfare system? "We're dealing with an animal population," Rawson said. "It's not something you get to a point and walk away."

The appropriate management level, now so attainable according to the BLM, is in danger of not happening because the agency frequently runs out of money. This year, Congress allowed the BLM to borrow \$7.6 million from other programs so it could continue rounding up horses this summer.

The BLM wanted to get 10,500 horses off the range this year, but only 3,400 were gathered before the horse and burro program ran out of money for roundups. The BLM still hopes to round up 6,000 horses this summer, Rawson said.

Critics say the program is just a numbers game to the BLM, a constant cycle of removing horses from the range and shipping them to various facilities. Some horse advocate groups even accuse the BLM of trying to get rid of herds because they want to destroy the wild horse program. "It's ridiculous," said Andrea Lococo, Rocky Mountain coordinator for the Fund for Animals. "I don't think this agency really wanted to manage wild horses. They've done a really pitiful job from the get-go."

## **A 'win-win'**

In 1988, John Hughes received a BLM contract to keep the horses on his Oklahoma ranch. This year, he'll receive \$912,500 from the government to house them.

He has another contract to keep 2,000 wild horses on a second ranch and still keeps cattle on leased ranches.

"I love the cattle business, but it requires a large amount of capital. This is a great combination for us. There's no question about it," Hughes said. "This gives us steady income."

Taking wild horses has also been good for Wyoming ranchers Ben and Pauline Middleton, who house 28 horses at their rural ranch.

"It sounds like a good, win-win deal for everybody," Pauline Middleton said. "The horses are certainly happier when they're out of the corral. We felt we were adequately paid."

Rawson and Alan Shepherd, program leader for the BLM horse program in Wyoming, said they receive a few calls a month from interested ranchers, especially those who want to reduce their cattle herds.

Last year, 550 people asked to review the BLM's contracts for two sanctuaries before they went out to bid; 18 people submitted bids.

On the contracted ranches, stallions are gelded and mares are kept separate. Sanctuaries are always full or close to it.

They are intended to house older horses, ones no one would adopt, but there are so many horses on the range that more than 2,200 younger horses have ended up at the ranches. The BLM hopes most of them will eventually be adopted, but for now they remain.

"They're beautiful on the range. They really are," said Larry Johnson, a member of the Wild Horse and Burro Program Advisory Board, a panel that advises the BLM on horse management. "You can't fault a public for wanting to protect that resource. It's the right thing to do, but at the same time, the public has to be willing to pay for it."

### **Wild horses, by state, for 2003**

Here is a breakdown by state offices of wild horses and burros removed and adopted through the Bureau of Land Management program in fiscal year 2003.

- Arizona: 0 horses and 444 burros removed; 174 horses and 128 burros adopted.
- California: 1,106 horses and 624 burros removed; 788 horses and 258 burros adopted.
- Colorado: 3 horses and 0 burros removed; 150 horses and 38 burros adopted.
- Eastern States: 0 horses and burros removed; 1,904 horses and 357 burros adopted.
- Idaho: 16 horses and 0 burros removed; 103 horses and 21 burros adopted.
- Montana: 14 horses and 0 burros removed; 134 horses and 41 burros adopted.
- Nevada: 3,938 horses and 148 burros removed; 121 horses and 3 burros adopted.
- New Mexico: 0 horses and burros removed; 853 horses and 163 burros adopted.
- Oregon: 303 horses and 0 burros removed; 225 horses and 62 burros adopted.
- Utah: 375 horses and 0 burros removed; 141 horses and 28 burros adopted.
- Wyoming: 3,110 horses and 0 burros removed; 188 horses and 1 burro adopted.

Note: An additional 201 horses and 83 burros were adopted through the national office.

