



Fall Newsletter 2023

FY2024

Chile season is here! Here are some information and tips from New Mexico State University: (https://pubs.nmsu.edu/_h/H230/)

Step1:

Preparing soil :

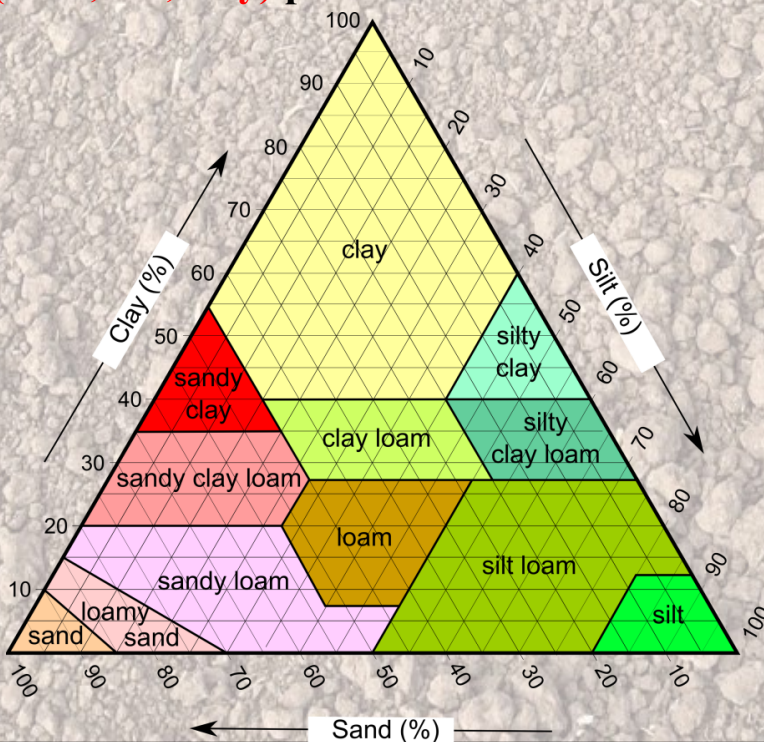
Preparing the soil involves plowing, deep chiseling, discing, smoothing, and listing. Form listed beds by scalping the top of the ridge with a drag harrow. Irrigate the field 2 to 4 weeks before planting, and plant Chile seed before the soil dries.

A deep, well-drained, medium-textured sandy loam (or loam soil) is best for producing chiles. Good yields often result from planting chiles in a place that contained a flood-irrigated crop the previous year. Laser level the field at a grade of 0.025 to 0.10% in one or both directions. This drains the field of extra water, reducing the risk of root diseases. **(At no cost we can help design your field to get it ready for next years farming season whether it's for chile or another crop.)**

SOILS

Soils are a big factor when growing Chile plants. If you don't have the proper drainage or the right nutrients for the plant it will not produce like it is supposed to. There are 12 classifications to identify soils; sand, loamy sand, sandy loam, loam, silt loam, silt, sandy clay loam, clay loam, silty clay loam, sandy clay, silty clay, and clay. Soil textures are classified by the fractions of each soil component **(sand, silt, clay)** present in the soil. Knowing soils is important, because knowing

the amount of water the soil can hold and knowing what is best to plant and or if you need to add certain type(s) of nutrients into the soil.



Its Time To Reduce Your Water Use!

Chile plants love to be on a drip system

Underwatering and over watering can cause the plants to weaken and not grow like they are supposed to . Drip systems can not only save water but it will give your plants the right water it needs. it's that time of year to start cutting back on your watering schedule. Plants naturally begin to use less water in the fall, so by cutting back the water you are mimicking the natural cycle. Its also a good time to consider purchasing a timer with dual program options, allowing you to set program for the summer and a program for the winter. If you are not using an automated timer it's a great time to switch with the continuation of drought conditions. An even, timed watering schedule is the best way to water, and the SWCD will cover up to 75% of the cost!

We can also survey your field to get it ready for next year.

**COST-SHARE
ASSISTANCE**





Upcoming Important dates

OCTOBER

9th -Socorro SWCD Board Meeting

31st –Halloween

NOVEMBER

7th-Election Day

13th – Socorro SWCD Board Meeting

23rd Thanksgiving Day (office closed)

DECEMBER

11th -Socorro SWCD Board Meeting

25th Christmas Observed (office closed)

January

1st New Year's Day Observed (office closed)