

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

2026 Regional Meetings

As the 2026 growing season starts for New Mexico I realize I need to organize our regional meetings this year. Last year our regional meetings took place in the regions of Alamogordo/Tularosa, Corrales, and Los Ranchos. The Alamogordo and Corrales meetings took the form of a traveling tour where we visited multiple vineyards, while the Los Ranchos meetings were pizza parties with informal discussions.

This year I'd like to hold regional meetings in the Las Cruces area, somewhere north of Santa Fe, and maybe south of Albuquerque to start. On April 9th and 10th we'll be holding the Four Corners Symposium in Farmington and Aztec--so I'm considering that a regional meeting of sorts. **All that said, I'd love to have some feedback on the form of these meeting before I start approaching potential host vineyards/wineries. To that end, I've made a one question survey.** If I get enough prompt feedback I'll try to schedule the first meeting for either the last week of April or first week of May.

[The survey is linked here \[click anywhere here\].](#)



Classifieds

Buy. Sell. Trade.

NEW MEXICO
STATE
UNIVERSITY



Our Corrales regional meeting, shown here, meant hopscotching from backyard vineyard to backyard vineyard, each with its own unique challenges.

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

MORE FARMINGTON AG SCIENCE CENTER UPDATES



SAVE THE DATE: FOUR CORNERS GRAPE SYMPOSIA!

APRIL 9-10, 2026

**TOPICS WILL INCLUDE VARIETAL UPDATES, SITE SELECTION, SENSORY EVALUATIONS, FERTILITY REQUIREMENTS AND MORE!
WATCH FOR FURTHER EVENT DETAILS INCLUDING VENUE!**



Visit farmingtonsc.nmsu.edu for more info or scan the QR code.

- 1. GUIDE Z-133: LIVESTOCK RISK PROTECTION INSURANCE (LRP) FOR PROTECTING AGAINST PRICE DECLINES: A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR NEW MEXICO FEEDER CATTLE GROWERS BY PILJA VITALE, DON MARTINEZ, BONNIE HOPKINS BYERS, JEFFREY VITALE, EDUARDO MEDINA, NICHOLAS LOWERY**
- HTML
 - PRINTABLE PDF

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

Day one:
April 9th

AGENDA



Time	April 9: San Juan County CES Office + Tasting room
8:00 - 8:15 AM	Registration
8:15 - 8:30 AM	Kevin Lombard - Welcome, Introduction
8:30 - 9:15 AM	Geraldine Diverres Naranjo - Introduction to Viticulture
9:15 - 10:00 AM	Matt Halldorson - Vineyard Nutrition Management
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Break
10:15 - 11:00 AM	Matt Halldorson (Hands-on) - Nutrient Lab results Interpretation
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Charlotte Oliver - Integrated Pest Management for Vineyards
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Catered Lunch
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Drive to San Juan testing room (Aztec)
1:30 - 2:15 PM	Donald Caldwell - Introduction to Winemaking
2:15 - 3:00 PM	Donald Caldwell (Hands-on) - Basic Lab Work: When to sample and how to understand the results
3:00 - 4:00 PM	Kevin Lombard - Performance evaluation updates + Tasting + Open discussion time

