

NATIONAL PEANUT BOARD/SOUTHEAST PEANUT
RESEARCH INITIATIVE
FINAL REPORT FOR WORK
DONE UNDER RESEARCH AGREEMENT

Final Report

Sep 29, 2008

INSTITUTION: University of Georgia

PROJECT TITLE: Economic Analysis of the Production Research for the Southeast
Peanut Producers

RES. AGR. NO.: 25-21-RC282-220 PROJECT LEADER: Dr. Nathan Smith
GACCP Contract NO.: 48556535

EXPIRATION DATE: June 30, 2007 NPB CONTACT: Marie Fenn
NPB Contract NO.: 191

FINAL REPORT:

Project 25-21-RC282-220 titled Economic Analysis of the Production Research for the Southeast Peanut Producers is the original project that was renewed as project 223 in 2007. A graduate student was hired on assistantship under the original project 220 to work on SPRI projects as data was submitted for economic analysis. Data was not forthcoming in the first year, therefore as part of a thesis study planned for the student, strip tillage data was collected from a SPRI project (John Beasley PI) for years prior to 2006 to examine the economics of strip tillage. After the initial stages of data collection and literature review, the student took a job before finishing the thesis and thus was taken off assistantship. Using data that was collected during the first year of the project, a production efficiency study has been undertaken by another graduate student. Preliminary results indicate production functions for peanuts by tillage type are not the same. Also, considerable "noise" (unexplained variance) is present in farm field trials that makes comparison difficult across years and locations. Some years strip tillage outperforms conventional tillage, and other years the relationship is opposite. Accounting for input variables using consistent practices across years and location are needed.

In addition to results reported in final report for project 223, preliminary results have been generated on the net return above variable costs for a precision application of irrigation study led by Calvin Perry and for a reduced fungicide application by cultivar and planting date study by Albert Culbreath. Results are under review with the principal investigators. The fungicide study will be updated with 2008 data.

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