Source — Bureau of Land Management

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# **Appendix III**

**SANTA TERESA, NEW MEXICO**

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## THE UNION GANADERA: SANTA TERESA'S CATTLE CROSSING

*by Greg Bloom, FNS Editor*

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It is a widely-held belief among people long-involved with Santa Teresa, New Mexico that the authorization and opening of the international port of entry was inevitable once the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association crossed its first steers to Santa Teresa at the Unión Ganadera facility in early 1992. Now crossing between 250,000 and 300,000 calves per year, and some 3,000 calves a day during the peak season between October and March, the Unión Ganadera sells calves to feed-lot operators in the Panhandle area, Kansas, Arizona and Colorado, according to Unión General Manager William Wallace.



The Santa Teresa facility was built in 1991 in response to the obsolescence of the previous export facility in Ciudad Juárez. What was a lengthy importation process there in the 1970's became almost impossible in later years because of the increase in traffic volume and truck-crossing times. After years spent struggling to get a new crossing the Unión Ganadera de Chihuahua sent its first cattle to the US on January 11, 1992 during a ceremony at which both New Mexico Governor King and Chihuahua Governor Baeza were present.

A story from that first day tells how, just before the first crossing of cattle, a typical-looking Mexican bureaucrat arrived at the opening ceremony with a message from Mexico City to stop the proceedings because all of the appropriate paperwork had not been completed. Recognizing what was probably a last ditch attempt to stop the development of the area, someone told the bureaucrat to get up on stage, take the microphone and tell the assembled group of cattlemen that the event was canceled.

The man allegedly looked out over the crowd that had been enjoying music and drink, thought about what might happen if he tried to end their evening, and then got back in his car and drove away. True, embellished or false, the story does say something about the nature of development around Cd. Juárez and Chihuahua state where different political factions try to move growth toward land that they own and actively oppose the development of others' land.

According to Wallace, approximately 75% of the calves crossed in Santa Teresa come from Chihuahua with rest originating in Durango and other northern Mexican states. Wallace says that the calves do well once they arrive in the US and are of good stock coming from US-bred bulls and heifers. Only about 0.5% of the calves brought into the US go north of the states of Colorado and Kansas as it is too cold any farther north. Two to three weight (200 to 300 lb) calves will sometimes be brought to the US and put to graze in what is known as "wheat pasture." Five weight calves (those weighing 500 lbs) generally go to feed lots.



Trucks with multi-level trailers lined up outside the Unión stockyards to pick up calves.

To insure that the calves arrive disease free to the US, they are examined by USDA officials just on the Mexican side of the Unión facility. Calves must be TB and Brucellosis free to come to the US. Once they have passed inspection the calves are dipped in a chemical bath to rid them of ticks or any other insects that should not come into the US. Once inspected and bathed the calves are crossed to the US and loaded on to multi-level trailers to be hauled to their final destination. Calves from Mexico can always be identified by a letter "M" branded on their right hip. The Unión is owned by the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association and is funded by a fee that is paid for each calf that comes through the facility.

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[http://www.aceweb.org/ace\\_cd2003/19/SSW14.pdf](http://www.aceweb.org/ace_cd2003/19/SSW14.pdf)

Sam Steel Way, Alumni Newsletter, Summer 2002, Issue 14

Excerpt from PDF file article called 'Livestock traders beef up the border'

Created to provide a better venue for Mexican ranchers to sell and buy livestock, the 43-acre border crossing facility can hold 10,000 head in Santa Teresa and 13,000 just across the border in San Geronimo. Here, they're inspected on one side, and we walk them across for the other inspection. It lowers animal stress and keeps them healthier.

The Chihuahua cattlemen's organization, Union Ganadera Regional de Chihuahua, owns and operates the crossing.

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<http://cowboyjournal.okstate.edu/cjfall07/cowboys.html>

## **Connecting cattlemen of excellence**

**By Chancey Redgate, Waynoka, Okla.**

Finding friends in Oklahoma was no challenge for 10 Mexican cattle ranchers. These cattlemen found more than just friends; they discovered fellow ranchers with the same passion to produce high-quality beef.

In addition to a shared passion for beef production, the states of Chihuahua and Oklahoma have distinct commonalities: diverse geography, genuine hospitality, rich agricultural heritage and economic dependence on the beef industry.