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

Day two:
April 10th

AGENDA



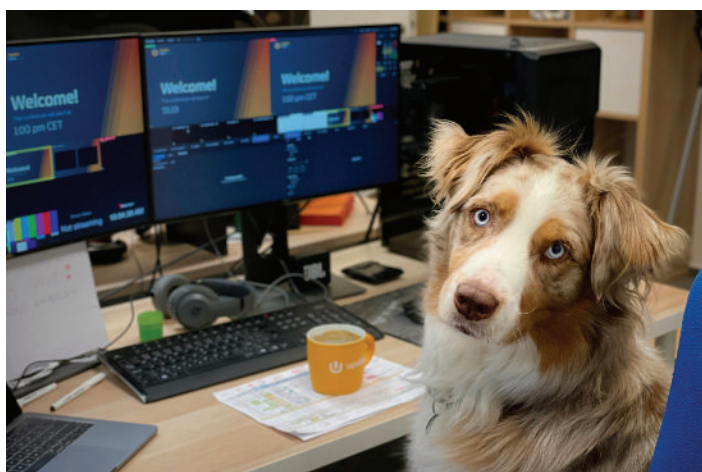
Time	NMSU ASC Farmington
9:00 - 9:15 AM	Kevin Lombard - Welcome
9:15 - 10:00 AM	Dave Dubois - ZiaMet Weather Station Network
10:15 - 11:00 AM	Dave Dubois et al. (Hands-on) - ZiaMet Weather station considerations + How we use weather data for vineyard management
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Charlotte Oliver (Hands-on) - Scouting for Crown Gall and Powdery mildew damage in canes
	Geraldine Diverres Naranjo (Hands-on) - Irrigation considerations (sand filters, drip irrigation system, using ETo to schedule irrigation, etc.)
	Kevin Lombard, Donald Caldwell et al. (Hands-on) - Trellising, training, and other practical vineyard-related.
12:30 - 12:45 PM	Kevin Lombard - Adjourn + Closing survey

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. NMSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, please contact Kevin Lombard in advance at klombard@nmsu.edu

New Mexico State University



It's never too early to start scouting for pests and diseases. In our vineyard at Fabian Garcia we had historically high levels of leaf hopper pressure last year. Towards the top of the leaf you can see they're getting started this year.



Virtual Office Hours

Unless otherwise noted,
every Monday, 2 to 3 p.m.

<https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/82042824719>

Or dial in, 253-215-8782.

You're welcome to bring any and all questions, photos, epiphanies, etc.

Upcoming Events

04/07/26

EVEF Webinar. Vineyard Management Efficiency.

Registration link.

04/09/26-04/10/26

Four Corners Grape Symposium. Farmington, NM.

See flyer above for more information.

Late April-Early May

First 2026 NM Regional Meeting

Location, exact date, and format TBD. See survey link on pg1.

5/25-5/27/26

Markus Keller, world renowned viticulturist, visit.

Southern NM vineyard visits and Las Cruces informal meetings. Your chance to hear from a world class viticulturist.

