

ARROWHEAD CENTER  
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ANNUAL REPORT





# NMSU Researcher Introduces Drought-Resistant Maple

**Dr. Rolston St. Hilaire** is a professor and Assistant Department Head in the Plant and Environmental Sciences Department at New Mexico State University, where he teaches courses in landscape horticulture and environmental stress physiology. He is currently a co-project director on a USDA-NIFA-funded project that is investigating whether succulent plants indigenous to the high desert regions of the Navajo Nation could contribute to food and energy sustainability.

Dr. St. Hilaire and his research team have been working to develop a hardy, drought resistant variant of the Bigtooth Maple tree, which they named *Acer grandidentatum* 'JFS-NuMex 3.' His success led to his research being published in the journal *In Vitro Plant* and has led to a partnership with J. Frank Schmidt, an Oregon-based wholesale nursery. Working with Arrowhead, Dr. St. Hilaire has developed license agreements that will allow the nursery to commercialize the tree. He anticipates releasing the new cultivar to the public in early 2017.



Arrowhead Center is excited for Dr. St. Hilaire as he continues to create plants that thrive in New Mexico and the United States. We look forward to working with Dr. St. Hilaire in the future.





**“ I HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY PLEASSED WITH THE GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT I RECEIVED FROM ARROWHEAD IN DEVELOPING THE LICENSE AGREEMENTS AND THE SUBSEQUENT FILING OF A PLANT PATENT FOR ACER GRANDIDENTATUM ‘JFS-NUMEX 3.’ ”**

**– DR. ROLSTON ST. HILAIRE**

JFS-NuMex 3 leaves turn Aggie  
Crimson in autumn.