Understanding the significance of the beef industry on both sides of the border, Enrique Sanchez, Oklahoma State University alumnus, serves as the director of the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association. Gerald Horn, OSU animal science professor, said Sanchez completed his doctorate at OSU and is familiar with the beef cattle industry in Oklahoma.

Chihuahua is the largest cattle producing state in Mexico; however, the number of young people returning to farming and ranching operations is declining.

"We were looking for a prestigious institution of higher education that could match and complement our dominant beef cattle production systems," Sanchez said.

With a passion to keep young Chihuahuan cattlemen on the ranch in Mexico, Sanchez used his contacts at OSU to expose Mexican ranchers to Oklahoma agriculture, said David Henneberry, OSU director of international agricultural programs.

Sanchez, the Secretariat for Rural Development, the Chihuahuan Producers Foundation and the University of Chihuahua conceived a program to reverse the trend of rural youth leaving the country for work.

The relationship between the two universities started four years ago with the cooperative animal science doctoral program. Horn taught classes in Chihuahua during the summer of 2005. After returning to Stillwater, Horn received a written request from the Chihuahua Secretary of Rural Development and the University of Chihuahua asking OSU to develop an internship program to expose Mexican cattlemen to the Oklahoma beef industry and to offer hands-on training for them.

"It would take an additional faculty member to grant the magnitude of their request; however, we wanted to do something," Horn said. "In place of the request, the Chihuahua Cattlemen of Excellence program was born."

Horn is one of 33 OSU CASNR faculty members who represented OSU by teaching classes, presenting seminars or attending conferences in Chihuahua within the past three years. With a healthy relationship and history of collaboration, the University of Chihuahua and OSU developed the Chihuahuan Cattlemen of Excellence Program to provide training and inspiration to young Chihuahuan cattlemen.

"This program goes way beyond OSU and the University of Chihuahua," said Terry Bidwell, OSU natural resource ecology and management professor and extension specialist. "It is a program that fosters good relationships between two countries."

Funded entirely by Chihuahua, the Cattleman of Excellence program is meant to encourage young ranchers and create new jobs through rural economic development stimulated by operation expansion, Horn said.

The program goal is to improve their operations to the extent they can stay on their ranches and prosper in Mexico, Henneberry said.

"We showed them some of the best Oklahoma cattle operations with the hope that some of the underlying philosophies and production practices would be useful to them back home," Horn said.

The program consisted of four separate training segments in Oklahoma; however, these training segments were not classroom lectures but hands-on, guided experiences. OSU faculty members representing animal science, agricultural economics, and natural resource ecology and management departments joined forces to create hands-on curriculum for the Mexican cattlemen.

The 10 Chihuahuan cattlemen ranging from ages 17 to 45 were selected by the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association through an application process. The ranchers were selected based on operation goals, willingness to learn and amount of passion shown toward the beef industry.

"The program has given these cattlemen opportunities to not only hear about ranch management and technology advances but also it offers hands-on experiences," said Lorenzo Duran, agricultural lecturer at the University of Chihuahua.

Each training segment was 10 days in length. According to the Chihuahua young cattlemen, every day of each visit was busy and full of exciting, educational experiences. The first segment was in September 2006, and the last of four segments took place in April 2007.

"We wanted the Mexicans to experience all aspects of the beef industry, starting with production and conservation practices to public policy and decision making," said Michael Dicks, OSU agricultural economics professor.

The emphasis areas of the visits included production, management and financing for cattle operations; conservation and use of natural resources in the cattle industry; organizational infrastructure for cattle producers; and value-added businesses and market development within the beef industry.

Focusing on application rather than theory, OSU faculty exposed the cattlemen to ranches, stocker operations, feed yards and packing plants. To emphasize the importance of long-term research, the ranchers visited the USDA Agriculture Research Service research stations and Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Stations. The group's tours included Reproduction Enterprises Inc., the Oklahoma Capitol, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Oklahoma Farmer's Union, Oklahoma Farm Bureau and the Kansas City Board of Trade.

"Oklahomans have been so warm and receptive," Duran said. "Our group is eager to learn, and Oklahoma State and Oklahomans are eager to share ideas."

