



Live, Learn and Thrive.

Integrated Pecan Orchard Management



New Mexico State University



NMSU Photo By: J. Victor Espinosa

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Fabian Garcia, the first director of the New Mexico Agricultural Experiment Station, planted some of earliest pecan orchards in New Mexico in 1913.

Today New Mexico has a thriving pecan industry with over 40,000 acres of commercial orchards, with significant production in seven counties. The New Mexico pecan crop is valued at nearly \$100 million dollars annually.

As the New Mexico pecan industry continues to rapidly expand, the NMSU Integrated Pecan Orchard Management Program's mission is to provide the educational resources needed to allow pecan production to remain highly productive and profitable in a constantly changing world.



Extension Programming

- The Western Pecan Growers Association Conference & Tradeshow. The NMSU Extension Pecan Program coordinates this event each spring, attracting hundreds of growers, providing them with up-to-date production and marketing information.
- County Pecan Field Days. In collaboration with County Extension Offices, field days are held annually in each of the major pecan-producing counties in New Mexico, addressing topics of local concern.
- The NMSU Western Pecan Production Short Course. This program gives growers and prospective growers a broad introduction to all that is



needed for successful pecan production in the West.

- The NMSU Pecan Program Website. Pecan-related news and events, links to relevant NMSU Extension horticulture bulletins, and general information pages about the New Mexico pecan industry are available online at <http://pecans.nmsu.edu>.
- The Mesilla Valley Pecan Irrigation Scheduler. AKA the 'Pecanigator', this is a tool available online allowing pecan growers to increase yield, quality, profitability and irrigation water use efficiency through proper irrigation scheduling.



Impacts

- The Extension Pecan Program presentations reach over one thousand pecan producers in the western US and Mexico annually.
- 84% of attendees at the Western Pecan Growers Association Conference indicate that they will incorporate items learned at the conference into orchard management programs.
- The New Mexico pecan industry is growing at a rate of 2.3% per year, due, in part, to the availability of production information through the Extension Pecan Program.



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