

## Beef Talk at Springerville



Picking the cool climate of Springerville - Eagar, the Arizona Cattle Growers Association and the Arizona Section of the American Society of Range Management had their summer meetings combined, with a three-day session full of good solid meat for both body and mind.

Dan Clarke of Tucson, head of the research and education committee for the Cattle Growers, was chairman of the panel pictured above, representing all phases of the livestock industry.

Left to right, Joe Blair of Cowden Livestock Co., Phoenix; Joe Entz, chairman of the Arizona Cattle Feeders, from Spur Feedyards, Phoenix; Ernest Browning, Willcox, past president of the Cattle Growers; Dan Clarke, cattleman and agricultural loan officer for a bank we'll not mention because we don't want to give the S. A. B. any free publicity, and at extreme right, Blaine Liljenquist, Washington, D. C., president and general manager of the Western States Meat Packers Assn.

The panel ably handled the assigned subject, Producing Meat for the Market.

The Range Management Society portion of the meetings covered such subjects as noxious plant removal, range reseeding, rotation - deferred grazing, nutritional makeup of Arizona range forage, reseeding experiences with various introduced grasses and seed production of such grasses.

The Cattle Growers listened to discussions of breeding to increase ranch production, estrus synchronization, pregnancy testing, artificial insemination, meeting market demands, and breeding for profit.

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## New Rootstocks Used In Yuma Citrus Trials

By D. R. Rodney

New rootstocks are being introduced into the Yuma County citrus picture and will be tested at the Yuma Branch of The University of Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station.

For the past 15 years, practically all citrus planted in the county has been on Rough Lemon rootstocks. This was justified on the basis that Rough Lemon, as a rootstock, was well adapted to the sandy soils of the Yuma and Wellton Mesas where the planting was taking place. Previous to this period, a large percentage of the citrus on the Yuma Mesa and elsewhere in Arizona was grown on Sour Orange rootstocks.

The need for new rootstock information is recognized now because citrus is being planted on a considerable acreage in the Yuma Valley where the soil is a sandy loam or heavier. In this case Rough Lemon may not have the advantages that have been observed on the sandy mesa. It has been shown in Arizona and other citrus producing areas that trees on some other rootstocks produce fruit with better quality characteristics than those produced by trees on Rough Lemon. Therefore,

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Dr. Rodney, a horticulturist, is stationed at the Yuma Mesa (Citrus) Branch Experiment Station at Yuma.

if some of these other rootstocks are found to be adapted to the valley soils, fruit of a superior quality may be produced.

### Soil, Too, Has Changed

There are also several hundred acres of old citrus plantings on the Yuma Mesa which have up to six inches of silt accumulated on top of the sand, as a result of irrigating in the early years when the Colorado River carried silt. It is expected that some of this acreage may be replanted in the next few years and here, again, some rootstock other than Rough Lemon may prove to be the better choice.

To obtain the needed information, Marsh Grapefruit, Fairchild Tangerine, and Orlando Tangelo trees are being grown on 14 different rootstocks. The trees will be transplanted to two different locations, one being a sandy loam soil on the Experiment Station farm in the Yuma Valley, and the other being a block of old, silted soil on the Yuma Mesa Citrus Station.

Personnel participating in the project in addition to the author are Dr. R. H. Hilgeman, T. A. Hales, and R. L. Vomocil of the Department of Horticulture; Dr. R. M. Allen and H. H. McDonald of the Plant Pathology Department, and Dr. J. B. Carpenter, Pathologist with the U.S.D.A. Date and Citrus Station, Indio, California.

### New Rootstocks on Trial

The rootstocks being tested include some that are used commercially in other citrus producing areas and to some extent in Arizona, such as Troyer Citrange, Cleopatra Mandarin, Citrus Macrophylla, Palestine Lime, and Citrumelo. Others included are less well known, such as Batangas, Carrizo and Savage Citranges, Ichang Pummelo, Taiwanica, Volkameriana, Rangpur Lime, and Citrangor. Also included for comparisons are the old standard rootstocks, Rough Lemon and Sour Orange.

These rootstocks cover a wide range in regard to their vigor, resistance to virus and fungus diseases, and the quality of fruit produced. This increases the chances that some of them will be found to be adapted to the Yuma Valley and silted Mesa soils. It is hoped that some will have good vigor and productivity, with better disease resistance and fruit quality than the rootstocks used in the past.