

Chile Pepper Institute deals with hot stuff

Driving through the enchanted state of New Mexico, people can see an array of colors coming from fields filled with chile. You can find red chiles, green chiles, yellow chiles and orange chiles. There are long chiles, short chiles, skinny chiles and fat chiles—all with a unique shape and taste.

The delicious and often hot vegetable has become so popular in New Mexico and the world, that people want to grow them and learn about them.

New Mexico State's Chile Pepper Institute (CPI) has been selling chile seed packets for seven years as a fund-raiser. The packets are from \$2 to \$4.

The institute has a variety of seeds available for purchase including NuMex Big Jim and NuMex Joe E. Parker, No. 1

and No. 2 on the popularity scale.

If people are not into growing their own peppers, they can tour the CPI's chile demonstration garden, a half-acre garden located 1.5 miles west of the main campus.

CPI also provides talks and demonstrations year 'round on different aspects of chile.

In September, the institute opened its new headquarters in Gerald Thomas Hall Room 265. The new room houses many educational exhibits including the Chile Library, plant grow charts, window displays, a chile kiosk display, industry news and the Summer Program for Migrant Youth.

For more information or to purchase chile seeds, call 646-3028.

Jeany Llorente