

Cooperative Extension Service

September 11, 2026

Week 10 of Harvest Sampling

And then there were six. Our busiest week in mid-August saw 34 samples analyzed, and we've tested 38 different samples in total. You want more numbers? 17 different cultivars, 12 different towns. And 6 weeks where no one told me I spelled gewurtz-traminer as "gewurtz-maniner". Sounds like something a German baby would say.

Last year I put together a trial using the enzyme glucose-oxidase to acidify juice just prior to fermentation. It works by turning glucose into gluconic acid. This year I repeated the experiment with a few tweaks and am awaiting results. If you're curious about this technique send me an email or ask about it during our weekly office hours.



NMSU Viticulture and Enology Team

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Classifieds
Buy. Sell. Trade.

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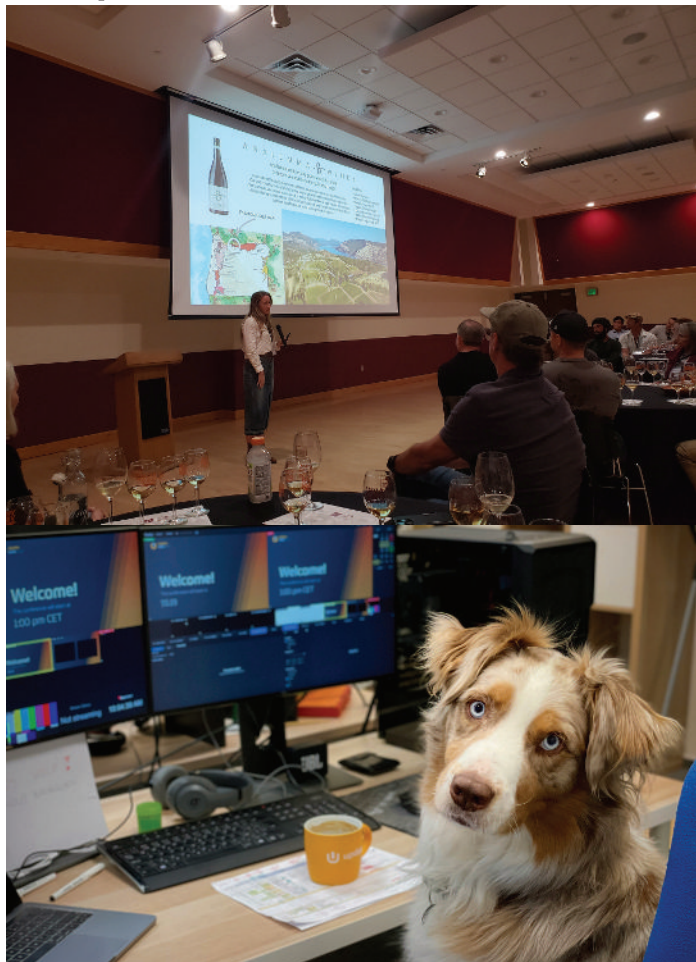
9/8/26 New Mexico Grape Harvest Sampling Data

Baco 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)
Alcalde	0.68	0.00	23.3	2	3.77	0	5.34	-1	Next Week
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Farmington	1.72	0.00	19.40	1.20	3.77	0.31	4.39	-0.70	Next Week
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Lordsburg	--	--	21.5	2.20	4.26	0.15	4.6	-0.14	Next Week
Los Lunas N.	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Petit Verdot									
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	0.83	0.05	21.1	1.1	3.4	-0.09	6.3	-0.70	Next Week
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	2.05	-0.16	21.1	1.70	3.39	0.22	5.67	-1.86	Next Week
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)
Alcalde	0.74	0.02	19.20	3.5	3.38	0.18	5.34	-1.32	Next Week
San Fidel	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-



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Accumulated Useless Heat

Grapevines essentially shut down at 37C/98.6F. They accumulate no sugars and perform little to no photosynthesis, though acids continue to degrade. In Las Cruces we've been tracking the amount of time (in growing degree days) we've spent in this useless zone.

So far we've accumulated **62** of these useless GDDs, which is about the equivalent of two warm, productive days. Two days won't make or break your season but as we continue to get hotter what if it becomes a week? That would mean the vines keep waking up earlier but don't necessarily ripen faster. More time spent at risk.

If there's a silver lining, at the same temperatures powdery mildew goes into hibernation.

