

Hot new pepper in town

Fueling all that fun (and boosting our immune systems and keeping our spirits high with mood-enhancing, capsaicin-induced endorphin rushes) was our ever-thriving chile industry. The Hatch Chile Festival again attracted fans from around the globe.

And New Mexico's Chile Pepper Institute director Paul Bosland announced that the world's hottest chile pepper is Trinidad Moruga Scorpion Red. The new king dethroned former champ Bhut Jolokia, also known as the Ghost Pepper.

Stay tuned. There are always fiery new contenders, and the competition may be heating up again.