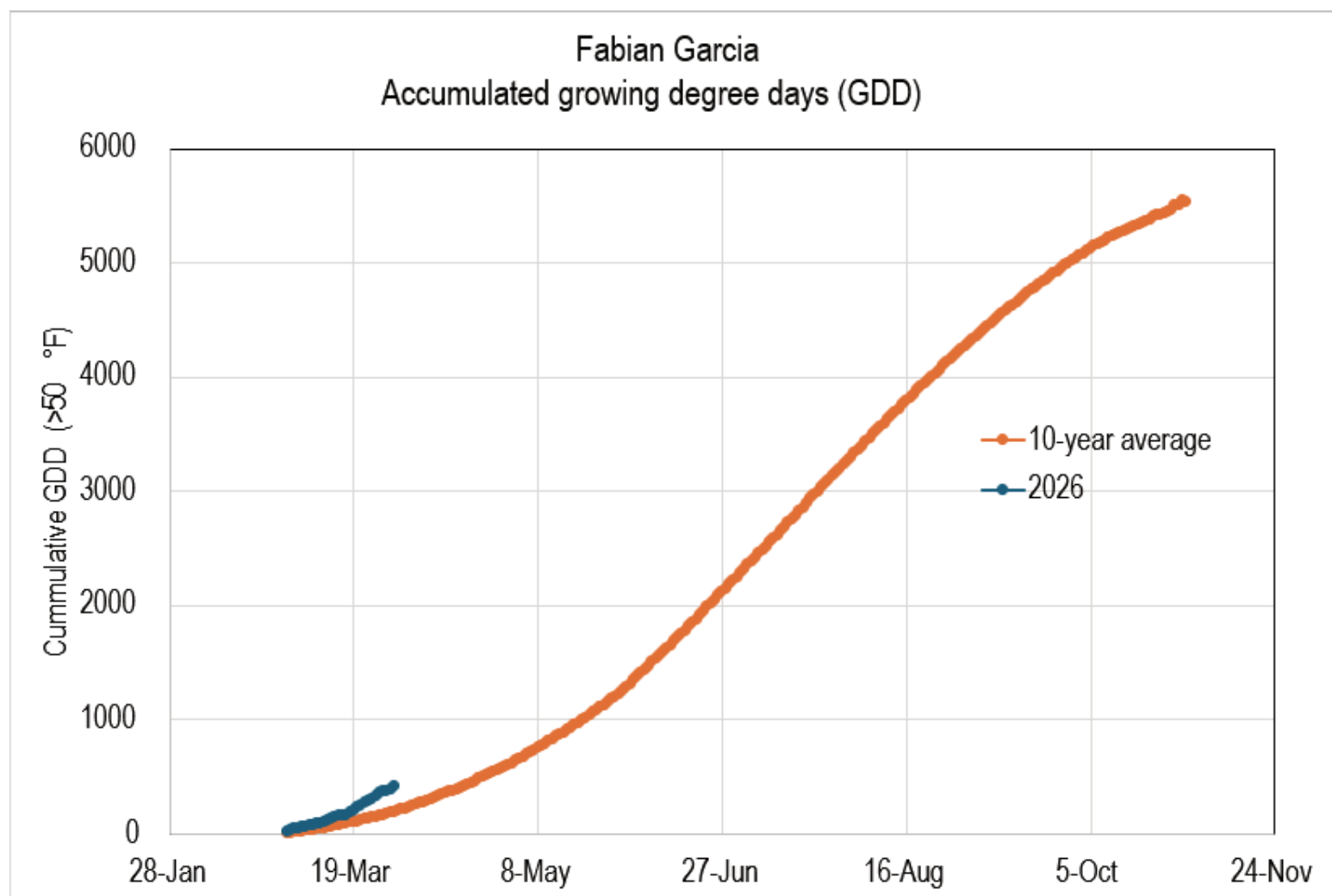


Trace bloom on our newly rooted, potted vines. We also have a fungus gnat infestation (barfing emoji here).

Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

2026 Growing Degree Days in Las Cruces



As you can see from this chart, 2026 is off to a very warm start. This is reflected in bud break, which most growers in the area (and even places as far off as Washington State) are describing as 2-3 weeks ahead of schedule. In fact, we have more than twice the heat accumulation as would be the average for the previous 10 years.

2026 GDDs: 418

10 Year Avg.: 195

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

2026 Regional Meetings

A medida que avanza la temporada de crecimiento en Nuevo México, me doy cuenta de que necesito comenzar a organizar nuestras reuniones regionales para el 2026. El año pasado, estas reuniones se llevaron a cabo en las regiones de Alamogordo/Tularosa, Corrales y Los Ranchos. En Alamogordo y Corrales hicimos un recorrido y visitamos múltiples viñedos, mientras que en Los Ranchos las reuniones fueron tipo “pizza party” con discusiones informales. Este año me gustaría organizar reuniones en el área de Las Cruces, en algún lugar al norte Santa Fe, y posiblemente al sur de Albuquerque.

Los días 9 y 10 de abril estaremos en el Four corners vine and wine symposium en Farmington y Aztec, por lo que lo estoy considerando como una especie de reunión regional. Dicho esto, me gustaría recibir comentarios sobre el formato de estas reuniones antes de comenzar a contactar posibles viñedos o bodegas anfitrionas. Para ello, he preparado una encuesta de una sola pregunta. Si recibo suficientes respuestas, intentaré programar la primera reunión para la última semana de abril o la primera semana de mayo. La encuesta está disponible en esta liga [haga clic aquí].



