Thanks to the vision and generosity of Edwin and Ruth Mattheis, the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences at the University of Alberta has just such an opportunity. The University of Alberta Rangeland Research Institute will develop a long-term research program that focuses on the economic challenges and environmental issues facing the ranching industry.

AN EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY, A LIFETIME INVESTMENT

To seize the opportunity provided by the Mattheis Ranch, the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences has established the Rangeland Ecology and Management Fund.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for donors to invest in the future of our ranching industry and create a lasting legacy.

Find out more.
To make a donation or for more information, please contact:

Ken Crocker
Assistant Dean, Development
780-492-1896
Ken.Crocker@ualberta.ca

RANGELAND ECOLOGY & MANAGEMENT FUND
Creating a Living Legacy for Canada’s Ranching Industry

THE LAND IS EVERYTHING.
ONCE IT’S GONE, IT’S GONE FOREVER.
THAT’S WHY IT’S ESSENTIAL THAT WE BE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE LAND, THAT WE LEARN FROM IT AND BUILD ON OUR KNOWLEDGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.
THE MATTHEIS RANCH – A MICROCOSM OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA

The 12,300-acre ranch, located near Duchess, AB, is largely native rangeland with just 700 acres cultivated. It offers a diversity of ecosystems and habitats, a rich variety of plant life, riparian areas and several wetlands created specifically for wildlife habitat.

Edwin and Ruth Mattheis donated their ranch to broaden the knowledge and understanding of ranching ecology and management.

For decades the family has practiced sustainable ranching. They developed a herbarium, kept a detailed inventory of wildlife and vegetation, performed extensive soil testing and monitored the quantity and quality of surface and ground water on their land.

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Drought Management and Water Conservation
- Develop new drought management methods to deal with increased warming and frequency of droughts
- Determine the value and impact of irrigation and water conservation

Business Diversification
- Explore and develop business opportunities and alternate business models to help diversify ranching operations and reduce risk such as:
  - Credit for good stewardship of ecological goods and services
  - Incentives for conservation of wildlife habitats, including wetlands
  - Carbon offset credits
  - Exchange of water rights
  - Eco-tourism

"The nation that destroys its soil destroys itself."
-Franklin D. Roosevelt

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LEADERS IN RANGELAND RESEARCH

The Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences is the leader in rangeland research in Canada. We have a diversity of expertise in rangeland ecology and management including applied plant and soil ecology, livestock grazing, land reclamation and rehabilitation and water use.

The addition of the Mattheis Ranch, combined with the University of Alberta’s 12,000-acre Kinsella Ranch on the Aspen Parkland, provides an unprecedented opportunity to find solutions and deliver positive benefits to ranchers, land owners, policy makers and scientists through invaluable long-term research.

REAL-WORLD RESEARCH, REAL-WORLD BENEFITS

Our research will provide a legacy for the ranching industry, future generations of ranching families and society as a whole. Here are just a few of the expected benefits:

Grazing System Production
- Determine which grazing systems improve forage production and increase profitability for the mixed grass region in the Prairies
- Establish which grazing systems maximize rangeland health and provide for the most useful ecological goods and services

Reclamation
- Discover new techniques to successfully reclaim disturbed rangeland ecosystems
- Identify real cost of reclamation activities to landowners

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