Henneberry said everything is done by translation. A competent translator from the University of Chihuahua, knowledgeable in agriculture, accompanied the cattlemen on each Oklahoma visit. Translation was a small challenge for Oklahomans; however, Shida Henneberry, professor of international agricultural trade policy, said translation did not seem to be a learning barrier for the Mexicans.

"These Chihuahuan cattlemen are very developed," Shida Henneberry said. "They know their business and are good at marketing and production. Turning what Mexicans view as impediments into teaching points and learning moments, we really learn from each other."

Learning from each other involves a willingness to learn about and appreciate different cultures, Bidwell said.

"The Cattlemen of Excellence program has not only impacted the beef industry but also the cultural development of people living in rural communities," Sanchez said.

Connecting Mexican cattlemen and American cattlemen provides opportunities to exchange opinions, ideas and perspectives. "The more times you connect people, the more barriers you break down," Dicks said. This training provides key knowledge and skills pertaining to international markets, Sanchez said.

"In my opinion, the most important thing is establishing new potential partnerships and making new friends that will be significant in the future," Sanchez said.

Shida Henneberry said the relationships formed could bring business to Oklahomans, encourage trade and improve the beef industry.

"The expected results are already beginning to show," Sanchez said. "After the trainees returned to their respective cattle operations, they immediately started to implement new learned technologies. "

Relationships were formed because of a shared passion among Chihuahua and Oklahoma cattle ranchers. The young cattlemen returned to Mexico with more than friends; they returned with new ideas, techniques and philosophies to use and prosper on their ranches for years to come.



State Rep. Don Arms (left); Kelcey Walters, agricultural economics senior; the group of Mexican cattlemen; Rep. Ryan McMullen; Rep. Wade Rousselot; and Scott Dewald, executive director of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association visited the Oklahoma Capitol. (Photo by Chancey Redgate)



Mexican cattlemen and Rod Schemm, manager of Henry C. Hitch Feedyard, Guymon, Okla., view a pit of high-moisture, ground-insiled corn. (Photo by Gerald Horn)



Mexican cattleman Adalberto Vazquez Herrera (left) obtains an ultra-sound of a steer's ribeye with guidance from ultrasounding technician Don Vick of Reproduction Enterprises Inc., Stillwater, Okla. (Photo by Chancey Redgate)

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[http://internationalprograms.dasnr.okstate.edu/News/From\\_2004.htm](http://internationalprograms.dasnr.okstate.edu/News/From_2004.htm)

From Oklahoma State University:

### **Dr. Enrique Sanchez Granillo Heads Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association (December 2004)**

Dr. Enrique Sanchez Granillo, an alumni of OSU, was elected to another term as Director of the Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association. Dr. Sanchez received his Ph.D. in range science from OSU and later spent a two year sabbatical at OSU as the INIFAP ambassador to MIAC. As the Director of the Cattlemen's Association, Dr. Sanchez is in the process of building a new headquarters facility on the outskirts of Chihuahua. Over the years, Dr. Sanchez has sent some very gifted Mexican students to pursue graduate degrees at Oklahoma State University.



# **Appendix IV**

**ANIMALS' ANGELS INVESTIGATION**



***Animals' Angels USA***

PO Box 949 \* Gambrills, MD 21054  
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[www.animals-angels.com](http://www.animals-angels.com)

**Investigation into the export of American horses to Mexico –  
External Report**

**Date:** 8/31/07-9/8/07

Pages 15-20

### **3. Santa Teresa Export Facility, New Mexico**

**Location:**

The livestock export facility and the USDA office are located approximately one mile east of the official Santa Teresa/San Jeronimo border crossing..

**Owner/Manager:**

The pens on both sides of the border are privately owned by the Union Ganadera de Chihuahua Inc. (Chihuahua Cattlemen's Association)



**USDA Veterinarian:**

Dr. Walter Howe  
715-872-4754

**Observations:**

**09/04/07**

We arrived at the facility at 9am. The entrance gate of the fenced premises was open. There were no signs restricting entrance or filming. An empty livestock truck (24 Trading Co. DOT 1595339) was parked in the parking lot.

