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GOPHER: A Computerized Cost/Benefit Analysis

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GOPHER: A Computerized Cost/Benefit Analysis

of Pocket Gopher Control

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Abstract: GOPHER is a computer program that can assist landowners, extension agents,
and resource personnel in determining the cost-effectiveness of various methods of
pocket gopher control. The program is interactive and user-friendly. It allows for the
input of variables, including: crop type, acreage, expected yield and value, and acreage
infested. Material and labor costs can be assigned or standard default values can be
used. Other "fixed" variables can be changed, including: pocket gopher density and rate
of increase, rate of treatment, rate of retreatment, and forage recovery rate. With these
variables and values, GOPHER generates the costs, time, and economic feasibility of
pocket gopher control. Control methods include: hand baiting, hand probe, gopher
probe, burrow builder, and trapping. It also provides estimates of costs for second
treatments and pocket gopher expansion without control. Free copies of GOPHER are
available from the authors by providing formatted 5 1/4 inch floppy disks or 3 1/2 inch
disks.