

Cooperative Extension Service

September 4, 2026

Week 9 of Harvest Sampling

The end is nigh. I see the light at the end of the tunnel. This was our last week of collecting berries in the south in person. The final two weeks are mail in only. As we wind down, are there things you'd like to see next year? What can we do differently? Would you like to participate by mailing in your grape samples next year? I suspect I'll mildly expand next year, from say 38 to 45 samples if possible.

Once we call it quits I'll comb through the data and see what trends emerge. Possible topics include: acid retaining reds, inflection points for pH increase and sugar accumulation plateauing, the south vs the north ripening differences, and calcium levels in juice.

I have my own humble experiments happening in the lab at Fabian Garcia. The first is testing whether an enzyme used in beer making (and in wine overseas) has any effect on tannin retention for wines made from hybrid grapes (chambourcin in this case). I'm also making some wine from norton but that's just for fun.



NMSU Viticulture and Enology Team

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Classifieds
Buy. Sell. Trade.

Cooperative Extension Service

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8/31/26 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	0.69	0.01	23.7	2	3.56	0	7.39	1	150
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Deming	0.63	-0.06	26	0.50	3.52	0.19	4.14	-1.11	144
Las Cruces N.	0.90	0.15	26.6	2.60	3.69	0.32	4.31	-0.64	134
Las Cruces S.	0.55	-0.20	23	0.50	4.25	0.17	2.79	0.09	252
Mesilla Valley	0.77	-0.01	18.5	0.70	3.72	0.09	4.93	0.14	192
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.	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Corrales	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Deming	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Mesilla Valley	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
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	1.93	0.21	19.30	1.10	3.82	0.36	3.79	-1.30	144.00
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	1.03	-0.07	23	3.70	4.23	0.12	4.64	-0.10	180
Los Lunas N.	0.78	-0.06	23.1	0.50	3.55	0.00	4.92	0.84	58



New Mexico Viticulture and Enology Newsletter

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

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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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Lordsburg	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Lordsburg	1.43	0.04	22.8	3.40	3.8	0.12	5.7	-1.41	149
Mesilla Valley	1.52	0.23	17.6	1.20	4.07	-0.02	2.68	-0.45	145
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									
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Dixon									
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
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	2.36	0.15	20.4	1.00	3.3	0.13	6.39	-1.14	68
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	0.73	0.01	18.20	2.5	3.24	0.04	6.87	0.21	161
San Fidel	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
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	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Las Cruces	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-	-Harvested-
Los Lunas S.									
Mesilla Valley	1.28	0.12	17.4	0.70	4.2	0.16	2.82	-0.33	185

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Upcoming Events

9/5-9/7 Harvest Wine and Music Festival

The Fairgrounds in Las Cruces and the Balloon Fiesta Park in Albuquerque.

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.

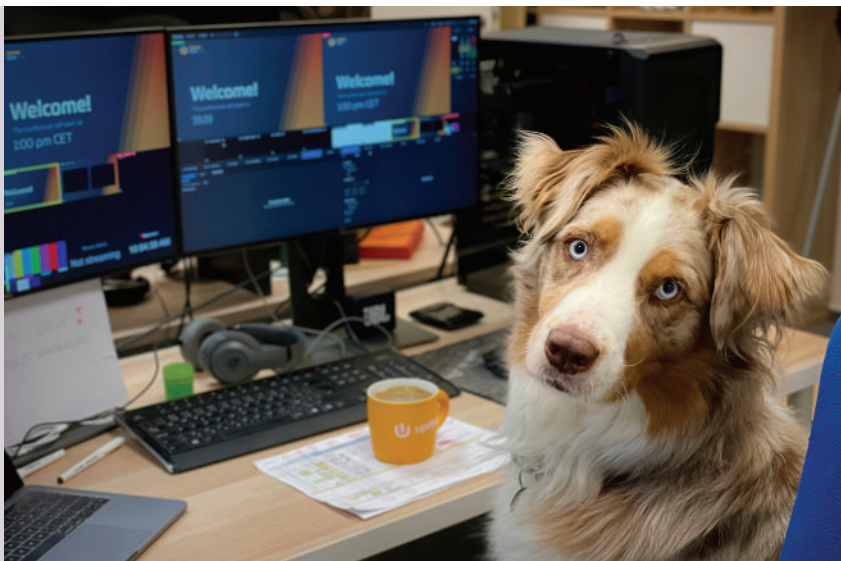
If there's a silver lining, at the same temperatures powdery mildew goes into hibernation.

