The Extension Plant Sciences Viticulture Program planted two small vineyards totaling almost 1.5 acres at the Fabian Garcia Science Center in the spring of 2010 and 2012. Both vineyards are capable of producing grapes to be used in winemaking. Varieties planted include; Gewürztraminer, Picpoul Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Durif, Montepulciano d’Abruzzo, Negroamaro, Malbec, Teraldego, Carignan, Calzin, Zweigelt, Petit Verdot, Tannat, Cabernet Franc, Cinsault, Carmenere, Gruner Veltliner, Tocai Fruliano and Alberino. There is also a row of table grapes which includes; Thompson Seedless, Black Monuka, Fresno Seedless, and Delight. The purpose of these vineyards is for teaching, demonstrations and research of viticulture practices.

Social Media:
- Facebook - NMViticulture
- Twitter - @NMViticulture
- Periscope - @NMViticulture
- Youtube - NMViticulture
Winemaking Workshops

The Extension Viticulture Program and the Department of Ag Econ & Ag Business teamed up to provide a Wine Making Class/Extension Workshop during the fall. The students participate in the entire wine making process including crushing, de-stemming, fermentation, analysis, racking, bottling, and more. The class/workshop provides insight to the chemistry involved in making wine, which is typically where amateurs make their mistakes. It also covers the economics of wine making and marketing techniques that have proven successful for boutique wineries throughout the State of New Mexico. This course is offered for college credit or as an extension workshop, allowing the public to participate.

Grower Support & Impact

New Mexico’s viticulture industry has seen an increase by about 10% annually over the last two decades. The program provides expertise to growers from vineyard planning, variety selection to harvest scheduling. We regularly host workshops throughout the year where we teach pruning, plant propagation, and other viticulture practices. We recently held our 3rd annual Grape day which was well attended by the community. We strive to offer educational opportunities that meet the diverse needs of the people of New Mexico. We work closely with both professional and amateur organizations within New Mexico which include but not limited to the NM Vine & Wine Society as well as the NM Wine and Grape Growers Association.

Viticulture: Weather Impact

The New Mexico State University Extension Viticulture Program collaborated with the New Mexico Climate Center to design and install weather stations around the state for the accumulation of climate data to support existing vineyards, as well as further expansion. View collected data at viticulture.nmsu.edu. To date, the stations exist at twelve sites.

Climate data is used for:
- Site evaluation
- Disease forecasting
- Evaluation of winter desiccation

Weather Station locations in New Mexico