



NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR/SECRETARY
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November 24, 2020

Dear NMDA Stakeholders:

It's hard to believe I wrote the first version of this memo eight months ago. I'm writing again to assure you that the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) continues to take several measures to ensure there is no impediment to commerce during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the Las Cruces NMDA main building doors remain locked, our staff remains committed and is available as needed for necessary business operations including, but not limited to, licensing, regulation, sampling on a complaint basis and functions related to our metrology lab, chemistry lab, petroleum lab and seed lab. If you have urgent business with NMDA, please call us at 575-646-3007 or email nmagsec@nmda.nmsu.edu.

NMDA Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS) in Albuquerque continues to operate Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Our team assures you that the VDS Lab will maintain normal diagnostic operations for the foreseeable future. We limited visitor traffic in the building, however, this will not affect your ability to drop off diagnostic samples. Obviously, this is a dynamic situation and things could change, but for now we will continue to provide the best possible diagnostic services to our clients. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call 505-383-9299 or email ddvds@nmda.nmsu.edu.

NMDA's Albuquerque District Office and the Peanut Grading Station in Portales are closed to the public, however, necessary services at those facilities will continue. The public should call or email during this time:

- Albuquerque District Office: 505-361-2840 or jconlogue@nmda.nmsu.edu
- Peanut Grading Station: 575-356-8393 or kberry@nmda.nmsu.edu

Markets, delivery drivers and distribution centers are working hard to ensure there is a steady and safe supply of food in New Mexico. There is not a large-scale shortage of food, and consumers should remain confident that those who work in our farm-to-fork industries are meeting the challenges posed by recent events.

In order to connect consumers with New Mexico agriculture products, we have provided a space for product listings on our website. If you are a New Mexico producer/business that wishes to include your food, beverage or agricultural product and contact information on our online products-to-consumer database, please visit <http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/ag-products-to-consumers/>. Once you submit your information, the NMDA staff will verify the submission, and once validated, it will be added to the list.

For more information about COVID-19, visit the New Mexico Department of Health Coronavirus Disease website at <http://cv.nmhealth.org/> or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. The state has established a coronavirus hotline for health-related issues: 855-600-3453. There is also a hotline for non-health-related issues: 833-551-0518.

We are all in this together, and we will do everything we can to avoid impeding commerce and to ensure our consumer protection programs are maintained. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeff M. Witte
New Mexico Secretary of Agriculture