

# AGM WEEKLY UPDATE

Hello AGMers,

We had a little excitement at the CPER on Friday evening when a lightning strike started a grass fire in the Slayton pasture and burned about 150 acres as it swept east into section 1 (see photos). Luckily, two neighbors were on the scene to prevent any further spread or structural damage.

Highlights of Happenings:

- **No mix-ups or illness** in the AGM herd this week. We hope this trend continues as the steers move back to headquarters on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Only 0.09 inches of precipitation** to report this week. With one week left to go, our September total is at 0.36 inches. This is nearly 1 inch below average.

**The VOR average in the Hilltank pasture dropped this week from 2.6 to 2.0.** There's still a fair amount of green in the forage available to last the herd until Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

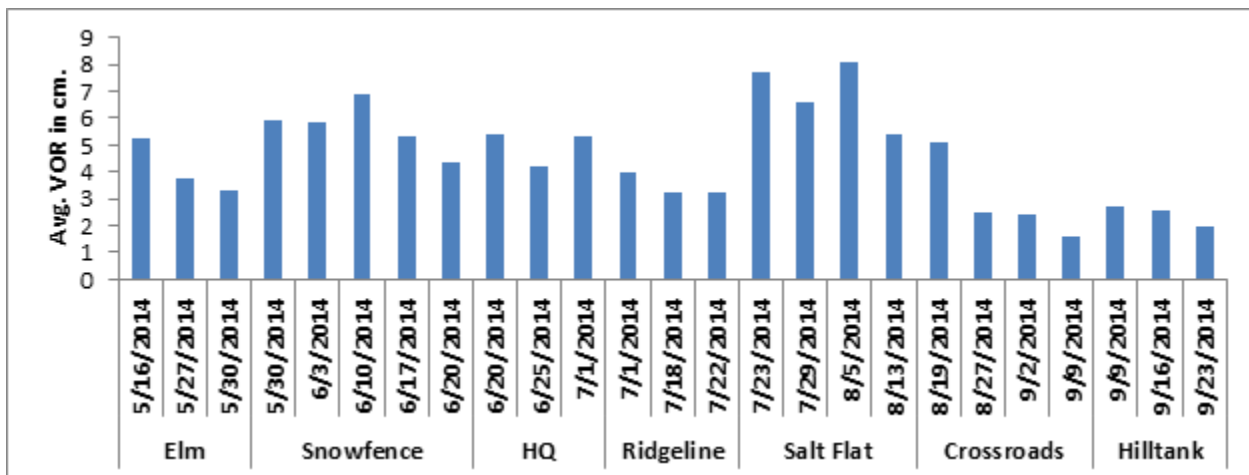


Figure 1: VORs throughout the grazing season in 2014.

For more detailed precipitation data and maps, see our website:

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=24218>. Remember to send your questions, concerns, and ideas my way and I will do my best to have them addressed in next week's email.



Above: Long distance shot from the Slayton ridge of the wildfire burn area.



Above: A close-up of the burn area.



Above: The grazing enclosure in 1W following Friday's wildfire.

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

Nick Dufek