

Crop Production

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Peanut Area Harvested, Yield, and Production - States and United States: 2010 and Forecasted
August 1, 2011

State	Area harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	---- 1,000 acres ---		----- pounds -----		---- 1,000 pounds ----	
Alabama	185.0	167.0	2,600	2,800	481,000	467,600
Florida	135.0	135.0	3,400	3,200	459,000	432,000
Georgia	555.0	475.0	3,560	3,450	1,975,800	1,638,750
Mississippi ...:	18.0	17.0	3,500	3,400	63,000	57,800
New Mexico:	10.0	9.0	3,200	3,200	32,000	28,800
North Carolina :	86.0	76.0	2,800	3,300	240,800	250,800
Oklahoma	21.0	23.0	3,200	2,900	67,200	66,700
South Carolina :	64.0	66.0	3,400	2,900	217,600	191,400
Texas	163.0	135.0	3,600	3,200	586,800	432,000
Virginia	18.0	14.0	1,800	3,300	32,400	46,200
United States .:	1,255.0	1,117.0	3,311	3,234	4,155,600	3,612,050

As spotty rainfall helped to improve soil conditions in portions of the Southeast as July began, pegging of the peanut crop was 26 percent complete, well behind last year and 5 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Peg development became easier and crop conditions improved in many of the major peanut-producing areas as additional rainfall helped to loosen hard-packed soils during mid-to late-July. Toward month's end, producers in Georgia were busy treating fields with fungicide to combat white mold. By July 31, pegging was 80 percent complete, 5 percentage points behind last year and 3 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 43 percent of the peanut crop was reported in good to excellent condition on July 31, compared with 30 percent on July 3 and 57 percent from the same time last year.

Peanuts: Production is forecast at 3.61 billion pounds, down 13 percent from last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.12 million acres, down slightly from June and 11 percent lower than 2010. Yields are expected to average 3,234 pounds per acre, down 77 pounds from last year.

Many peanut-producing States continue to suffer from extreme drought conditions. In Oklahoma and Texas, where the drought is most extreme, the peanut crop is mostly irrigated and was faring relatively well compared with other crops. However, many growers in Texas were abandoning acreage due to high irrigation costs, and growers in Oklahoma were concerned over the availability of water. While drought conditions had improved in Alabama and Florida, crop development was behind normal in Georgia, the largest peanut-producing State, and growers were aggressively irrigating in an attempt to offset the high temperatures. Despite high temperatures in Virginia and North Carolina, timely showers have resulted in good crop development.

As of July 31, forty-three percent of the crop was rated in good to excellent condition, compared with 57 percent the same time last year. Pegging was at 80 percent, 5 percentage points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average.