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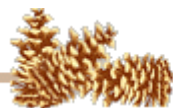
## TREE FARM BULLETIN

**Dave & Kim Roland and Miel**  
**New Mexico's Newest Tree Farmers**



Watch for horses that like to ham it up for the cameras. Miel, (Spanish for honey, named after her color), a mustang mare from the Callaghan Herd management area in Nevada took the opportunity to get in on the action while enjoying her New Mexico vacation property. The 80 acre property in the western Zuni Mountains has been certified as New Mexico's newest certified tree farm property. Dave and Kim Roland from Georgetown, Texas, fell in love with this piece of property located in one of New Mexico's best kept secret locations. They purchased the property in May of 2011 and have been working to improve it ever since.

The Roland's Forest Management plan has recently been completed and forest thinning has taken place on the property. Since they purchased the property they have taken their opportunities to visit the property to work on the land a bit. They have spent their time developing the "camp" and thin the forest and last year even found time to burn some of the slash. On the Bernalillo District, Forester, Todd Haines last visit, the Roland's had invited over two of their neighbors and were talking about forestry while making lunch snacks.



Kim is a structure firefighter in Texas for the City of Austin; Dave handed Todd his business card which read “Fiddle Player” and “Equine Pedicurist.” Miel needs a new pair of shoes!

Some of the goals the Roland’s have for their Tree Farm property is to make it more fire adapted (safe), to add to the water resources for wildlife, and to ensure the quality of timber on the property.



*Todd Haines, Bernalillo District Forester*

FROM THE CHAIRMAN: I would to welcome the Roland’s to the Tree Farm family. Todd Haines’ excellent write up briefly describes the Roland’s and their tree farm.

Don’t forget to consider purchasing an elk hunt raffle ticket or contributing an income tax deductible cash donation to the Tree Farm committee fund raising effort as described in the May bulletin. Give me a call if you have misplaced the bulletin, or just send me money. You will receive a letter for any donations for income tax purposes.

The New Mexico State Forestry fall seedling sales start July 8<sup>th</sup> and run through October 4<sup>th</sup>. Distribution begins September 9<sup>th</sup> and ends October 11<sup>th</sup>. For information and to order seedlings go to <http://www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/>. I have purchased over 300 seedlings from the seedling program over the past five years. Except for serviceberry bushes which have not survived my 10,000 foot elevation and the rabbits, I have probably an 85 to 90 percent survival rate. The one year seedlings are relatively easy to plant using a “wedgie” tool as long as the ground is not too rocky or hard once you remove the grass from the plot. Two year old plants are a bit more difficult to plant as a hole needs to be dug. There are larger “wedgies” available, but I was too cheap to buy one. Besides, my wife will KILL me if I purchase any more seedlings. It takes us two full days to water them in this drought. Since I have put in so much work clearing each plot, planting them, staking them with flagging (so we can find them in the weeds to water), pulling weeds, and covering the plot with wood chips I tend to baby the little buggers.

We still need a Committee Secretary. Give it some thought.

