

Cooperative Extension Service

August 14, 2026

Week 4 of Harvest Sampling

We are finally testing our first northern New Mexico samples. Surprisingly, other than the petit verdot, even the northern most samples are approaching harvest with brix ranges between 12.1 and 16.

	All	Southern NM	Central NM
Avg. brix change	3.8	3.16	4.24
Avg. pH change	0.2	0.15	0.25
Avg. TA change	-1.1	-0.34	-1.94
	Last Week	This Week	
Avg. brix change	1.8	3.8	
Avg. pH change	0.3	0.2	
Avg. TA change	-2.7	-1.1	

I haven't dug into the data yet but the see-saw action of brix accumulation versus acidity degradation from week to week is quite striking. Last week we saw acids falling out far faster than sugars building, while this week is just the opposite. To me it just highlights how difficult it can be in predicting harvest dates. I'm often asked what the ideal numbers are for picking grapes and have to shake my head. If we could harvest based on those ideal numbers, rather than needing to compromise at least one parameter for another, or all of them in the name of logistics, than grape growing and winemaking would be a far less stressful experience.

Here's a pretty mountain view to help you de-stress.



NMSU Viticulture and Enology Team

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NMSU Wine Lab



Classifieds
Buy. Sell. Trade.

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8/10/26 New Mexico Grape Harvest Sampling Data

Cabernet Sauvignon									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Alamogordo	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Corrales	0.49	-0.05	23.5	7.20	3.31	0.25	7.71	-2.77	--
Deming	0.65	-0.05	19.4	2.20	3.14	0.01	7.98	0.31	--
Las Cruces N.	0.95	0.00	22.4	5.10	3.36	0.16	7.2	-1.51	--
Las Cruces S.	0.68	0.09	21.6	4.60	3.88	0.19	4.2	-0.44	--
Mesilla Valley	1.01	0.01	14.1	0.00	3.45	0.08	7.14	-0.02	--
Chambourcin									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Los Lunas N.	1.14	0.04	15.6	0.40	3	0.20	12.75	-1.13	--
Chardonnay									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Bernalillo	0.6	-0.02	28	8.80	4.14	0.30	4.69	-1.12	--
Corrales	0.75	0.07	18.3	8.90	3.38	0.41	13.41	?	--
Deming	0.93	0.05	22	3.80	3.84	0.10	6.33	1.33	--
Mesilla Valley	1.03	0.03	18.9	1.10	3.8	0.14	5.25	0.06	--
Gewurztraminer									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
San Fidel	1.20	0.11	16.9	2.40	3.4	0.26	9.38	-1.20	--
Farmington	1.45	--	14.50	--	3.30	--	8.33	--	--
Gruener Veltliner									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Dixon	0.65	--	12.1	--	3.2	--	13.28	--	--
Malbec									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Las Cruces	1.55	-0.02	19.3	4.00	3.76	0.18	5.73	-0.08	--
Lordsburg	1.31	--	18.1	--	3.92	--	5.91	--	--
Los Lunas N.	0.74	-0.08	18.3	-0.70	3.2	0.30	9.15	-2.55	--