Close to the parking lot is a large pen area, holding horses awaiting export. The animals are unloaded by US trucks into these pens, and then walked across the border to the pens on the Mexican side. There they are loaded onto Mexican trucks and transported to slaughter plants in Mexico. Beside the pen area are several buildings where the USDA office and the Chihuahua Cattlemen's association are located.

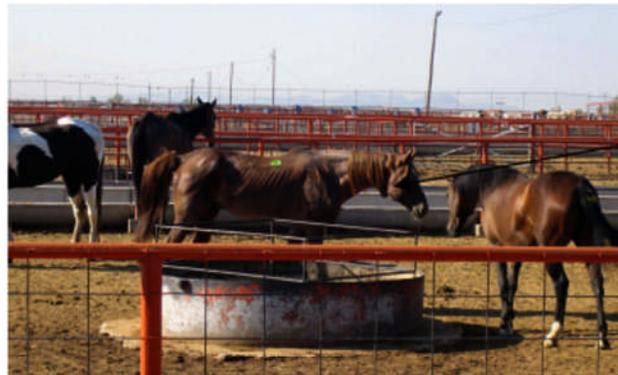
Inside one of the front pens were approximately 45 horses. All had the green USDA slaughter tag attached to their hips.

**The horses were in alarmingly poor condition:**

- Many were severely emaciated.
- Two were liming badly and stumbling when forced to run.
- One had a very large, open wound on her forelimb that was bleeding profusely. It appeared that a large section of skin had been torn away.
- One horse's ear appeared to have been burned off. All that remained of it was a charred stump.
- One horse had an enormous strangles cyst that had illogically been cut away leaving a large flap of skin hanging from the emaciated horse's throat. A large, open and bleeding wound was left untreated.



*Very skinny horse with burned off ear*



*Emaciated horse with large strangles infection*



**There is no food or shelter against the sun available for these animals.**

**Possible Violations of the Commercial Transportation of Equines for Slaughter Regulations 9 CFR Sec. 88.4:**

(a)

Prior to the commercial transportation of equines to a slaughtering facility, the owner/shipper must:

(1)

For a period of **not less than 6 consecutive hours immediately prior to the equines being loaded** on the conveyance, provide each equine appropriate food, potable water and the opportunity to rest.



All horses were branded with “M”. This brand links the animals to Monzerat Munoz, a kill buyer who owns a feedlot in Texas.

While there, we met with Erma Pararez, the manager of pens. **We received the following information from her:**

- The pens are owned by the United States federal government and because of the terrorist threat, we were not allowed to film there. Thus, we would have to delete our footage.
- The USDA office is located on the Mexican side of the border and for security reasons women and children are not allowed to cross the border. We therefore cannot talk to the USDA veterinarian.
- She bears no responsibility for the horses other than care for them while they are in these pens.
- The majority of horses no longer cross at this border crossing. Since approximately four weeks they have been crossing at El Paso, Texas.
- This is the first load of horses she has seen in three weeks.

She then walked back into the office building and we returned to our car. We called the USDA veterinarian, Dr. Howe, on his cell phone and arranged a meeting. While he was located on the Mexico side he said he would come over and conduct the inspection of the horses and meet with us at the same time. We arranged a time to return.

Upon return to the facility we saw two men with yellow USDA vests in the pen with the horses getting them all to stand and, with the use of a whip, making them run from one side of the pen to the other side five times. We had some concerns with this method of inspection as many of the horses were liming and had great difficulty running. Many faltered and one fell but was able to rise again. The emaciated horse with strangles had difficulty keeping up with the others and to us it was clear that this forced run was challenging for many of the horses.

After running the horses, one of the men introduced himself as the USDA port of entry veterinarian Dr. Howe. **We received the following information from him:**

- **Ownership of the export pen is not in fact held by the United States' federal government, but the Chihuahua Cattlemen's association, who also owns the pen on the other side of the border.**
- Four weeks ago, this was a very busy export facility, but now all major horse traders transport their slaughter horses via Socorro, TX. Part of the reason for this is that Santa Teresa charges \$18.00 per head while Socorro charges only \$3.00 per head.
- The Texas Department of Agriculture owns the Socorro export pens.