Classifieds

Buy. Sell. Trade.



Nuestra reunión regional en Corrales consistió en ir de viñedo en viñedo, visitando patios traseros, cada uno con sus propios desafíos particulares.

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

MORE FARMINGTON AG SCIENCE CENTER UPDATES



SAVE THE DATE: FOUR CORNERS GRAPE SYMPOSIA!

APRIL 9-10, 2026

**TOPICS WILL INCLUDE VARIETAL UPDATES, SITE SELECTION, SENSORY EVALUATIONS, FERTILITY REQUIREMENTS AND MORE!
WATCH FOR FURTHER EVENT DETAILS INCLUDING VENUE!**



Visit farmingtonsc.nmsu.edu for more info or scan the QR code.

- 1. GUIDE Z-133: LIVESTOCK RISK PROTECTION INSURANCE (LRP) FOR PROTECTING AGAINST PRICE DECLINES: A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR NEW MEXICO FEEDER CATTLE GROWERS BY PILJA VITALE, DON MARTINEZ, BONNIE HOPKINS BYERS, JEFFREY VITALE, EDUARDO MEDINA, NICHOLAS LOWERY**
- HTML
 - PRINTABLE PDF

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

Day one:
April 9th

AGENDA



Time	April 9: San Juan County CES Office + Tasting room
8:00 - 8:15 AM	Registration
8:15 - 8:30 AM	Kevin Lombard - Welcome, Introduction
8:30 - 9:15 AM	Geraldine Diverres Naranjo - Introduction to Viticulture
9:15 - 10:00 AM	Matt Halldorson - Vineyard Nutrition Management
10:00 - 10:15 AM	Break
10:15 - 11:00 AM	Matt Halldorson (Hands-on) - Nutrient Lab results Interpretation
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Charlotte Oliver - Integrated Pest Management for Vineyards
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Catered Lunch
1:00 - 1:30 PM	Drive to San Juan testing room (Aztec)
1:30 - 2:15 PM	Donald Caldwell - Introduction to Winemaking
2:15 - 3:00 PM	Donald Caldwell (Hands-on) - Basic Lab Work: When to sample and how to understand the results
3:00 - 4:00 PM	Kevin Lombard - Performance evaluation updates + Tasting + Open discussion time

New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

Viticulture and Enology | <https://viticulture.nmsu.edu/>



Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

Day two:
April 10th

AGENDA

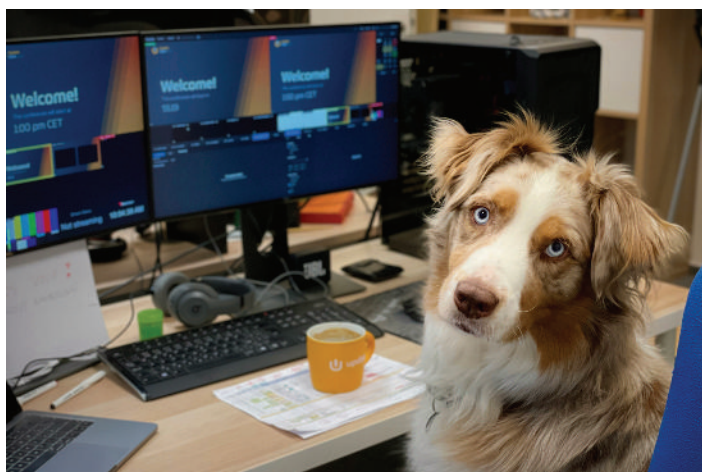


Time	NMSU ASC Farmington
9:00 - 9:15 AM	Kevin Lombard - Welcome
9:15 - 10:00 AM	Dave Dubois - ZiaMet Weather Station Network
10:15 - 11:00 AM	Dave Dubois et al. (Hands-on) - ZiaMet Weather station considerations + How we use weather data for vineyard management
11:00 - 12:30 PM	Charlotte Oliver (Hands-on) - Scouting for Crown Gall and Powdery mildew damage in canes
	Geraldine Diverres Naranjo (Hands-on) - Irrigation considerations (sand filters, drip irrigation system, using ETo to schedule irrigation, etc.)
	Kevin Lombard, Donald Caldwell et al. (Hands-on) - Trellising, training, and other practical vineyard-related.
12:30 - 12:45 PM	Kevin Lombard - Adjourn + Closing survey