New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

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

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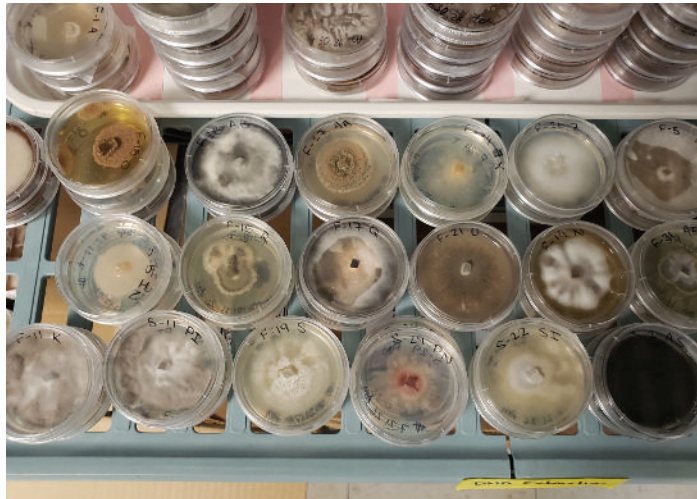
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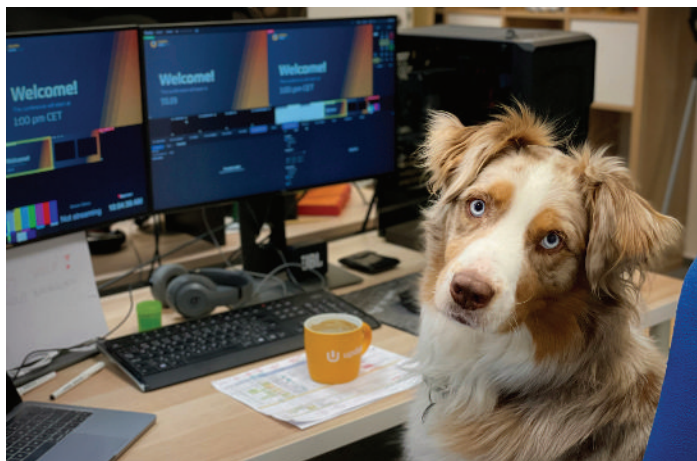
Malvasia									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Las Cruces	1.95	0.29	22.7	6.20	3.61	0.13	4.45	0.03	--
Lordsburg	1.17	--	18.9	--	3.84	--	7.09	--	--
Mourvedre									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Las Cruces	1.12	-0.11	22.1	5.40	3.73	0.26	4.74	-0.69	--
Lordsburg	1.38	--	18.8	--	3.6	--	6.98	--	--
Mesilla Valley	1.67	0.04	12.9	0.90	3.65	0.17	5.38	-1.18	--
Pinot Meunier									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Bernalillo	0.62	0.02	25.4	5.90	4.1	0.12	5.03	-1.00	--
Dixon	1.25	--	16.00	--	3.50	--	9.45	--	--
Pinot Noir									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Bernalillo	0.73	0.06	23.6	5.50	3.96	0.42	5.16	-2.79	--
Refosco									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Farmington	1.71	--	13.1	--	2.9	--	15.98	--	--
Riesling									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
San Fidel	1.04	0.13	14.90	3.4	3.00	0.14	13.80	-5.04	--
Tempranillo									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Deming	1.28	0.01	17.7	0.90	3.64	0.11	4.47	-0.21	--
Las Cruces	1.64	0.00	21.6	4.80	3.68	0.11	3.99	0.18	--
Los Lunas S.	1.41	-0.24	22	4.80	3.79	0.34	4.92	-1.72	--
Mesilla Valley	1.4	-0.03	12	-0.30	3.7	0.11	5.49	-1.38	--
Viognier									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Los Lunas S.	0.98	-0.09	18.2	4.30	3.57	0.29	6.26	-1.99	--
Zinfandel									
Location	Berry Weights (grams)	Change from Last Week	Brix	Change from Last Week	pH	Change from Last Week	TA (g/L)	Change from Last Week	YAN (ppm)
Alamogordo	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Las Cruces	1.94	0.16	20.7	5.60	3.76	0.33	5.19	-1.11	--

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Did you know fungi can "clean up" heavy metals? As part of a tour with UNM colleagues, Geraldine and I were shown these colorful petri dishes of fungi—some of which can immobilize heavy metals and could be used in mining reclamation projects.



Upcoming Events

- **8/20. Los Lunas IPM Workshop**
 - 9am-1pm. Learn all about integrated pest management with Dr. Joanna Bloese.
- **9/5-9/7. Harvest Wine and Music Festival.**
 - The Fairgrounds in Las Cruces and the Balloon Fiesta Park in Albuquerque.

