

Michael H. Ralphs

Rangeland Scientist

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Personal Data

Born: July 25, 1950, Ferron, Utah

Married: Diana Alldredge, 5 children

Education

1983	Ph.D	Range Science (Grazing Management) Texas A&M University
1977	M.S.	Range Economics, Utah State University
1974	B.S.	Range Science, Utah State University

Professional Experience

1983-2010	Rangeland Scientist - USDA/ARS Poisonous Plant Research Lab, Logan, UT
1992-2010	Adjunct Assoc. Professor - Utah State Univ., Colorado State Univ.
1991-2010	Collaborator – New Mexico State Univ, Washington State Univ, Inner Mongolia Agr. Univ.
1980-1983	Graduate Research Assistant - Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
1978-1980	Ranch Manager - Saval Ranching Co., North Fork, Elko, NV
1974-1977	Extension Range Technician/Demonstration Ranch Coordinator–USU Extension Logan
1960-present	Family Ranch, Ferron UT

Major Research Responsibilities

Grazing behavior of cattle with respect to poisonous plants: larkspur, locoweed, lupine, broom snakeweed.

Targeted grazing of livestock to control poisonous and noxious weeds.

Herbicide and biological control of poisonous plants.

Ecology and population cycles of poisonous plants.

Environmental influences on toxin concentration in plants.

Management recommendations to reduce risk of poisoning and enhance efficient use of rangelands.

Publications: 131 scientific papers, 52 book chapters or published symposium proceedings,

49 popular articles, edited 2 books.

Honors and Awards

SRM Outstanding Achievement Award for Research	2000
Utah Section SRM Range Manager of the Year	1999
Utah Section SRM Certificate of Appreciation	1993, 1995, 2004
ARS Certificate of Merit	1992, 1986
Outstanding Senior, College of Natural Resources, Utah State Univ.	1974
Utah Section SRM Scholarship, Utah State University	1973-74

Professional Society Membership

Society for Range Management
American Society of Animal Science
Weed Science Society of America
Utah Cattlemen and Woolgrowers Associations
Weed Board: Cache County UT, Emery County UT
Southern Cache County Medusahead Weed Management Area Committee

Expertise

Wildland plant communities
Plant identification and ecology
Rangeland restoration
Invasive weed control
Grazing management