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(page 2, first column, paragraphs 4–6)
“In 1914, he was named the first director of the state Agricultural Experiment Station as well as horticulturalist. A somewhat rudimentary science by today's standards, horticulture nonetheless was significantly improved under Garcia.

His accomplishments in the field include his chile work, producing the first reliable chile pod, the beginnings of the hot ‘Sandia’ pepper, and the introduction of the Grano onion. He was instrumental in planting some of the first pecan trees in the Mesilla Valley around 1913. Some of the 35 varieties planted still stand today.

Garcia's commitment to the young college was apparent early. In 1903 when the land for the present horticulture farm was purchased, Garcia personally signed the note for the loan. ‘Then to pay it off, he planted watermelons without irrigation. For water he added hand-operated 'pitcher' pumps to bring in the harvest.’ recalls Dr. Joseph V. Enzie.”

The excerpt will be reproduced in Research Bulletin 999: The History of the Agricultural Experiment Station at New Mexico State University. This publication will be distributed online for the benefit of agricultural producers, researchers, and the public. A limited number of copies will be printed for library archives and for distribution by the authors.

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Figure 1. The New Mexico Chile Task Force Draws Members from Industry, the University, and Federal, State, and Local Agencies. (A diagram of a chili pepper labeled with various factors influencing the industry)

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