Extension Plant Sciences
Department Profile
http://eps.nmsu.edu; 575-646-5280

Mission Statement
The Mission of the Extension Plant Sciences Department is to extend research-based knowledge and technology that enables our clientele to improve the quality of their lives and enhances the agricultural, economic, environmental and social well-being of the state.

Selected Program Impacts
- The Master Gardener Program offered in 14 counties trains over 300 new Master Gardeners annually and has over 1,000 active Master Gardeners who return over 50,000 hours in volunteer time to the counties.
- The Plant Diagnostic Clinic provides over 2,000 diagnoses per year and identifies, on average, 5 new diseases in New Mexico yearly. Proper identification of pest problems enables Specialists to assist clientele in developing effective and cost efficient pest management plans.
- Over 90% of attendees at programs conducted by EPS Faculty say they significantly increased their knowledge of the presented topics and 82% indicate that they will adopt a new practice as a result of the training.
- The New Mexico Pecan Industry, Wine Industry and Specialty Crops Markets are increasing on a yearly basis. This expansion may be due, in some part, to the information and assistance provided to growers by the EPS Faculty.
- The development of new cultivars and new crops are assisting growers in expanding their markets and staying competitive in an ever increasing global marketplace.
- Demonstrations and on-farm trials located throughout the state help clientele to refine growing practices for specific locations.
- Forage research and extension programs have helped NM producers increase profitability by reducing fertilizer and seed costs by 25%, reducing water use by 30%, and increasing yields by 10%.
- Bioenergy research and extension programs are helping to develop a regional biofuel industry which is increasing economic develop in rural New Mexico and creating jobs.
- The Extension Turfgrass program has developed a research and teaching collaboration with the Universities in Italy. This partnership has enabled 2 graduate students and 4 summer interns to receive an overseas educational experience.

Quick Facts
- EPS Faculty reach over 36,000 stakeholders annually through county-based extension programs, crop conferences, field days, and one-on-one consulting.
- EPS Faculty and staff bring in over $2 Million dollars in grants, contacts and gifts annually.
- EPS Faculty publish more than 40 extension publications and popular press articles annually.
- EPS Faculty publish over 25 reviewed journal articles and over 70 other research publications and abstracts annually.
- EPS Faculty reach countless clientele through mass media outlets, such as newspapers, radio, T.V. and the Internet.
Faculty and Staff, Areas of Expertise, and Location

Agronomy and Soils (2.42 Extension FTE)
- John Idowu – Agronomist /Soil Scientist – NMSU Main Campus
- Mark Marsalis – Forage Agronomist – Los Lunas ASC
- Robert Flynn – Agronomist/Soil Scientist – Artesia ASC
- Sangu Angadi – Agronomist (Bioenergy) – Clovis ASC
- Kulbhushan Grover – Sustainable Agriculture – NMSU Main Campus

Horticultural Crops (6.24 Extension FTE)
- Richard Heerema – Pecan Specialist – NMSU Main Campus
- Bernd Leinauer – Turfgrass Specialist – NMSU Main Campus
- Stephanie Walker – Vegetable Specialist – NMSU Main Campus
- Bernd Maier – Viticulture and Enology – NMSU Main Campus
- Shengrui Yao – Fruit Specialist – Alcalde ASC
- Vacant position – Urban Horticulture Specialist – Los Lunas ASC
- Vacant position – Fruit Specialist – Los Lunas ASC
- Vacant position – Master Gardener Program Manager – Los Lunas ASC

Pest Management (5.74 Extension FTE)
- Natalie Goldberg – Plant Pathology – NMSU Main Campus
- Tess Grasswitz – Urban & Small Farms IPM – Los Lunas ASC
- Leslie Beck – Weed Science – NMSU Main Campus
- Carol Sutherland – Entomology – NMSU Main Campus
- Jane Pierce – Agronomic Entomology – Artesia ASC
- Rick Arnold – Weed Science – Farmington ASC
- Jason French – Diagnostician and Pesticide Training Coordinator – NMSU Main Campus
- Cary Hamilton – IR-4 Program Coordinator – NMSU Main Campus

Selected Partnerships and Collaborators
- Other Universities including; University of Arizona, University of California, Oregon State University, Washington State University, Texas A&M, UNM Medical School, Kansas State University, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State University, Colorado State University, University of Nebraska, University of Wyoming
- University of Podova and Pisa, Italy
- USDA, NMDA, U.S. BLM, U.S. NRCS, EPA, IR-4, NM State Engineers Office
- National Plant Diagnostic Network
- Western Pecan Growers Assoc.
- Navajo Agricultural Products Industries
- Southwest Turfgrass Association
- NM Chile Association
- NM County Extension Programs
- New Mexico Crop Producers
- Agro Chemical Companies
- Crop Commodity Associations
- Sustainable Oils, LLC
- Pecos Valley Farmers Association
- NM Vegetation Management Assoc.
- NM Wine Growers Association
- NM Vine and Wine Society
- NM Dairy Producers
- NM Organic Commodity Commission
- Los Alamos and Sandia National Labs
- Seed Companies
- U.S. Peace Corps
- Irrigation Districts

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.