



Weekly Business Showcase

5/23/2016 – 5/27/2016

The Hat Ranch

(575) 437-1608

Alamogordo Chamber Member Since: 1977

The Hat Ranch was formed in 1928 by Don T. and Charlotte T. Lee. The ranch was located in the southern Sacramento Mountains. A herd of registered Hereford cattle were first put on the ranch in 1929. Horses were also raised.

In 1956, McGregor Range was expanding the buffer zone for missile firings from Fort Bliss. The ranch was within the boundaries of the buffer zone and was subsequently condemned and purchased by the army. By 1958, Don, Charlotte and their son Charlie and daughter in law Jean Lee purchased the A.B. Cox ranch 30 miles south of the original ranch and 70 miles southeast of Alamogordo. In 1978 the Hereford cattle were crossed with Santa Gertrudis and Charolais bulls. This has helped the cattle to utilize the range more efficiently and maintain the growth of the cattle.

The ranch sells commercial cattle and occasionally sells pistachios when the blooms don't freeze. Six generations of the Lee family have been proud residents of Otero County and the city of Alamogordo.