

The Renewable Resources Extension Act Program (RREA) at Langston University, FY 2008

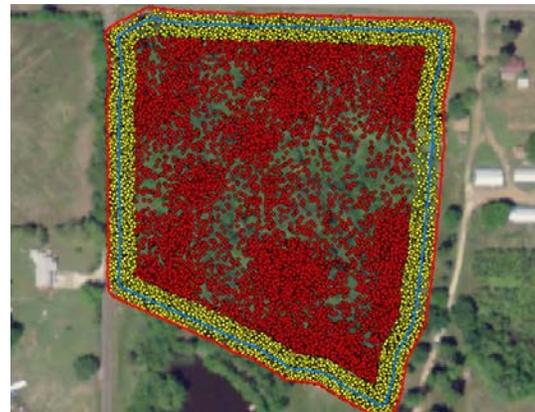


The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) program funds allocated to Langston University are administered through the American Institute for Goat Research, School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. The RREA Strategic Issues addressed are Economic Opportunities for Individuals and Communities, and Invasive Species. Langston University efforts focused on the control of invasive plant species in forests, which is costly for landowners to control.

Rehabilitation of Under-utilized ForestLand by Goats for Economic Benefits

A forestry and goats demonstration site was established in an overgrown pine forest at the Kiamichi Forestry Research Station of Oklahoma State University.

Twenty-five young goats were placed on the demonstration site for 12 weeks. During the first week, the goats were fitted with GPS collars that recorded a fix every five minutes. The goats spent 62% of their time within 10 m. of the fence (yellow dots in photo), which was a cleared area, and 38% of their time within the interior of the site (red dots). Based upon GPS attributes, the goats were more active in foraging within the interior and rested more in the fence buffer. Also, activity was bimodal with a peak at 9:00 am and another at 2:00 pm.



Distribution of GPS fixes on goats within forestry demonstration plot

Agroforestry & Alternative Forest Practices Workshop Sixty-two participants attended a workshop focusing on agroforestry with results of the goat demonstration site highlighted as a culminating presentation.

SUNUP, a weekly television show on the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority (OETA) network, produced a video segment (<http://sunup.okstate.edu/video/11-8-08/seg2.html>) about the demonstration.



Workshop participants learn about goat demonstration site.



Workshop participants observe goats and site.

“This year’s Agroforestry and Alternative Forest Practices Field Day showcased the goat cooperative and was the best attended of these annual workshops.” – Dr. Bob Heinemann, Senior Superintendent, OSU Kiamichi Forestry Research Station

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