

# Range Improvement — A Home Remedy

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The civilization of today, as has been the case for centuries, is built around the home and its operations. Each home has its joy, happiness, problems and discomforts. One family can not set up a criterion of living for another. Problems that arise are to be solved within the realm of those concerned. An unwholesome conduct on the part of one may pollute the lives of hundreds. In this case the problem has far surpassed the boundaries and limits of the home and then becomes a universal problem. Societies, clubs and other worthy organizations may make an attempt to counteract the problem and restore it to its once wholesome condition, but without the cooperation

and working assistance of each individual home it is a futile effort.

A similar problem confronts the American rancher today. When our forefathers settled on the Western range land, they had little if any idea of what constituted a correct carrying capacity for their range. Because of the severe overstocking rates their grass soon became depleted, erosion began to develop and range invaders were soon a common sight.

The problem grew from one ranch to another and soon it was a universal problem. Everyone is aware of the misfortune, but are most of us mentally and physically ready to tackle the problem of restoration? It is a common occur-

rence to hear a rancher say "yes, it will work for him, because he has more rainfall." A rancher who blames his inability to produce grass upon the weather is trying to evade the issue and assume no responsibility in the range improvement program.

We have men who are available and willing to give any personal assistance that may be needed in planning an improvement program, but until each individual rancher assumes his responsibility to himself and to others, there can be no great progress made. We need to take this problem home and give it our own personal attention. Those who have had a systematic grazing program have come through the drought with money in the bank, cattle on the range, and grass to spare. The reason some ranchers have the assets and some do not is probably because some have not made an honest effort for such improvements. The initial investment will be small and the returns will be greater. Why don't you investigate the possibilities of a systematic grazing program?

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