

# Small-acreage

## owners attend workshops



More than 130 small-acreage landowners interested in managing their resources attended hands-

on workshops in communities across Wyoming this April, May, and June.

One more workshop is July 8 in Casper. The workshops are sponsored by the land resource experts who produce this magazine. The team is comprised of multiple organizations that have an interest in helping small landowners.

"I feel like we gave the landowners more tools in their toolbox to use when making decisions about managing their land," says Dallas Mount, a University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service (UW CES) educator in Platte, Goshen, and Laramie counties, and chairman of the Small Acreage Issue Team, which directs the magazine.

Small-acreage "hands on" workshops have been held in Casper in April, Wheatland, Cheyenne, and Laramie in May, and Ethete, Lander, Jackson, and Alta in June.

Small-acreage landowners learned about managing rangeland but also gained an awareness of resources available to them through local agencies like a weed and pest control district or a conservation district, says Tony Hoch, manager of the Laramie Rivers Conservation District, which serves Albany County.

"If someone can give up an entire Saturday for a workshop then write a glowing review of that workshop, it was a huge success," he says. "I'm already getting questions about future events from these folks."

Another workshop is 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 8, in Casper at the Agricultural Resource and Learning Center, 2011 Fairgrounds Road. Visit Events at [barnyardsandbackyards.com](http://barnyardsandbackyards.com) for more information.

More than 54 attended the first Casper workshop.

"We hit a home run with this workshop," says Tom Heald, UW CES educator in Converse, Natrona, and Niobrara counties, *Barnyards & Backyards* coordinator, and member of the Small Acreage Issue Team. "The evaluations indicated that, prior to the workshop, participants had some ideas about how to get started doing projects such as using electric fencing or landscaping. After the workshop, the evaluations indicated participants felt they gained enough information and confidence to begin implementing these strategies."

*Barnyards&Backyards*, which began publication in spring 2005, is available at Wyoming conservation district and UW CES offices and by subscription. Membership of the Small Acreage Issue Team uniquely crosses local, county, state, and federal agency boundaries to meet small-acreage landowner needs.

Each issue contains practical information on land-management topics and also features landowners who relate strategies they use to overcome problems faced in Wyoming's challenging environment.

**On the Web:** [barnyardsandbackyards.com](http://barnyardsandbackyards.com)



*Morgan Renner of Gallagher Animal Management Systems demonstrates power fencing at a small-acreage workshop in Casper.*