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. NMSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, please contact Kevin Lombard in advance at klombard@nmsu.edu



Nunca es demasiado temprano para comenzar a monitorear plagas y enfermedades. En nuestro viñedo de Fabian Garcia, el año pasado tuvimos niveles históricamente altos de presión de chicharritas (leafhoppers). En la parte superior de la hoja se puede ver que ya están haciendo de las suyas este año.



Horario de oficina virtual

A menos que indiquemos lo contrario,
Cada Lunes de 2 a 3 p.m.

<https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/82042824719>

O llamando al 253-215-8782.

Todas las fotos, historias y preguntas son bienvenidas!

Próximos eventos

04/07/26

Webinar EVEF: Eficiencia en el manejo del viñedo.
Enlace de registro [aquí](#).

04/09/26-04/10/26

Four Corners Grape Symposium. Farmington, NM.
Ver folleto en la pagina anterior.

Late April-Early May

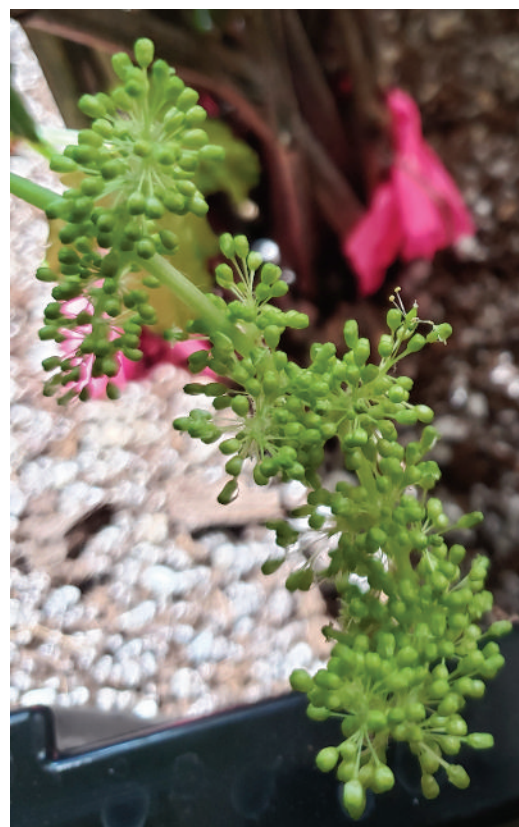
Primer meeting regional del 2026

Ubicación, fecha exacta y formato aun por definir.
Consulte la encuesta en la página 1..

5/25-5/27/26

Vitita de Markus Keller, profesor de viticultura (WSU).

Visitas a viñedos en el sur de NM y reuniones informales en Las Cruces. Una oportunidad para aprender de un experto de clase mundial.

