

8. GUIDELINES FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA PEANUT PRODUCTION CONTEST, 5,000 POUND CLUB, AND GROUP OF SIXTY

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BACKGROUND AND CRITERIA

For many years the North Carolina Peanut Growers Association, in cooperation with NC State Extension, has supported a peanut production contest at county and state levels and a luncheon to recognize farmers producing an average of at least 5,000 pounds per acre on all of their production. Table 8-1 shows the average yield of the 5,000 Pound Club members from 2014 to 2021 in contrast with state averages and growers attending county production meetings. Entries should be sent to Ashley Collins (ashley.collins@aboutpeanuts.com) and David Jordan (david_jordan@ncsu.edu) by January 25 to be eligible. Growers with a point total of 60 or more will also be recognized as a member of *The Group of Sixty*. Achieving 60 points is truly remarkable. In 2021, one farming operation had yields and acres that led to more than 70 points. We decided to create a new category in referring to this winner as *The Board of Seventy*. *The Group of Sixty* will be recognized with a certificate. *The Board of Seventy* will be recognized with a wooden plaque. A luncheon will be held in March 2023 for *The Group of Sixty* and *The Board of Seventy*. Farmers with at least 5,000 pounds per acre on their total production will be recognized with a certificate at the county peanut production meetings.

Please note that the purpose of this contest and the recognition that comes along with the awards are focused on the person(s) or enterprise that is involved directly in the production and management of the peanut crop in the field. We fully realize that there are many types of arrangements and in some cases silent partners who support or have financial interests in the farming operation that meets the criteria described. Those relationships are certainly important to the farming operation. However, our goal with these awards is recognition of the farmer who is actively

engaged in the day-to-day decision-making process and implementation of those decisions on the farm. Though we fully realize the importance of financial partners that enable farming operations to function, the goal of this contest is to recognize the actual grower.

Table 8-1. Peanut yield (pounds/acre) from 2014 to 2021

Year	State Average	Grower Meetings Participants	5,000 Pound Club
2014	4,320	4,860 (3,600 to 6,400)	5,660
2015	3,400	4,080 (0 to 5,700)	5,700
2016	3,450	3,840 (0 to 5,740)	5,540
2017	4,030	4,650 (2,300 to 6,530)	5,500
2018	3,780	4,340 (600 to 6,010)	5,470
2019	4,300	4,860 (2,500 to 6,600)	5,720
2020	3,900	4,350 (2,700 to 5,600)	5,420
2021	4,350	4,770 (3,300 to 6,700)	5,698

The North Carolina Peanut Production Contest involves a combination of yield per acre and additional points based on total acreage. The following criteria are currently being used and include an example calculation.

1. *Eligibility*: Must produce at least 25 acres of peanuts.
2. *Requirements*:
 - A. *Variety*—Any variety can be grown.
 - B. *Acreage*—The entire peanut acreage under production by an individual will be used to determine official yields. The applicant enters the county in which he or she is a resident, regardless of the percentage of peanuts he or she produces in that county. For example, if the farmer resides in Pitt County but farms in Pitt, Edgecombe, and Martin counties, the farmer must enter the contest in Pitt County even if the number of acres in Pitt County is fewer than acreage in Edgecombe or Martin. Production from all states the farmers grow peanuts in must be considered in the contest.
 - C. *Entry requirement*—Official yields will be determined by the county Cooperative Extension agent. The contest will require trust that the applicant is accurately representing yield and acreage information.
3. *Point System*: An example of point calculations is provided below. The official entry will be from the contestant's county of residence (Figure 8-1).

Step 1. Yield—Average yield per acre (net weight) divided by 100.

Step 2. Acreage—Points will be accumulated for acreage as follows:

- A. 0 – 100 acres 0 points
- B. 101 – 200 acres 1 additional point or fraction thereof
- C. 201 – 300 acres 1 additional point or fraction thereof
- D. 301 – 400 acres 1 additional point or fraction thereof
- E. 401 – 500 acres 1 additional point or fraction thereof
- F. 501 – 600 acres 1 additional point or fraction thereof
- G. 601 or higher No additional points

Sample calculation:

Farmer produces 2,397,407 pounds on 420.2 acres

Average yield = 2,397,407 divided by 420.2 = 5,705.4 pounds per acre

Step 1. $5,705.4/100 = 57.054$

Step 2. Acreage

0 – 100 acres = 0 point

101 – 200 acres = 1 point

201 – 300 acres = 1 point

301 – 400 acres = 1 point

401 – 500 acres = 0.202 point

Total Points = 60.256

GROWER SURVEY

Applicants also must complete a survey of production and pest management practices (Figure 8-2). Results from surveys often are incorporated into recommendations for North Carolina peanut producers. **Please note that the applicant must sign the certification form. Unsigned entries will not be accepted.**

