

PEANUT MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

BEFORE PLANTING			
January	Soil test: compare soil test values to sufficiency levels for all nutrients in Peanut Fertility Table. Take advantage of invited, out-of-state speakers on peanut production and marketing (State Peanut Growers Meeting).		
February	Attend area production meeting for update on product test results. Plan land preparation for conventional tillage.		
March	Early decisions on variety selection may increase the odds of getting the variety you want.		
April	30 days pre-plant, burn down weeds or cover crop for strip-tillage.		
Late April – May	For conventional tillage and non-irrigated, can pre-plant incorporate Prowl or Sonolan. If Vapam fumigation is used for CBR control, it should go out at least 14 days pre-plant when there is good soil moisture but minimal risk of rain within 2 days of application.		
PLANTING TO DIGGING			
Approx. days after planting	Example date: if planted 15 May	Growth Stage	Management Steps
0	15 May example planting date	Planted	Plant 5 – 6 seeds/row ft into good moisture at 1.5” depth (max. 3” if necessary). Inoculate all new fields and fields out of peanuts for 3 years with liquid in-furrow inoculant. Hit the center of furrow! Use in-furrow Thimet (phorate) 5.5 oz/1000 row ft (4.7 lb on 38” rows) for thrips. Imidacloprid can be used, but watch virus risk of variety and planting date. Spread planting dates of large acreage and plant late maturing varieties last to spread harvest maturity. Optimal planting interval about 5 – 25 May.
0-2	15-17 May	--	If Valor is used, it must be applied at planting or within 2 days of planting. Prowl/Sonolan or Dual can be tank-mixed.
7	22 May	Cracking – Emergence	A pegging zone (4” depth) soil test can be used to re-evaluate landplaster needs on runner types.
7 – 28	22 May – 12 June	Seedling	Apply Gramoxone (+ Basagran or Storm) when needed to control first weed flush from cracking through seedling stage. If thrips injury/stunting occurs after emergence treat immediately with Orthene (acephate).
35	19 June	Bloom (R1)	Land plaster applied at bloom 35 DAP (early better than late). Typical Cadre timing is about 35 DAP. Can tank mix Bravo at 30 – 35 DAP. If 2 Gramoxone applications are used instead of Cadre, the 2 nd application must be made < 28 days after cracking (~35 DAP).
45	29 June	Peg (R2)	Apply Bravo or Bravo + teb. absolutely no later than 45 DAP. Boron can be tank-mixed with the first herbicide or fungicide if need indicated by soil test (< 0.4 lb). Water is needed to move gypsum into the pegging zone and sustain pod development. Check to see that the taproot has active nodules (15 large (1/8”)) nodules/taproot if inoculation problems suspected: yellow plants. Cutworms can defoliate in late June – early July. Start weekly spot check for hopperburn on field edges.

Days after planting	Date (if planted 15 May)	Growth Stage	Management Steps
50	4 July	Swollen peg (R3)	Check for weed escapes; use 2,4-DB or other post-emergence herbicides where needed. It usually takes a minimum of 60 DAP to close the canopy. If Lorsban 15G is used to prevent soil insects, it should be applied during pegging (about the first week of July).
60	14 July	Full size pod / begin pod-fill (R4 – R5)	60 and 45 DAP appl. most critical for leaf spot control. Soil disease (white mold) control should begin at 60 DAP or by 15 July. Mn can be tank-mixed with the 60 DAP fungicide appl. if required by soil test. If Blazer is used, it should be applied 75 days preharvest (about 60 DAP). Spot spray escaped grasses where necessary with Select or Poast Plus. Most critical water use period begins; apply 1.0 – 1.5"/week minus rain 60 – 110 DAP. Apogee growth regulator timing is 50% vines touching for 1 st appl. and 2 nd appl at 100% row closure.
75	29 July	Pod-fill, full-size seed in oldest pods (R6)	Treat for white mold and leaf spot. 75 and 90 DAP are critical white mold treatments. Peak water usage period is around 75 DAP. Check weekly for corn earworm and fall armyworm starting around 1 August through first week of September. Spot check fields weekly for leaf spot and white mold from 60 DAP until 2 weeks prior to harvest.
90	13 Aug.	Pod-fill, full size seed (R6)	Treat for white mold and leaf spot. Under severe drought stress watch for spider mite hits in late August to September, particularly where Lorsban is used.
100	23 Aug.	Early maturity, oldest pods show internal hull color (R7)	Final fungicide application for Virginia types typically goes on about 105 DAP in moderate to low pressure years, but fields should be spot checked again at 120 – 125 DAP for leafspot control. See below for late treatment rules.
120	12 Sept.	Early maturity (R7)	Begin checking fields for maturity to plan digging dates. Use the hull scrape method to determine the percentage in white, yellow, orange, and brown-black hull color categories. At 120 DAP determine which fields will be the last ones dug and decide if leaf spot control is adequate. If projected harvest is 3 weeks away and 5% of lower leaves have late leafspot lesions, treat immediately. 110 – 125 DAP 0.75 – 1.0"/wk as needed to prevent severe wilting. Have digger and combine ready to go.
130-140	27 Sept.	Harvest maturity (R8)	Never dig strictly based on DAP but it is a good guideline in seasons with adequate soil moisture. Variety, seasonal temp. and rainfall determine maturity. Use hull color guidelines to verify harvest maturity. Disease control earlier in the season is critical to maintain the peg strength to carry peanuts to full maturity and provide a margin of safety if weather prevents timely digging. In October check for velvetbean caterpillar defoliation on the latest maturing fields in extreme southern area of S.C.
150	12 Oct.	Over-mature (R9)	Even on healthy plants, by 150 DAP there is a high risk of pod loss from deteriorating peg strength on medium maturity Virginia-types.