Agricultural Experiment Station
Agricultural Science Center at Clovis

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MISSION

The mission of the Agricultural Science Center at Clovis is to conduct crop and cropping systems research and disseminate viable strategies that benefit New Mexico's citizens and agricultural production. Anticipate challenges, solve problems, build relationships, and secure funding. Clovis serves as the hub for Agricultural Experiment Station activities focused on Soil Health and Carbon Management.

The Clovis ASC is the only peanut breeding center located off-campus and developing Valencia peanuts.

The Olton clay loam soil at the center is representative of a vast area of the High Plains of New Mexico and the Texas Panhandle.

The Clovis ASC is the only research center focusing on sustaining the Ogallala Aquifer in the state.

Value Added to New Mexico

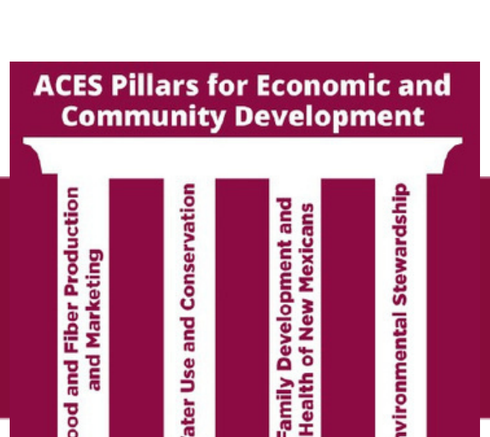
- Soil Health and Water
- Dairy
- Corn and Wheat
- Sorghum and Peanuts

The NMSU Agricultural Science Center at Clovis is centrally located in the largest crop production area of New Mexico and is uniquely qualified to conduct agricultural research and producer outreach (Extension) activities aimed at efficiently managing the area's limited water resources and increasing the economic viability and sustainability of agricultural production. The efforts to address current challenges faced by reduced irrigation or dryland agriculture and preparing for future challenges will be extremely important as temperatures continue to rise and water becomes more limited.

Ongoing Research

The ASC Clovis has positioned itself as the carbon management and soil health research center with significant activity on soil carbon sequestration, soil health assessment and management, and greenhouse gas mitigation. The carbon management program has attracted national and international collaboration.

- Cropping systems and soil management program has been studying soil-plant-environment interactions in arid and semi-arid regions. Key research projects include:
  - Establishing a soil health framework for water-limited environments
  - Climate resilience through carbon sequestration and soil health
  - Monitoring greenhouse gas emissions in diverse cropping systems
  - Conservation tillage management in dryland agroecosystems



The College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences is an engine for economic and community development in New Mexico, improving the lives of New Mexicans through academic, research and Extension programs.

- Perennial and pasture cropping for dryland sustainability
- Enhancing the Breeding Potential of Valencia Peanut for Drought and Disease resistance in New Mexico. Also, studying the effect of organic treatments in Valencia Peanut.
- Weed management in corn, sorghum, and small grain
- Improving soil health and ecosystem services through circular grass buffer strips
- Conducting variety trials in corn, sorghum, and small grain

Recent Impacts

Climate smart agriculture that integrates multiple conservation and regenerative farming practices has been emphasized to increase soil carbon sequestration and mitigate anthropogenic GHG emissions. Research at ASC Clovis We demonstrated cover cropping as a climate smart strategy for agriculture in the semi- arid region because of its potential to increase soil organic carbon sequestration and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. Promoting cover cropping with no-tillage management can increase soil organic carbon sequestration while maintaining net zero or negative GHG emissions.

In 2021, advanced cultivars released by NMSU, the peanut breeding program (New Mexico 308, 309, 310, M6 and M7 varieties) accounted for 72.2% of the total acreage cultivated in New Mexico and west Texas regions.

Community Outreach

The center plays a major role in connecting the rural agricultural producers in this region with expertise for more efficient and higher yield farming practices. Every year, the ASC at Clovis hosts multiple community outreach events to inform industry partners, youth, and local farmers about various projects and their results.

Field Day: The purpose of this free event is to bring producers and researchers together to visit/interact with each other and share ideas/ opinions about different cultural practices. This is the perfect opportunity for producers to tour and see the research projects that are being conducted at the Center and also to ask questions and get answers in a one-on-one setting.

Cultivating Young Minds: This is an annual event targeting 5th grade student from Clovis Elementary Schools. The students have a chance to visit the Center and learn about plants and plant parts. At the end of their visit, students can go to the center's pumpkin field and pick a pumpkin or two to take home. In 2021, About 675 students from 15 schools attended the event. (Pictured: bottom right)

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