

Termination Program, trapping in general, marine mammals (especially pilot whales in the Faroe Islands), hunting in general, philosophical discussions of why animals have rights, contamination of pesticides in the environment, and drugging race horses.

A presentation of special interest was done by Dr. Ted Friend of Texas A&M University. Dr. Friend's research program deals with establishing optimal living conditions for farm animals. His project areas include animal transport, raising of dairy calves, orientation of horses in trailers, bedsores in swine, methods for maintaining pigs during gestation, and how to contain sows during farrowing. The results of his research should be of interest to livestock producers interested in maintaining a healthy stock. Dr. Friend was presented with API's Animal Humanitarian of the Year Award by API president and founder Belton B. Mouras.

I suspect that animal rights and animal welfare organiza-

tions are going to get more sophisticated in their approaches and strategies. The more you know about their philosophy and beliefs, the better you will be able to assess your own operations in light of their concerns.

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Holism & Hydrology

Dick Hart and Pat Reece

On Erin's sod, a tale they tell
Of the flowing fantastic fairy well.
It was uncapped against the wishes
Of the fairies, who turned the folk to fishes
And spread Lough Allen's water wide
Where once was pleasant countryside.

Back to the present; a foreign sage,
Full of the wisdom of the age,
Has come to the land of the arid West
To preach his management scheme's the best
And give his solemn certification
That he can halt desertification.

Just build the fences, rotate the critters.
And persevere, don't be a quitter;
Dry springs will turn to flowing fountains
And lakes appear between the mountains.
Cows that rustled for cheat and bluebunch.
Will have a wildrye and alfalfa to munch.

But things are getting out of hand;
The waters spread across the land.
The basement of one veterinarian
Has become a habitat riparian.
And Salt Lake's waters rise and reach;
Will Temple Square become a beach?

Did management cause the lakes to spread?
Should we tear out the fences or go ahead?
If activity's followed by some concurrence?
Is it cause-and-effect or just concurrence?
Is flooding caused by bovine rotation
Or years of excessive precipitation?

Beware of fairy tales from sages;
Beware "the wisdom of the ages".
Remember the valid management points
Learned at Dad's knee (and other low joints).
Let's use what works to achieve prosperity
And preserve the range for our posterity.

Editor's Note: This poem was first printed in the Nebraska Section Newsletter, SRM, Vol. 35, No. 2, May 1986.

Old Grass in the Spring

Bob Ross

The days are getting longer,
The sun is shining stronger,
The spring can now be seen,
The grass will soon be green.
The hay is getting low,
It's a terrible tale of woe
Cause, I didn't save some old grass for this spring.

A cow needs a lot of bulk,
Or she'll stand around and sulk.
She'll run from plant to plant,
And still look might gant.
Green grass is mostly juice—
It's a pretty poor excuse
Without a lot of old grass in the spring.

Your worries, though, are over,
Your cows will be in "clover,"
Your grass will green up quicker,
Your cows will give more "liquor."
You may think this is humbug,
But your cows will get the love bug
If you've left a lot of old grass for this spring.

After having had her calf,
A cow needs a ration and a half.
Thirty pounds of "dry"
Puts a glimmer in her eye.
But, a critter bawls herself to sleep
When there's not enough to eat—
This year I'll save some old grass for next spring.

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