NATIONAL PEANUT BOARD / SOUTHEAST PEANUT RESEARCH INITIATIVE

FINAL REPORT for WORK DONE UNDER RESEARCH AGREEMENT #25-21-RF328-752/GACCP RF Calcium Beasl

ENDING: 30 June 2006

INSTITUTION: University of Georgia

PROJECT TITLE: Large Seeded Runner Cultivars Response to Supplemental Calcium

RES. AGR. NO.: 25-21-RF328-752
PROJECT LEADER: Dr. John P. Beasley, Jr.

EXPIRATION DATE: 30 JUNE 2006

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FINAL REPORT: A trial was conducted in 2005 to determine if large-seeded runner peanut cultivars had a different calcium requirement than the medium and small seeded runner cultivars. All of the calcium response data was collected on Florunner, which had a seed size of approximately 750 seed per pound. Several of the recently released cultivars have a seed size of approximately 650 seed per pound. The objective of this trial was to determine if the current calcium recommendations based on a pegging zone sample were sufficient for these larger seeded runner cultivars. The current calcium recommendation is:

a) apply supplemental calcium as landplaster or gypsum if the pegging zone level of calcium is less than 500 pounds per acre, or
b) if the calcium to potassium ratio (Ca:K) is less than three to one (3:1).

The concern was that the 500 lbs/A level was not sufficient for larger seeded runner peanuts, or that it would require a higher Ca:K ratio to prevent calcium deficiency symptoms.

Trials were conducted on producers’ fields in Berrien, Coffee, and Turner Counties. Large (18 rows) plots of at least 500 feet in length were established at each location. Two cultivars were planted at each location. These were: Georgia Green (the standard) and C-99R (the large-seeded runner). Gypsum treatments were: none, 1X rate (about 750-800 lbs of gypsum per acre), and 2X rate (1,500-1,600 lbs/A of gypsum). A pegging zone soil sample at the three-inch depth was taken shortly after planting, mid season, and just prior to harvest to monitor calcium levels during the season.