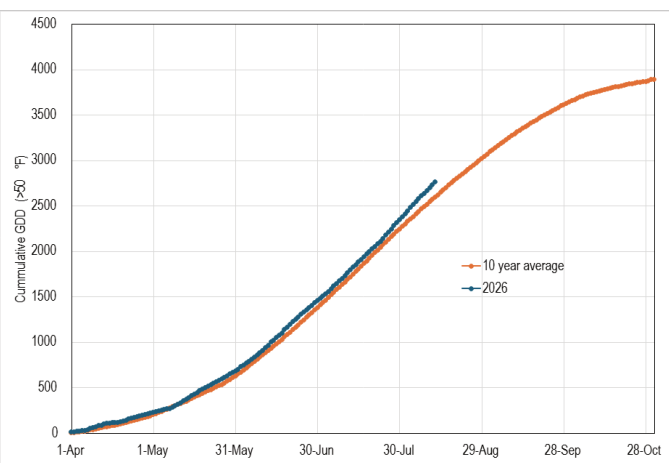
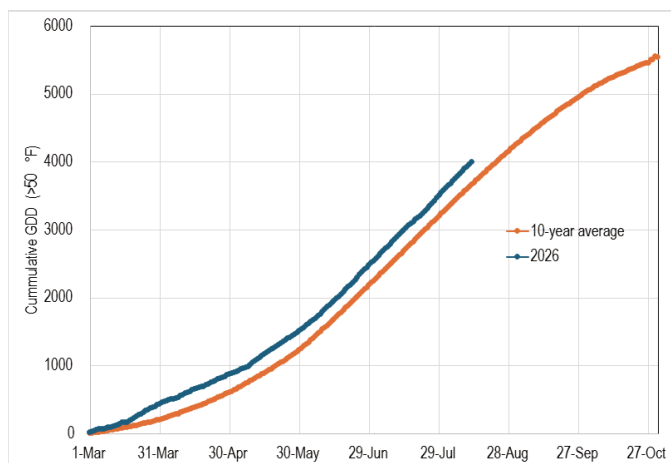
Virtual Office Hours

Unless otherwise noted,
every Monday, 2-3pm.

<https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/82042824719>
Or dial in, 253-215-8782.

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

Growing Degree Day Comparison

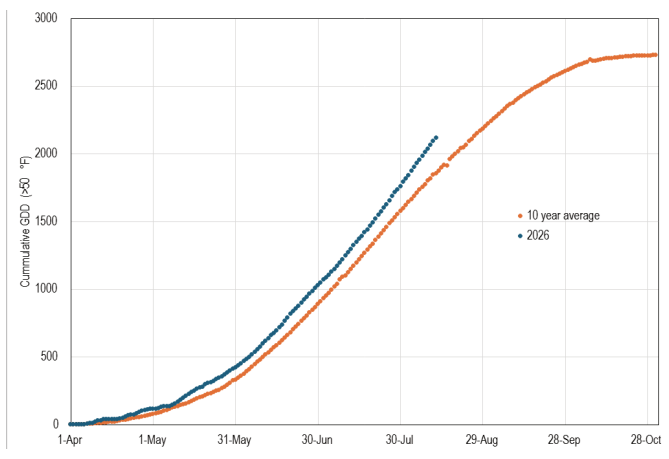
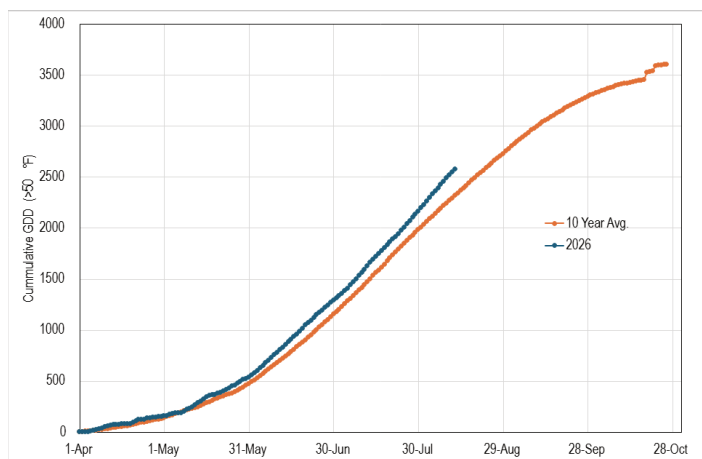


Las Cruces, 3/1-8/12 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 3995
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 3663
 Rainfall 3/1-8/12/26: 4.53"
 Rainfall 3/1-8/12/25: 3.42"

Los Lunas: 4/1-8/12 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 2759
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 2596
 Rainfall 4/1-8/12/26: 1.41"
 Rainfall 4/1-8/12/25: 2.29"



Farmington: 4/1-8/12 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 2577
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 2319
 Rainfall 4/1-8/12/26: 1.38"
 Rainfall 4/1-8/12/25: 2.03"

Alcalde: 4/1-8/12 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 2120
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 1856
 Rainfall 4/1-8/12/26: 4.33"
 Rainfall 4/1-8/12/25: 4.43"

These numbers were taken from ZiaMet, a state wide collection of weather stations. Do you know which station is the closest to your growing site? Check it at: weather.nmsu.edu/ziamet/

