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.

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
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 demonstrates 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.

Recent Impacts

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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)