Virtual Office Hours

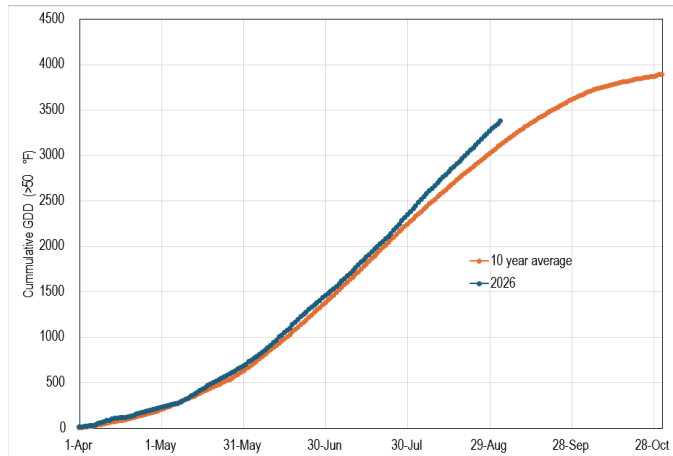
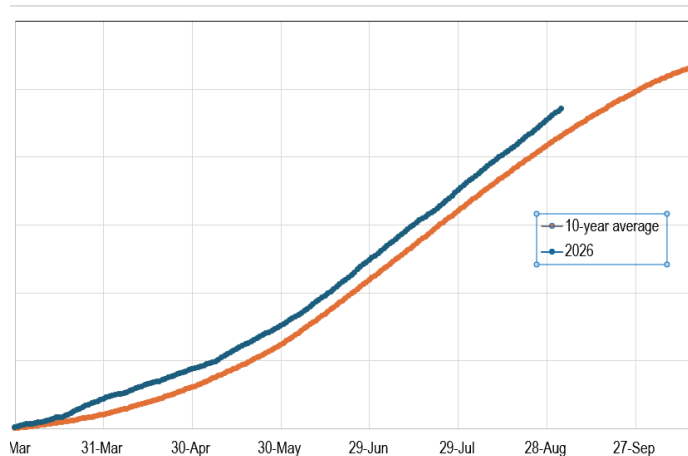
Unless otherwise noted,
every Monday, 2-3pm.

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

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



Growing Degree Day Comparison

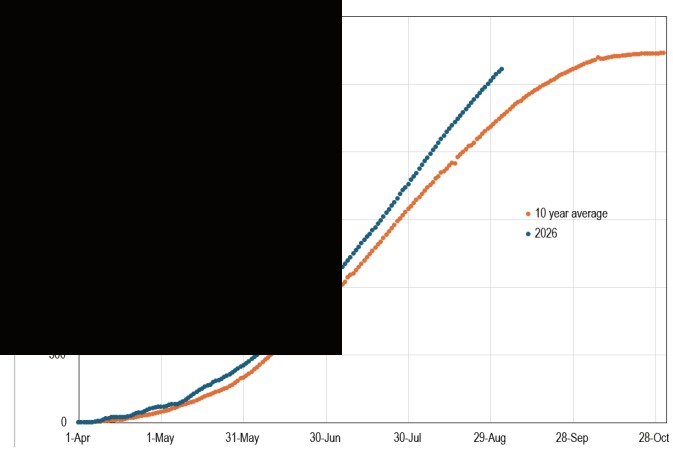
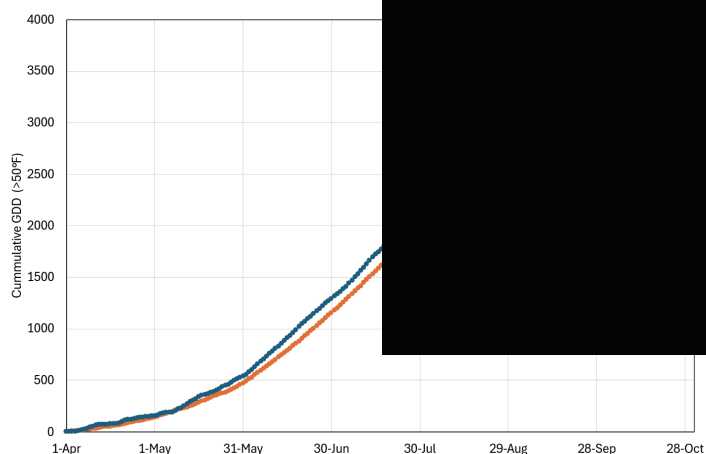


Las Cruces, 3/1-9/02 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 4705
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 4307
 Rainfall 3/1-9/02/26: 4.92"
 Rainfall 3/1-9/02/25: 3.50"

Los Lunas: 4/1-9/02 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 3374
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 3115
 Rainfall 4/1-9/02/26: 1.82"
 Rainfall 4/1-9/02/25: 3.04"



Farmington: 4/1-9/02 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 3121
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 2827
 Rainfall 4/1-9/02/26: 1.52"
 Rainfall 4/1-9/02/25: 2.14"

Alcalde: 4/1-9/02 Growing Degree Days

GDDs, 2026: 2611
 GDDs, 10 year avg.: 2260
 Rainfall 4/1-9/02/26: 5.00"
 Rainfall 4/1-9/02/25: 5.91"

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/

