Project Title: **Agronomic Research and Extension Programs to Address Economic Sustainability of Peanut Production (2024-2025)**

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**Agronomic Research:** Multiple research trials were conducted to continue to assess the yield and quality impacts of row spacing, seeding rate, planting dates, tillage practices, harvest date, and varietal resistance to TSWV. Trials were conducted on the Tifton campus (Gibbs, ABAC, & RDC), Moultrie Expo, grower fields, and at the Midville Research Station. Thirty-five plus trials were conducted evaluating cultivar performance, impacts of agronomic practices (tillage, twin/single row, planting date, and harvest date), growth regulators, and biological products. Yields across the state were down 500-800 lbs/acre (4057 state average) on many acres planted in mid-May due to weather. In many on-farm cultivar trials, TifNV-HG, Georgia-06G, and DG913 consistently ranked among the top 3 in overall yield and quality. In these trials, TSWV was minimal, which is one of the reasons GA-06G and DG913 performed well. GA-18RU, GA-21GR, and GA-22MPR were impacted by leafspot, resulting in significant yield loss due to weak stem strength. For the third year in a row, optimum peanut maturity was closer to the 150–155-day range rather than the more typical 140–145-day range due to weather in the middle part of the growing season.

**Extension Field Demonstration & Awards Program:** An extensive on-farm field demonstration program for peanuts is conducted each year by the University of Georgia Extension Peanut Team in cooperation with county extension agents. The focus of these on-farm demonstrations is increased profitability through production management. The on-farm trials in 2025 consisted of 18 variety trials and 10+ fungicide trials in Appling, Berrien, Bullock, Burke, Colquitt, Cook, Early, Grady, Coffee, Tattnall, Mitchell, Ben Hill, Terrell, Seminole, and Webster counties and biological stimulant trials conducted on-farm in Berrien, Bulloch and Colquitt counties. The results of the variety trials indicate that several newer varieties are similar in productivity and quality to Georgia-06G, with TifNV-HG, DG913, Arnie, and Florun 52N showing great potential to become among the more dominant cultivars. Overall, yields and grades were better than in 2024 and 2023. Four County agents (Will Brown, Jeremy Kichler, Holly Anderson, and Pam Sapp) received an award for their work on peanuts in 2025 at the GA County Agents Annual Conference (see picture).

**Peanut Industry and Extension Support:** Funding was used to attend and present my peanut research at APRES and National/Regional Agronomy meetings, as well as to deliver multiple national peanut update presentations at several national industry meetings. Seven agents (Tucker Price, Phillip Edwards, Ben Reeves, Will Brown, Wade Parker, Bill Tyson, and Braxton Crews) attended and presented their projects at APRES in 2025 (see picture). These funds have also supported my travel throughout Georgia to help county agents and growers with peanut-related issues. I made over 100 county visits throughout the season (>18,000 miles travelled) and made more than 65 presentations in 2025. I made over 40 field visits due to stand issues and fertility issues. GA planted 42.4% of the crop before May 10th, 40% between May 11-25, and 17.6% after May 25th.

**Dissemination of Information:** The information compiled by the many research and extension faculty is disseminated through several agent training sessions, research field days, and field visits throughout the year. The research results and recommendations are also provided through publications like the peanut update and the UGA peanut team website. The UGA Peanut Team's "All About The pod" podcast has grown to have more than 350 listeners weekly from more than 47 states and 53 countries. To date, the UGA Peanut Team has performed more than 120 episodes, reaching more than 40,000 people, or about ~333+ people per episode.

**APRES 2025**

**GACAA Awards 2025**