

Annual + Summary
NPB Progress Report

377
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2012

Fund No. 367392 (APPA-RIA03-Maturity Determination)

Four test sites were established around the Headland, Alabama area. Two sites were at the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center and two other sites were on growers farms in the area. Each site had a different rotation or planting date with irrigation. All locations recorded rainfall, temperature, and irrigation. Pod samples were taken every 10-14 days and pod blasted to determine maturity. The samples from the pod blast are currently at the University of Florida trying to correlate the GDD's to the pod blast method.

The results from the locations were:

WREC 1 yr peanut cotton rotation planted 5/30 yield 5,755lb/ac grade 76/4 and 77/3
GDD 2348 .

Sodbase 3 yr rotation planted 5/30 yield 5.835 lb/ac grade 77/3 78/3 and 78/3
GDD 2351.

Barnfield 3yr rotation planted 6/15 yield 5,405 lb/ac grade 79/2 79/2 79/2 and 79/2
GDD 2187.

Sandfield 3yr rotation planted 6/9 yield 5,415 lb/ac grade 78/3 79/2 78/2 and 78/3
GDD 2303.

Our goal was to match GDD with maturity. As you can see the GDD was short of what we have determined to be optimal maturity at 2500. However these test showed an excellent grade with high quality peanuts. We feel that the later planting date for these locations allowed the peanuts to change and respond to the day length. This caused the peanuts to mature faster than in the past when they were planted earlier in the year (early to mid-May). Notice the barnfield had the latest planting date with the lowest GDD but had the best overall grade with a respectable yield. We will repeat the study and see if the 2500 GDD holds true for the normal planting.