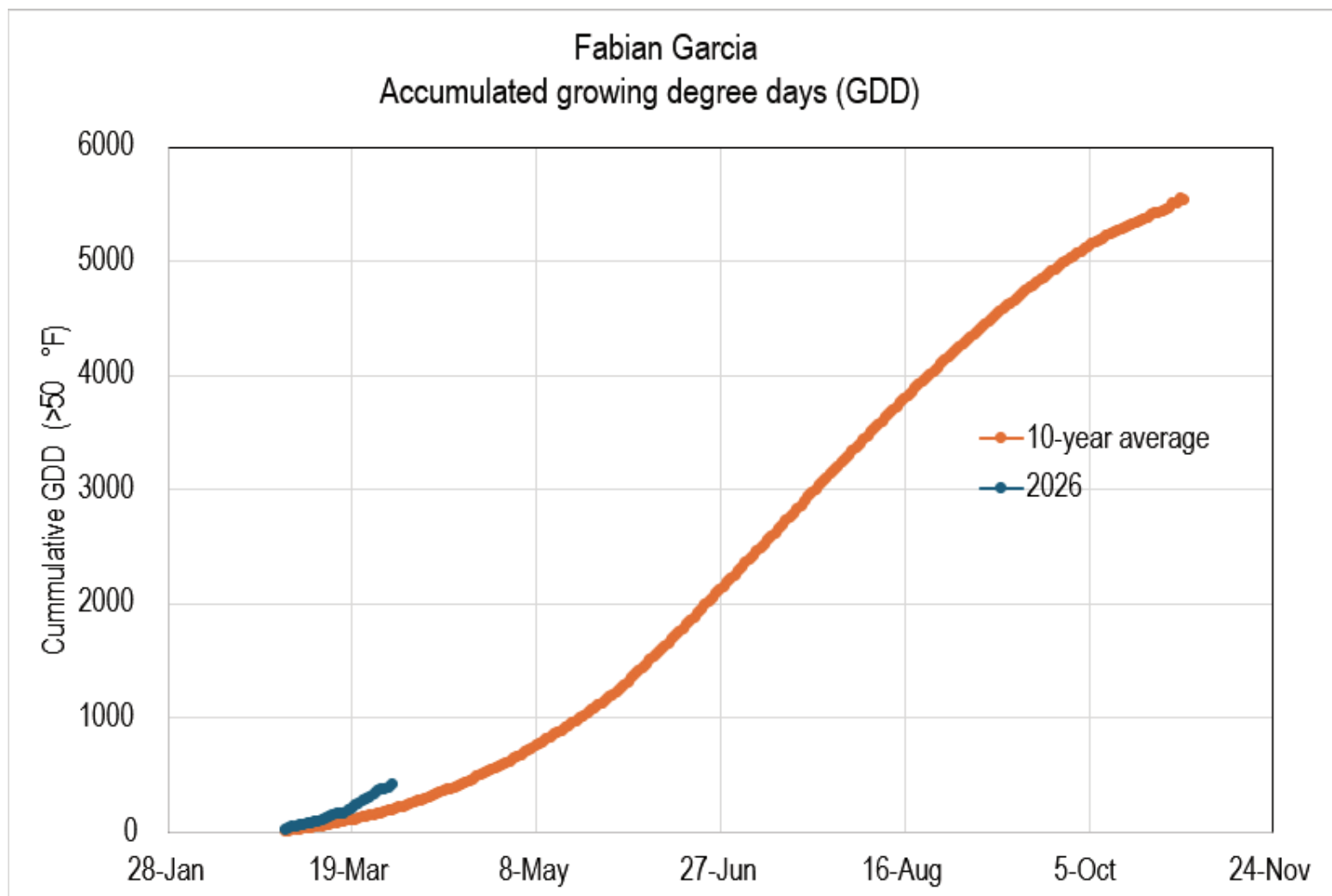


Inicio de floración en nuestras vides recién enraizadas y en maceta. También tenemos una plaga de mosquitos del sustrato (¿emoji de vómito aquí!).

Cooperative Extension Service

April 2, 2026

2026 Growing Degree Days in Las Cruces



Como pueden ver en este gráfico, el 2026 ha comenzado con temperaturas muy altas. Esto se refleja en la fecha de brotación, que la mayoría de los productores en nuestra zona describen como adelantada entre 2 y 3 semanas (incluso en lugares tan lejanos como el Estado de Washington). De hecho, tenemos más del doble de acumulación de calor (gGDD) en comparación con el promedio de los últimos 10 años:

GDD 2026: 418

Promedio 10 años: 195