

"One of the best experiences of my life and certainly the very best academic experience."

—Eric Votava '00  
Senior Plant Breeder  
Vegetable Seed  
Pybas

"The PES graduate degree was very comprehensive, practical and useful for my career goal."

—Jit Baral '03  
Pepper Breeder  
Campbell Soup Company  
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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Life is a journey.  
Let us help you set  
the right course.



New Mexico State University is an affirmative action, equal  
opportunity employer and educator.  
NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

## New Mexico State University

## Plant and Environmental Sciences

Students who pursue a graduate degree in the PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT are well-grounded in science and prepared for careers in academia, government, the business world. Their academic and professional development is achieved through solid classroom instruction, hands-on training in field and laboratory sciences, and mentoring relationships with talented, experienced professors.

As we continue into the 21st century, our agricultural systems and the natural environments face new challenges from a growing population, increased affluence, and both economic and climatic uncertainty. Technologically advanced and appropriate solutions are needed to ensure the continued health and prosperity of our citizens and land. The PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT educates future scientists to address these challenges and create new solutions.

The PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT offers a Master of Science degree in both Horticulture and Plant and Environmental Sciences, and a Ph.D. in Plant and Environmental Sciences. Students work with faculty on research projects focusing on such varied topics as:

Agronomy  
Sustainable Agriculture  
Turfgrass Science  
Environmental Science  
Landscape Management  
Plant Genetics  
Horticulture  
Soil Science  
Organic Practices

Medicinal Plants  
Reclamation  
Molecular Biology  
Water Science  
Nursery Management  
Plant Breeding  
Biofuel Feedstocks



## OUR FACULTY

The faculty of the of PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT are recognized for their teaching, research, and mentoring. By the numbers:

- 1 member holds the Fernandez Chair of Crop Production
- 2 members are Regents Professors (we are the only department in the college with more than 1)
- 3 members are Fellows in their respective societies
- 7 members have received outstanding research awards
- 9 members have received outstanding teaching awards

The faculty and their students are asked to present their research at regional, national and international meetings. The research is published in highly respected journals, and eagerly adopted by progressive clientele. Much of this research is conducted with and by graduate students. Our faculty are great at what they do, which is balance the demands of academic instruction, graduate student training, research, and outreach. It is a great environment to *Live, Learn, and Thrive*.

## OUR DEPARTMENT

The PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT has an experienced and internationally recognized faculty with varied specialties, including plant breeding, genetic engineering, sustainable agriculture, ornamental production, landscape design, turf management, soil remediation, and environmental science. We are committed to providing an outstanding education through classroom and one-on-one instruction, as well as through hands-on, real-world learning in internships, experiential class projects, and employment in the department. The department has 33 endowments that provide financial assistance to students. With college, departmental, and outside sources, our students receive nearly \$60,000 in scholarships each year.

## OUR UNIVERSITY

New Mexico State University is the only land-grant, Hispanic serving university in the contiguous United States. Named one of *America's 100 Best College Buys*® for ten consecutive years, NMSU is and was rated among the nation's top 30 universities for Hispanic and Native American students by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*. NMSU has research, science and learning centers, campuses and extension offices throughout the state. The department's home is in Las Cruces, a city of more than 80,000 situated in the fertile Mesilla valley, in a region featuring desert terrain, the Rio Grande and the scenic Organ Mountains.

## OUR FINANCIAL AID

The College of Agriculture and Home Economics has \$500,000 available in scholarships every year, giving our majors an excellent chance for scholarship support during their NMSU academic careers. Some of our nearly 100 scholarships are based on academic performance, some on financial need and some on both performance and need. All scholarship applications for the fall semester must be submitted by March 1.

## OUR GRADUATES

The best way to learn more about the department is to see what our former students say:

**"The faculty are very approachable and enthusiastically support the students. I learned the technical skills I need for my current job".**

—Cheryl Rosel, '06  
Soil Scientist, USDA-NRCS