- Horses are received here during the morning. He then inspects them and checks the paperwork. In the afternoon, they are walked to the other side and picked up by
- Mexican double deck trucks. They (the US side) do not accept horses arriving on double deck trailers. They have to be on one level, which is what the law demands.
- For inspection purposes, he makes the horses run back and fourth in the pen. They need to be able to put weight on all four limbs. In addition, they have to be older than 6 month of age, not blind in both eyes and not likely to give birth during the trip. Anything else does not matter. He does not care if they are emaciated, limping or injured, as long as they do not show one of the 5 reasons for rejection listed in the Commercial Transportation of Equines to Slaughter regulations.
- The horses that are here were brought in that morning by Monzerat Munos, a horse trader from the suburbs of El Paso, TX. He usually buys from Joe Rios and ships approximately 50 horses a week. He owns a feedlot, where the horses stay for a short time to be fattened.
- He has very rarely in his 20 years of experience rejected a horse for transport. When asked the procedure for rejected horses he stated:

**“I do not provide euthanasia. I am not doing anything. The horse just remains in the pens of the Chihuahua Cattlemen’s association. They deal with it.”**

- Being asked how they would deal with the situation, he explained:

**“Either the horse gets better, or it dies in the pen. They would have to call a private practitioner to euthanize it (I guess...), but I’ve never seen that. Usually the horse is left to die. I don’t think that’s inhumane. It’s like humans in a coma, they don’t feel anything, they’re too much out there already. No, they don’t suffer.”**

- Being asked if he reports violations of the Commercial Transportation of Equines to Slaughter Regulations, he answered:

**“No, I don’t enforce the regulations. I don’t push for that. And the stockyards don’t either. These guys are in high demand. There are just too many horses out there”**

- Being asked if he thinks these laming, emaciated horses are fit for transport and being informed that we are concerned that several are too weak to make it through the trip, he answered:

**“Oh no, they’re all fine. I’ve seen worse. They’ll be walking across the border shortly”**

- External report -



He then returned to his office. Extremely disturbed, we returned to our car and left the premises.

## **Conclusion /Suggestions:**

**This investigation reveals the urgent need to pass the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act.**

During the first week of September, **1,030** horses were exported from Texas and New Mexico to Mexico for slaughter. Since January 2007 a total of **27,237** (9/13/07) American horses have been sent to slaughter from the United States to Mexico.

It has become obvious to us after monitoring horse auction facilities throughout the country and after monitoring commercial haulers move slaughterbound horses from points of origin to slaughterhouse holding facilities that many of the horses are in deplorable condition. These horses did not decline "overnight" while being hauled to the slaughter plants. These horses were already in deplorable condition at the point of origin and in many cases **should never have been loaded in the first place.**

Furthermore, at the export facilities, conditions remain appalling for all American horses lost to this industry.

Animals' Angels concerns in detail:

### **a) Santa Teresa Export Facility**

- The Commercial Transportation of Equines for slaughter regulations are ignored. The horses have no food prior to transport. The USDA veterinarian himself stated that he is not enforcing the regulations and that violations occur without consequences.

**- Horses unfit for transport are left to die in the export pens.** This procedure is cruel and unacceptable.

### **b) Socorro Export Facility**

- The Commercial Transportation of Equines for slaughter regulations are ignored. The horses have no food, insufficient potable water and no rest prior to transport. Horses are transported on unacceptable conveyances.

- During the course of the four day of the investigation, we never saw the veterinarian inspecting the horses although we were present much of the day. The international health certificate necessary to export horses to Mexico requires that the horses be examined and found clinically healthy **at the time of exportation**. In addition, 9 CFR 88.4 requires a statement of fitness to travel **at the time of loading**.

- External report -



**c) Public Safety**

- The Safestat records of several of the observed transport companies show severe violations. Some drivers were not even licensed to operate a truck. This is a hazard to US roadways and borders.