



Seeding Rates and Twin Rows

Table 3-28 provides the conversion of seed per foot of row to pounds per acre in order to establish the desired plant population for a given variety. Germination percentage is not considered in this conversion, but it should be considered when planning planting.

In the Southeast, less tomato spotted wilt virus has been associated with twin row plantings than with single rows. Similar results have been observed in North Carolina. Higher plant populations and closer row spacings often result in fewer symptoms of virus. Pod yield of peanut in twin rows was higher than yield of single rows by 235 pounds per acre (Table 3-29). Seeding peanuts in narrow rows or at extremely high seeding rates has not increased yield over twin row plantings that establish a plant population of five plants per foot of row (sum of both twin rows). Although higher seeding rates are needed, and higher rates of in-furrow insecticide and inoculant are required, twin rows tend to produce a greater taproot crop rather than a limb crop. This can improve uniformity of harvested peanuts, and in a dry season when peanut vines do not lap, this can result in higher yields. One of the detriments of twin row plantings, especially with the higher plant populations, is excessive vine growth, which can make digging more difficult.

2014 Peanut Information

Table 3-29. Peanut Yield Response to Twin Row Planting

Planting Pattern	Pod Yield (pounds/acre)
Single Rows	3,760
Twin Rows	3,995
Difference	235
Number of Trials	20

On average, yield of twin rows exceeded that of single rows by 235 pounds/acre

At \$0.30/pound, \$71/acre increase in gross income

Extra seed (15%, 125 pounds/acre as single vs. 144 pounds/acre as twin, then additional seed cost (19 pounds/acre) at \$1.30/pound is \$25/acre

In-furrow inoculant at \$6/acre is now \$12/acre

In-furrow insecticide at \$10/acre is now \$20/acre

$71 - 25 - 6 - 10 = \$30/\text{acre}$

What is the value of the twin row planter in other farming operations?

Less value in management of tomato spotted wilt because this disease is less prevalent right now and varieties offer some resistance

Top-of-the line twin row planters cost well over \$100,000