

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- **Current Peanut Situation & Production Update**
- **Peanut Seedling Disease Issues and Concerns**
- **Early Season Peanut Weed Control**

Current Peanut Situation & Production Update

*Jodd Baughman –
Extension Peanut
Agronomist*

Peanut acres are slowly getting planted across the state. Planting has been hampered by the blessings of rainfall throughout the state (for those who are getting frustrated just look back to 2006 and count our many blessings for the moisture we have received this year). In fact we are very much blessed compared to our friends in the Southeast where continued dry conditions hamper planting and crop development. However, with

this rainfall there has been increased concern over planting dates and adequate plant stands.



Peanut Plant

The current consensus would appear to be that ideally we would be finished planting the various market-types in the Southern High Plains by: Runner – May 15, Virginia – May 20, Spanish and Valencia – June 1.

However, it may be possible to push this back 5 to 7 days for each of the market-types. As we move north these planting dates would be earlier, and as we come off the caprock and move south we can obviously plant later. These decisions will ultimately be effected by the growing season both over the next few months and also by how open the fall is as well. We all know the stories of how great a crop was made on some peanuts planted the fourth of July. While these stories may in fact be true they also had to have the weather work

Peanut Seedling Disease Issues & Concerns

*Jason Woodward –
Extension Plant
Pathologist*

Things appear to be off to a good start with all of the precipitation we have been receiving across

the region. However, increased rainfall may result in lower soil temperatures, which are conducive for the development of seedling disease. In Texas, several soilborne pathogens are

known to cause seedling disease. Under cool, wet conditions, fungi such as *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Rhizopus* spp., *Pythium* spp., and *Fusarium* spp. often cause seed rot and pre-



Todd Baughman -
Extension Peanut
Agronomist

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Peanut Stand
Establishment



Current Peanut Situation & Production Update cont.

in their favor for this kind of success. We are always at risk from freeze damage and immature peanut when they are planted later than normal. We must also consider the potential for heavier to-mato spotted wilt virus on peanut in some parts of the state when planting is delayed for very long. Finally it has been noted that the peanut production guide states that a plant stand of 3 for 4 per row foot is adequate. This does not

mean that if you do not have a plant stand of 3 - 4/ft that you should replant. This is the target we should be shooting for. If plant stands average at least 2 per row foot and skips do not average more than 3 feet in length than stands are best left as they are. There is some concern that bunch types (Spanish and Valencia) may not respond as well as runners but I would still be hesitant to replant unless stands were below 2

per row foot. If replanting is chosen it may be best to leave the existing stand and replant slightly to the side of the old stand. If it is not obvious that the stand needs to be replanted than most likely you are best staying with the stand you have. The lost days in development will never be regained with a replanted stand. If you have any production questions contact Todd Baughman @ 940.552.9941x233.

Peanut Seedling Disease Issues & Concerns Cont.

emergence damping-off. These fungi attack young, succulent tissues such as hypocotyls. Brown to black colored lesions rapidly develop and girdle infected tissues, often killing seedlings. Under favorable soil conditions, these same organisms may also infect established plants, resulting in a post-emergence damping-off. Fortunately, most seed purchased

today comes standard with a protectant seed treatment. Such treatments are very effective at managing seedling disease; however, some losses may be experienced under extreme disease pressure. In addition to chemical seed treatments, delaying planting (until soil temperatures are above **55°F**), maintaining a proper seeding depth (**~1.5-2.0 inches**), and im-

proving drainage or planting on raised beds may also help reduce the potential for seedling diseases. If you have any questions regarding seedling diseases of peanut please contact Jason Woodward @ 806-746-6101.

Early Season Peanut Weed Control

*Peter Dotray –
Extension Weed
Scientist*

One of the keys for successful weed management is early-season weed control. Previous research has shown that peanut fields must be kept weed-free for the first 4 to 6 weeks in order to maximize yields. This can be accomplished by preplant burndown treatments or tillage just before planting, the use of preplant incorporated dinitroaniline (yellow) herbicides (Prowl, Sonalan, Treflan), and the use of preemergence herbicides (Valor, Dual Magnum). In west Texas, one of the key weeds at peanut emergence is tumbleweed (Russian thistle). The use of preplant plant burndown treatments, tillage, yellows, or PREs should provide effective control of this weed. If tumbleweeds are a problem,

Gramoxone Inteon at 8 to 16 ounces may be used to control tumbleweeds at ground crack. A second application may be made up to 28 days after ground crack. No more than 2 applications may be made per season, and do not apply more than 16 ounces per season. Peanut leaves may exhibit leaf necrosis spots, bronzing, and crinkling, but plants will recover and develop normally. Because Gramoxone Inteon is rapidly absorbed by weed foliage, rain occurring 30 minutes after application should have no effect on herbicide activity. Always add a non-ionic surfactant at 0.25% by volume to improve weed control. Gramoxone Inteon may be tank mixed with Pursuit or Dual Magnum for residual weed control. According to the Pursuit label, an application of Pursuit should not be made until late-cracking when most of the

peanuts have emerged. Pursuit does have an 18-month rotation restriction for cotton and grain sorghum. The use of Dual Magnum must be followed by rainfall or irrigation (0.75 inches minimum) to move the herbicide into the soil for its activity. The use of non-ionic surfactant is not recommended when tank mixing Gramoxone Inteon and Dual Magnum. Gramoxone Inteon may also be tank mixed with Basagran or 2,4-DB (Butyrac or Butoxone) to broaden the spectrum of weed control, but neither of these herbicides have soil activity. Do not apply Gramoxone Inteon by air. Increased injury has been observed with Gramoxone Inteon in South Texas especially when applications are delayed. If you have any questions in regards to weed control contact Peter Dotray @ 806.742.1634.

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Russian thistle

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