



MEETING THE NEEDS OF MISSISSIPPI PEANUT PRODUCERS

Challenges

- Peanut farmers across Mississippi face continually changing production-related challenges and economic risks.
- These farmers planted 25,000 acres of peanuts with a production of 92.5 million pounds in 2024.
- Researchers have developed peanut management strategies to improve efficiency, decrease risk, and increase profitability; the challenge is disseminating this information to producers.
- Sustainable peanut production depends on the profitability of the farming enterprise, and profitability requires increased revenue and/or reduced costs.

Extension Response

Extension programming helps producers address these challenges in many ways that depend on their specific situation.

- Extension faculty and professional staff develop and deliver targeted educational programs and technical assistance activities for peanut producers.
- These programs and activities address the issues of variety evaluation and development, pest management strategies, and cultural practices such as harvest timing.
- Scientific, research-based knowledge gathered through 30 research demonstrations was disseminated through 25 educational activities, various publications, and individual producer encounters in FY2024.
- Partnerships with industry and other entities resulted in grants and contracts totaling **\$171,538** to support Extension educational efforts.
- A large portion of this money was provided either directly or indirectly by peanut producers, demonstrating the importance of Extension educational programming to the state's producers.

Economic Impacts

- Extension programming could increase producers' estimated revenues. Variety testing could increase revenues by about **\$108 per acre**, disease management recommendations by about **\$153 per acre**, and harvest timing recommendations by about **\$131 per acre**.
- Total revenue could increase by **\$7.5 million** for 2024 given a conservative 75 percent recommendation adoption rate.
- The increase in revenue could generate **281 additional jobs**, earning **\$2.7 million**, an additional **\$5.3 million** in value-added, and an additional **\$12.1 million** in output for the state.
- Local taxes could increase as a result by an estimated **\$14,899** for municipalities, **\$37,179** for local special districts (e.g., school districts), and **\$30,150** for county governments.
- State taxes could increase by an estimated **\$219,370** and federal taxes by an estimated **\$578,560**.
- Increases in tax revenues are based solely on increased output by producers. This analysis assumes no increase in tax rates or change in the current tax structure.



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