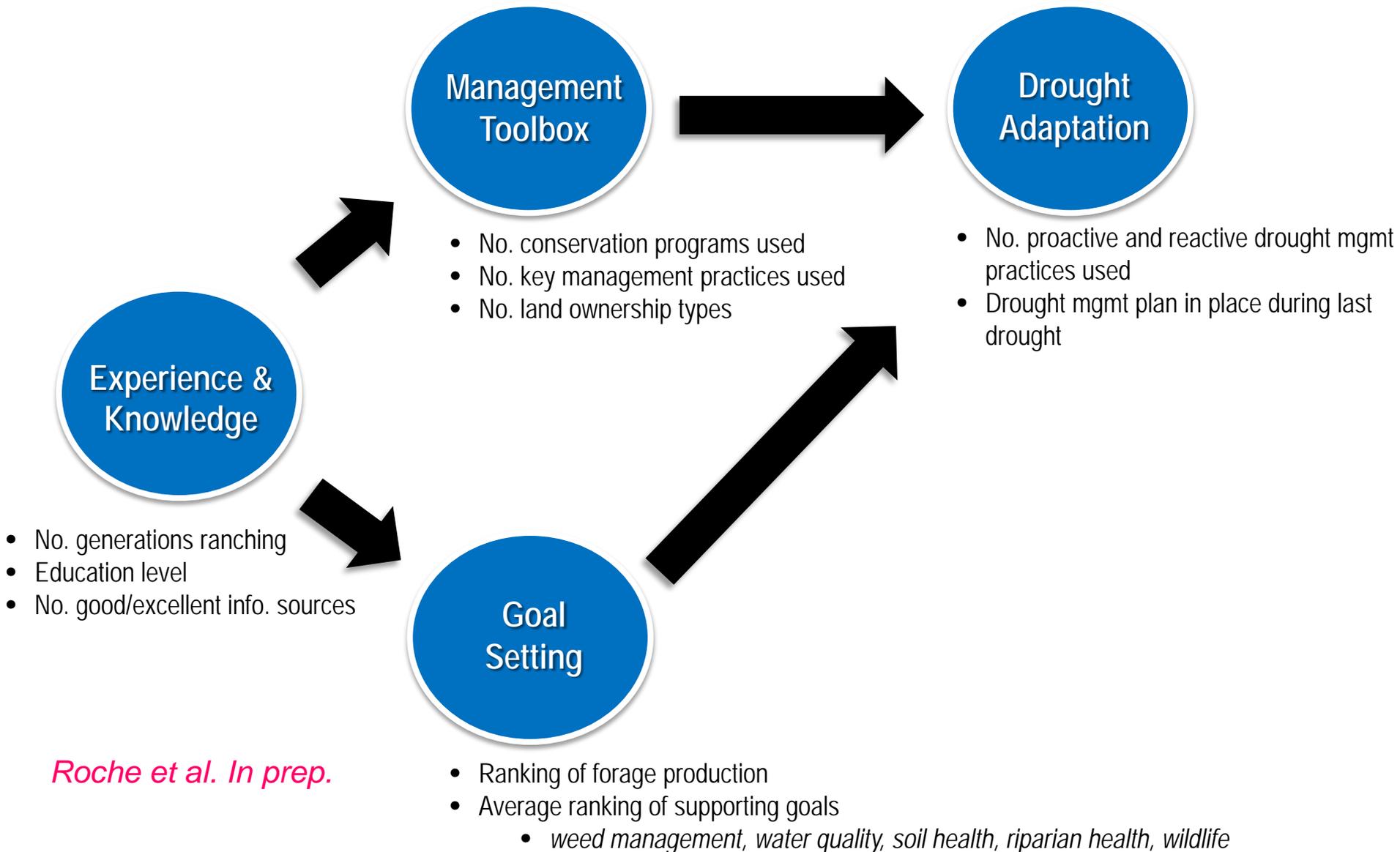


Managing the Drought

- Thin room for mistakes in untraveled areas
- Gain information - best decisions
- Each ranch is unique
- Take today's information and apply it
- Connect to information resource

Rancher Decision-Making and Drought Adaptation



For the Day

- Pastures
 - Rangeland
 - Irrigated pasture
- Animal Health and Culling
- Feed
 - Supplements
 - Drought roughages and feeds
- Risk Management
 - Government Programs
 - Private Insurance
- Past Drought Experiences
- Economics

Strategies to Manage for Drought Impacts		% (n= 443)
 Proactive	Employ conservative stocking rates	37
	Incorporate pasture rest into grazing system	25
	Incorporate both cow-calf and stockers for flexibility	23
	Grass bank/Stockpile forage	14
	Use 1-3 month weather predictions to adjust stocking	12
	Add other livestock types for flexibility	3
Reactive	Reduce herd size	76
	Purchase feed	75
	Apply for government assistance programs	43
	Wean early	43
	Rent additional pasture	28
	Move livestock to another location	26
	Earn off-ranch income	25
	Sell retained yearlings	24
	Place livestock in a feedlot	9
	Allow livestock condition to decline; maintain herd size	7
	Add alternative on-ranch enterprise	5

Roche et al. In prep.