CSU Matters

Colorado State University

APRIL 2015

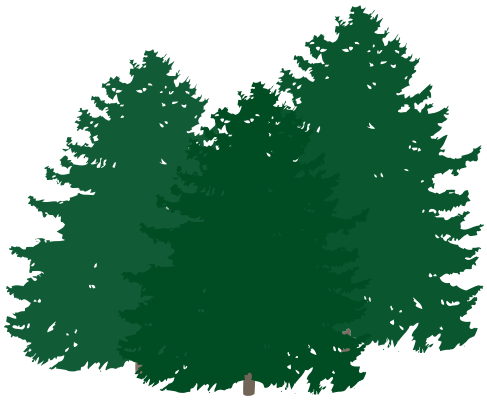
Stress linked to chromosomal damage

A new wildlife preserve in India recently became a laboratory for CSU researchers led by Jeffrey Snodgrass, an anthropology professor, and Sammy Zahran, associate professor of economics. The pair studied villagers displaced by the preserve. The CSU team found that the relocated villagers demonstrated higher stress levels than the ones who were allowed to remain in their homes, and the stress was harming their health and even potentially accelerating their aging at a deep, cellular level.

Jeffrey Snodgrass meeting with villagers in the study region.

Northern Colorado bison project uses high-tech breeding to halt disease and conserve an icon

A seed herd of purebred American bison – offspring of the iconic native species in Yellowstone National Park – will be reintroduced this fall to a natural area at the hinge of the Rocky Mountains and the Great Plains through an agreement between CSU and three government agencies. The site is in Northern Colorado, near the Wyoming border, where bison once roamed freely before they were slaughtered to near extinction in the late 1800s. Conservationists for years have envisioned bison reintroduction in Northern Colorado. The aspiration is becoming reality with the problem-solving use of assisted reproductive technologies developed over several decades at CSU's Animal Reproduction and Biotechnology Laboratory.



Colorado trees showing damage from fall freeze, winter scorch

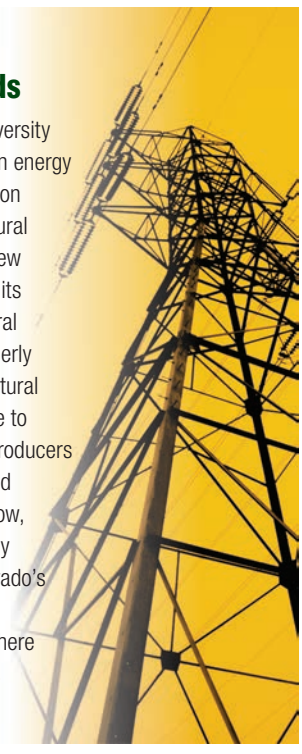
Record-breaking cold in early November caused many trees to suffer needle and bud damage that will impact tree health this year. The Colorado State Forest Service recommends providing general tree care as the best option as trees start budding this spring, which means regular watering on warmer days and ensuring that mulch is present around tree bases.

CSU most sustainable university in the world

CSU has become the first and only campus to achieve platinum status – the highest possible – under the STARS rating system, an independent program that measures comprehensive sustainability efforts at more than 700 universities across the globe. STARS stands for Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System, and it is a program conducted by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. It is considered the most comprehensive and prestigious sustainability performance measurement program in higher education.

Rural Energy Center expands

A Colorado State University center that focuses on energy usage and conservation in the state's agricultural sectors is getting a new name and expanding its mission. The new Rural Energy Center – formerly the Center for Agricultural Energy – will continue to provide agricultural producers with energy audits and recommendations. Now, it will also offer energy assessments in Colorado's mountain towns and small communities where economies are not as agriculturally based.



U.S. News & World Report: CSU graduate programs rank among the nation's best

Colorado State's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program is in the top 3 in the country in the newest rankings from *U.S. News & World Report*. Other top-ranked CSU programs highlighted in *U.S. News* include:

Earth Sciences
Statistics
Chemistry
Social Work
Biological Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Biomedical Engineering
Part-time MBA program
Math
Sociology
Physics
Environmental Engineering
Systems Engineering
Computer Science
Public Health
Biological Sciences
Chemical Engineering
Computer Engineering
Mechanical Engineering

An elephant never forgets, proves CSU research

New research from CSU proves that elephants' tremendous memories of their habitats and their resources contribute to their survival in challenging environments. Using advanced animal-tracking technology, Professor George Wittemyer and his team analyzed the movements of elephants in Etosha National Park, Namibia. Using distinct movements for waters, the team found that elephants consistently choose to access the closest water point to their location, beginning straight-line movements toward water across great distances.