

Peanuts are produced throughout Florida, but mostly in North Florida from Levy County north to Escambia County in the west. Some peanuts are grown in south Florida for the boiling trade. However, most peanuts grown in Florida are for the traditional eatable dry trade and are processed for peanut butter, whole nut, and confectionery food uses. The table below highlights the major production practices for peanut in Florida and estimates potential production practices and potential issues in the southern peninsula. Peanuts favor well drained soils. In sandy soils, irrigation would be very beneficial if rainfall is insufficient.

Practice	Dates/Timing/Description	Potential for South Florida
Crop rotation	- 1-2 years cotton/corn, 1 year peanut; - rotation with legumes problematic	Bahiagrass/pasture rotation; 2 years peanut after 5-10 years pasture
Fertilization and soil fertility	-pH- 6.0-6.5; -legume, so need inoculum in soil or when planting for N; -P and K based on soil test; - K needed (100-150lbs./A) in sandy soils in Suwannee Valley region; -Calcium from gypsum at 30 DAP critical, 700-1000 lbs./A; -Boron needed, foliar is okay at 1 lb./A; ½ in first fungicide and ½ in second	SAME unless pH is high then may have Mn and Fe deficiencies
Potential toxicities	High zinc can cause toxicity- pH adjustment needed; Boron can be toxic above 1 lb./A	Dairy land common for high zinc
Planting	-April 15 – June 10; Most in May -Seed available from shelling companies through “buying points”	-February 15 – July 1 (earlier better) -absence of buying points and shelling company presence is issue
Weed control	Mix of pre, early post and post; ‘weed free’ for first 8 weeks; many common herbicides	SAME? Depending on restrictions for use
Irrigation/rainfall	About 18-20 inches total (bell-shaped curve from about .1 inch early to 1.5 inches mid-season down to .1 inch per week)	SAME
Fungicides; fungal diseases	Every 14 days for <i>leaf spot</i> ; Mid-season (60-90 days) include products for <i>white mold</i> ; Total of 5-7 sprays usually	Suspect that <i>white mold</i> will be less problematic, and that <i>leaf spot</i> and rust could be common fungal diseases
Viral disease	<i>Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus</i> (TSWV) in Panhandle, but less in north Florida	Suspect that TSWV will not be big issue; other localized viruses CMV???
Insect control	- Variable yearly; growth regulators popular and scouting for caterpillars is common	SAME- depends on local insect populations and pressures
Harvest	- About 140-160 days after planting; - Determine digging time by pod blasting; - Digging/inverting is <u>first harvest step</u> and peanuts lay in windrow for 3-5 days until vines are dry; - Combine when peanuts are 13-17% moisture is <u>second step</u>	SAME
Post harvest	-Peanuts will need to be dried to 10% moisture very soon after combining; -Facilities called “Buying Points” have infrastructure to haul (from field), dry, and store or ship dry peanuts	Lack of drying, hauling infrastructure nearby is a problem. Closest buying point is Williston, Florida.