Figure 8-1. Sample Certification Form

CERTIFICATION OF POINTS IN PEANUT PRODUCTION CONTEST

Date _____

Applicant _____ County of residence _____

Address _____ Total points _____

Name of enterprise _____

Counties of production _____

States of production _____

Official yield (pounds per acre after drying) _____
ON ALL ACRES PRODUCED BY THE APPLICANT

THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES THAT _____ POUNDS OF PEANUTS WERE HARVESTED FROM _____ ACRES. THE UNDERSIGNED PARTICIPANT GUARANTEES, IN GOOD FAITH, THAT THE PRODUCTION FOR THE GIVEN CROP YIELD AND THE ACRES ON WHICH PRODUCTION OCCURRED ARE ACCURATE.

Average Yield/Acre = ____ points

Acreage

A. 0 – 100 acres _____

B. 101 – 200 acres _____

C. 201 – 300 acres _____

D. 301 – 400 acres _____

E. 401 – 500 acres _____

F. 501 – 600 acres _____

G. 601 – 700 acres _____

H. >700, no additional points _____

Total _____

Grand total _____

Signatures

County Agent _____

Applicant _____

Figure 8-2. Sample Production Practices Survey

MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR PRODUCTION CHAMPION, 5000 POUND CLUB, AND GROUP OF SIXTY—2022 SEASON

Applicants must complete this form to be eligible for the contest.

Name _____ County _____

Address _____

Date _____

1. Planting date: _____

2. Seeding rate: _____

3. Row spacing: _____

Twin or single rows: _____

4. Varieties (please indicate approximate percentage of acres for each variety):

5. Rotation Crops:

2021 _____ (if more than one, please include percentage of acres)

2020 _____ (if more than one, please include percentage of acres)

2019 _____ (if more than one, please include percentage of acres)

2018 _____ (if more than one, please include percentage of acres)

2017 _____ (if more than one, please include percentage of acres)

2016 _____ (if more than one, please include percentage of acres)

6. Lime applied and rate:

2022 _____ 2021 _____

7. Fertilizer used (provide percentage of acres): _____

8. Gypsum (please list trade name): _____

9. Broadcast or banded: _____

10. Bagged, bulk, or granular: _____

11. Rate and application date: _____

Figure 8-2. Sample Production Practices Survey (continued)

12. Herbicides:

Burndown _____

Preplant _____

Preemergence _____

At cracking _____

Postemergence _____

13. Leaf spot program (list fungicide for each timing):

A. _____ E. _____

B. _____ F. _____

C. _____ G. _____

D. _____ H. _____

14. What percentage of your acreage was treated for Sclerotinia blight? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

15. What percentage of your acreage was fumigated for CBR? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

16. What percentage of your acreage was treated with an in-furrow insecticide? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

17. What percentage of your acreage was treated for foliar insects? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

18. What percentage of your acreage was treated for southern corn rootworm? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

19. What percentage of your acreage was treated for spider mites? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

20. What percentage of your acreage was irrigated? (Circle the percentage.)

0 20 40 60 80 100 Chemical used _____

21. Did you apply boron? _____ How much and what brand? _____

22. Did you apply manganese? _____ How much and what brand? _____

23. Did you inoculate? _____ What product and what percentage of acres?

Figure 8-2. Sample Production Practices Survey (continued)

24. What percentage of your acreage received the following tillage practices?

Disk	0	20	40	60	80	100
Chisel	0	20	40	60	80	100
Moldboard plow	0	20	40	60	80	100
Field cultivate	0	20	40	60	80	100
Bed	0	20	40	60	80	100
Rip and bed	0	20	40	60	80	100
Strip-till	0	20	40	60	80	100
No-till	0	20	40	60	80	100

25. Did you apply Apogee or Kudos on your peanuts? If so, what percentage and to what varieties?

26. Place a number for each piece of equipment in a size category.

- 2-row digger _____
- 4-row digger _____
- 6-row digger _____
- 2-row pull-type combine _____
- 4-row pull-type combine _____
- 6-row pull-type combine _____
- 6-row self-propelled combine _____
- 8-row self-propelled combine _____

27. How many days did it take to dig and harvest your entire peanut crop?

_____ dig
 _____ harvest

28. What caused your greatest delay in harvesting?

29. What decisions and/or practices contributed most to your success?