2001

Annual Progress Report Rhodes Research Farm
2000 Year at Rhodes Research Farm

Ronald Sealock
Iowa State University

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/farms_reports
Part of the Agricultural Science Commons, and the Agriculture Commons

Recommended Citation
http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/farms_reports/1818

This report is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State Research Farm Progress Reports by an authorized administrator of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
Annual Progress Report

Rhodes Research Farm

2000 Year at Rhodes Research Farm
Ron Sealock, superintendent

Welcome to the annual progress report for the Iowa State University Rhodes Research Farm. Every year when I write these comments I think of how quickly time passes, yet I feel a sense of accomplishment when reflecting on all the things that have happened in the past year.

One year ago I expressed concern about a shortage of soil moisture. We ended 1999 four inches short on average rainfall for the growing season. Total growing season precipitation for the year 2000 was 17.42 inches, far short of the 27-inch average for this area. The crops came through in good shape with excellent yields. The forages did not fare as well. Virtually no fall forage growth occurred, which shortened our grazing season by sixty days, completely disabling our stockpiled grazing program. Costs for wintering cows increased dramatically. A short hay crop left us concerned about winter forage supplies. Fortunately, we have an inventory of hay to fall back on.

Some of the more significant accomplishments for the year included the construction of the John Airy Meeting Room and the completion of our facilities for the development, breeding, and calving of heifers. This is a real cowman’s facility, not an extravagant showplace. If you would like to see some ideas for your heifer development program, we love to show it off.

We have new studies beginning every year as well as continuing studies. Please stop by and take a look. Visitors are always welcome. I look forward to meeting you.