

Peanut Maturity Clinics

When should I dig? That is always a relevant question in September. The answer also dictates if another spray application is needed. 2024 has been a very varied year. Based on the heat units collected so far it looks like this crop will be “on time” (if you can figure that out). As of today (August 29) we have accumulated 2506 heat units from May 1. We need 2650 - 2700 heat units to reach maturity beginning **from the time of emergence**, assuming there are no outside stresses to the crop such as heat and drought. The table below estimates approximate maturity based on varied assumptions of heat unit accumulation from today forward.

		Estimated Heat Units & Maturity Date								
Date Planted	Date Emerged	25-Aug	2-Sep	9-Sep	16-Sep	23-Sep	30-Sep	7-Oct	14-Oct	21-Oct
24-Apr	1-May	2422	2562	2688	2814	2919	3024	3129	3213	3297
1-May	8-May	2296	2436	2562	2688	2793	2898	3003	3087	3171
8-May	15-May	2170	2310	2436	2562	2667	2772	2877	2961	3045
15-May	22-May	2044	2184	2310	2436	2541	2646	2751	2835	2919
22-May	29-May	1918	2058	2184	2310	2415	2520	2625	2709	2793
29-May	5-Jun	1792	1932	2058	2184	2289	2394	2499	2583	2667
5-Jun	12-Jun	1666	1806	1932	2058	2163	2268	2373	2457	2541

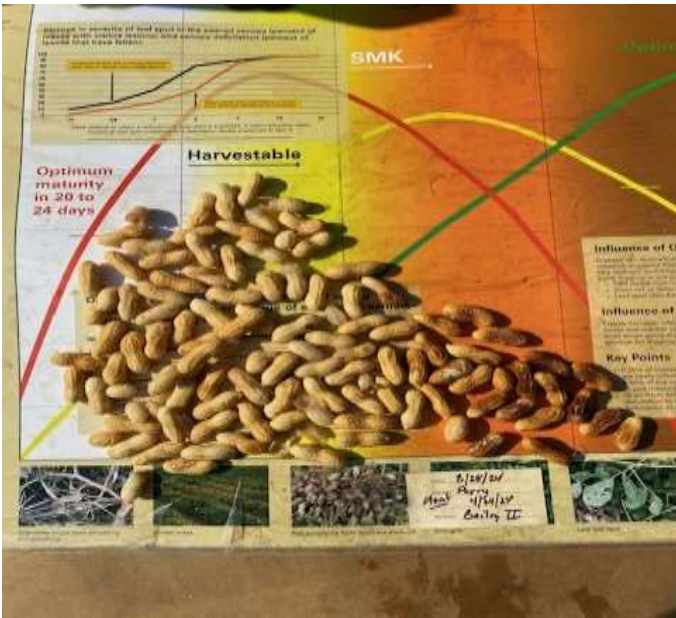
With this in mind, we have scheduled Pod Blasting Clinics as outlined below:

- September 9 Powell and Stokes 8:00 a.m.
- September 12 Colerain Peanut and Supply 8:30 a.m.
- September 16 Powell and Stokes 8:00 a.m.
- September 23 Nutrien Ag, Trap 8:30 a.m.

The results from the pod blasting are only as good as the sample. Select plants from representative areas of the field. Choose about 1 foot of row (3-4 plants) from 2-3 places in the field. Pull **all** the pods that will go into the picker. We need about 200 pods per sample. If you have more than that, mix and cut the sample in half. If you need to gather the samples the day prior to the clinic, pull the pods from the plants and place them in water in a zip lock bag to keep them fresh.

What is the price for digging too early? Based on research by Dr. David Jordan, for every day peanuts are dug too early you lose 45 lbs. per acre. Assuming a \$500 contract, that equates to \$11 per acre per day. Multiple factors are involved in making the digging decision including, weather forecast, vine condition, labor and other crops in the field. Look at each field separately and make the best decision possible. Call us at 252 794-5317 if we can help.

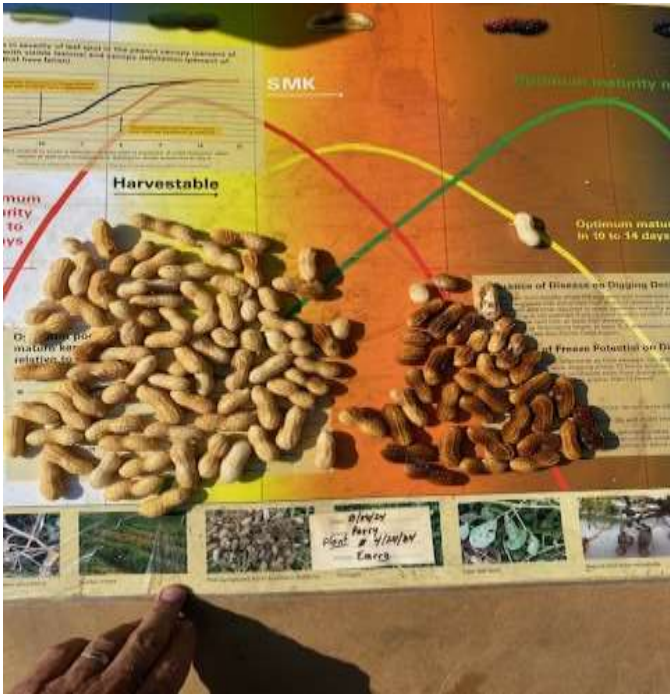
See pictures below from our variety test. These were planted April 24. Based on this sample they still need 14-21 days to be close to maturity.



Bailey II



NC 20



Emery