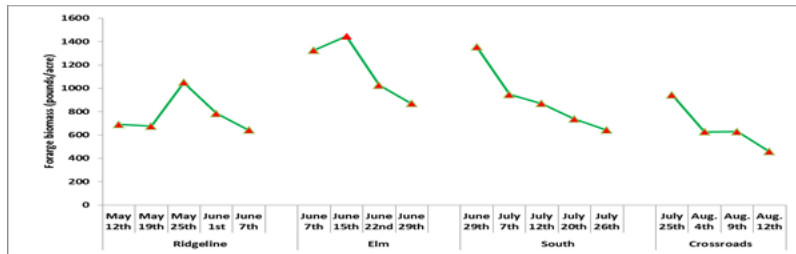


Good Day AGMers,

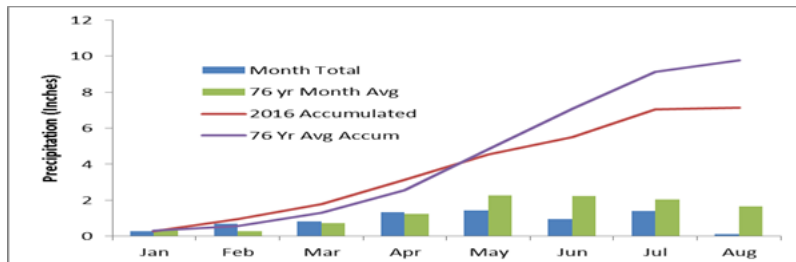
It's been a beautifully busy week at CPER this week. We finished up our annual biomass clipping and we're about to say goodbye to many of our seasonal crews as they head back to school and other endeavors. They've helped make this another amazing summer of data collection and fun.

### Highlights of Happenings

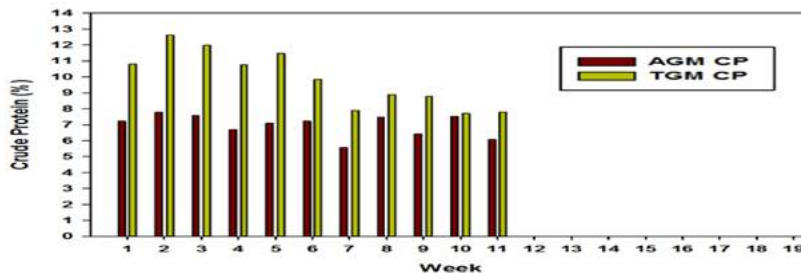
- **We have dropped below our minimum forage threshold of 500 pounds/acre in Crossroads and will be moving the herd to Hilltank this afternoon.** We measured an average of 630 pounds/acre on Tuesday and decided to take another measurement this morning given how close we were to the minimum threshold. This morning's readings averaged 1.9cm or about 460 pounds/acre.



- **CPER HQ has received 0.11 inches of rain since the start of August.** August's average precip is 1.66 inches. We are currently about 2.5 inches below the annual average.



- **The healthy streak continues in the AGM herd** as we have no new health issues to report.
- See below for another week of fecal crude protein results. **Week 11 was our last week in South** and we see that the TGM herd held pretty steady as the AGM fecal CP declined about 1.5%, getting us back on the trend of increased fecal CP in the TGM herd.



For detailed precipitation data, maps, last year's updates, scientist bios, and AGM documents, see our website: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/Research/docs.htm?docid=25733> . Remember to send your questions, concerns, and ideas my way and I'll do my best to have them addressed in next week's email.

**Photos:**



**Above:** Range conditions in Crossroads for the duration of the AGM occupation.



**Above:** A praying mantis hitching a ride on my hat during VORs today.

On behalf of the USDA-ARS-Rangeland Resources Research Unit, I thank you all for your continued participation in this project.

Nick Dufek  
Biological Science Technician  
USDA-ARS-Rangeland Resources Research Unit