Virtual Office Hours

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

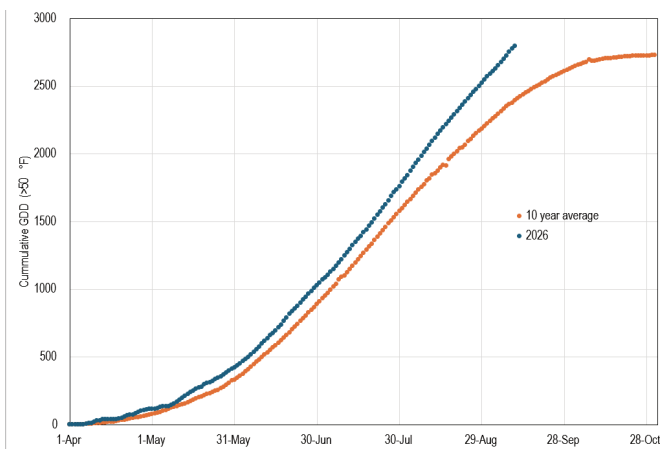
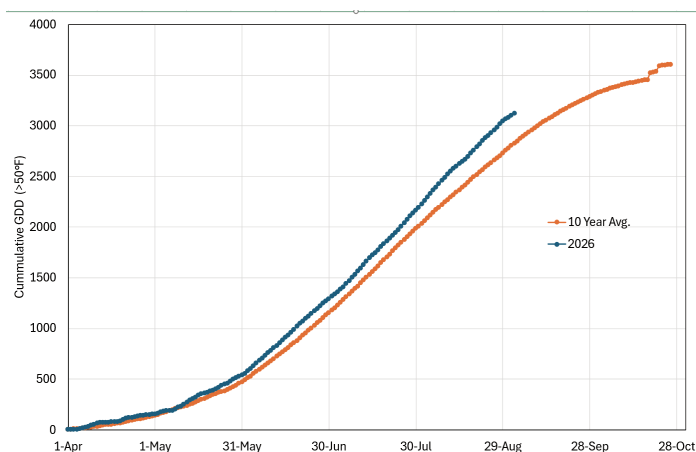
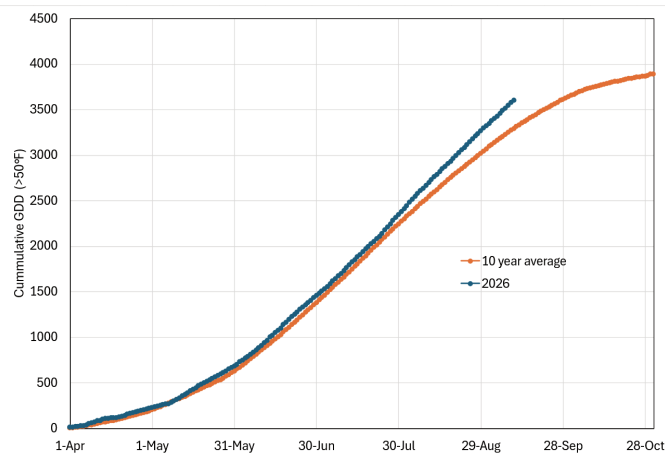
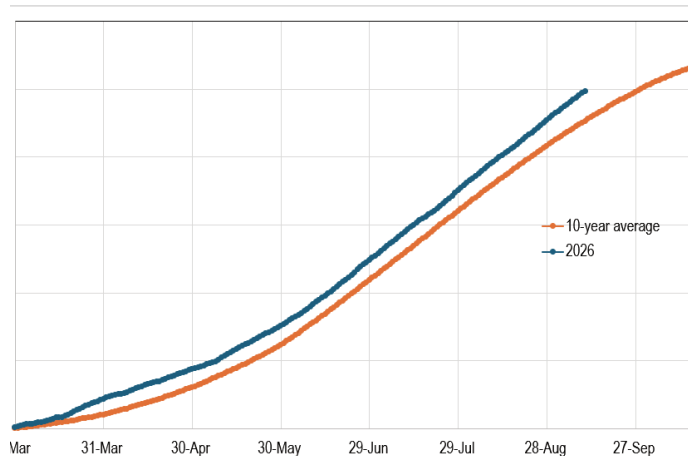
<https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/82042824719>
Or dial in, 253-215-8782.

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

Upcoming Events

- **10/?? Post-Harvest Get Together**
 - Place and date TBD. Get together with fellow grape growers and winemakers and discuss what went well this year, and what did not.

Growing Degree Day Comparison



Farmington: 4/1-9/10 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 3305
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 2999
 Rainfall 4/1-9/10/26: 1.52"
 Rainfall 4/1-9/10/25: 2.26"

Alcalde: 4/1-9/10 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 2798
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 2396
 Rainfall 4/1-9/10/26: 5.65"
 Rainfall 4/1-9/10/25: 6.11"

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? Take a look at: weather.nmsu.edu/ziamet/

