

Peanut Demonstration Grant

Tift County

Justin Hand

Tift County Extension's had two main peanut research projects this past season. The first was looking at peanut growth regulator rates on 12Y peanuts. Partnering with Docia Farms and with the help of Dr. Scott Monfort, Tift County Extension looked at different use rates of growth regulators. With the rise in popularity of the GA-12Y peanuts and the necessity of the use of growth regulators on this variety to manage excessive vine growth, this was a beneficial study due to the fact that Tift County will see an increase in GA12Y production and is a study that we will continue in the upcoming season. The second trial was looking at the benefits of variable rate lime applications for peanut productions with Dr. Simer Virk and Dr. Glenn Harris. Cooperating with Bobby Stone, a Tifton native peanut producer, we looked at the effect of a uniform lime application in a field with varying pH and soil types in order to demonstrate the benefits of using a precision soil sampling and variable rate lime application. This is also a study that we will continue in the upcoming season. Throughout the year Tift County Extension worked with local producers on peanut crop management and was able to assist in many ways. Grant dollars were used to assist with diagnostic samples investigating peanut fertility issues and disease issues. With the excess rainfall this year several issues arose in fields and we were able to correctly identify and some were even correctable. Pegging zone tests were also a benefit to producers this year especially with the availability and rise in gypsum prices. Additionally, grant dollars were used for the purchase of new equipment to be used for peanut maturity checks. During harvest time Tift County Extension will run approximately 40 peanut maturity clinics running over 300 samples of peanuts. The dependence on quality equipment to run the maturity samples is paramount.