

NMSU researchers develop ornamental chile

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LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) - New Mexico State University researchers have developed about a dozen ornamental varieties of chile.

One of plants produces chile pods that change from black to orange – perfect for Halloween. Another ornamental type turns purple, yellow, orange and then red.

NMSU agronomy and horticulture professor Paul Bosland says the motive behind the ornamental chile is to increase demand for Mesilla Valley chile for eating.

An NMSU associate horticulture professor, Geno Picchioni, says he doesn't advise eating the ornamental chili pods because they're too hot.

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