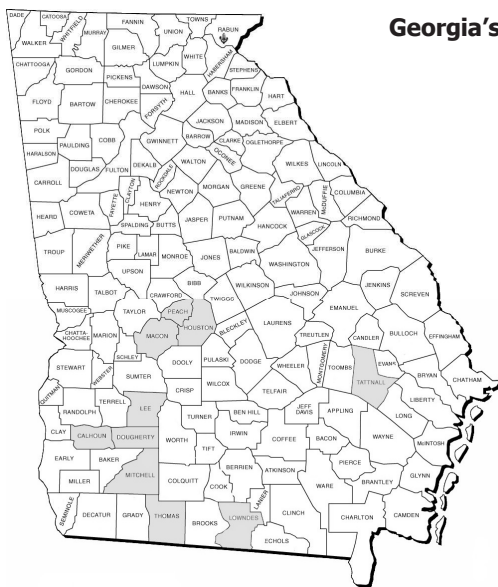


# PECANS

**FARM BUREAU** GEORGIA  
CLASSROOM POWERED BY—  
GEORGIA FOUNDATION  
AGRICULTURE



## Georgia's Top 10 Pecan Counties:

Mitchell  
Peach  
Dougherty  
Macon  
Lee  
Houston  
Thomas  
Lowndes  
Calhoun  
Tattnall

## GROWING CONDITIONS

Pecans can be grown over a wide range of soil types and conditions, but for the best rooting and pecan production, the soil should be deep, fertile and well-drained, with good water holding capacity. Pecans tend to prefer soils with a sandy loam texture and a clay subsoil.

## PLANT AND HARVEST

It takes between 7 to 10 years before a pecan tree begins to produce a full supply of nuts. But once the process starts, the tree can produce for a very long time, sometimes more than 100 years. In Georgia pecans are harvested in the fall.

## FROM FARM TO TABLE

When it is time to harvest pecans large pecan orchards use mechanical shakers. These shakers grab the tree trunk and shake the tree free of its pecans, which fall to the ground. A harvester scoops the pecans from the ground and collects them into a bin. After collection, the pecans must dry for a couple of weeks in an open-weave container to prevent spoilage. Once the shells are brittle they are cracked and cleaned so they can be processed, packaged and taken to the grocery store. Some pecans are sold in their shell at grocery stores.

## USES OF CROP

Pecans are most commonly purchased as a raw baking ingredient. Pecan shells can be crushed and mixed directly in the soil or used to make fertilizers. Pecan shells can also be used to smoke meat on a grill.

## IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's pecan industry is counted with the fruit industry. Those industries supports approximately 13,000 jobs and contributes more \$1.9 billion to the state's economy each year.

## FUN FACTS

- Albany, in Dougherty County, is known as the "pecan capital of the world," because of the number of pecan trees in the area.
- The name "pecan" is a Native American word of Algonquin origin that was used to describe "all nuts requiring a stone to crack."
- The pecan is the only tree nut that's truly from the United States.
- An estimated 100 million pounds of pecans are grown in Georgia.
- Georgia ranks second in the nation in pecan production.

## VIDEOS

PECAN | How Does it Grow?:  
[gfb.ag/howdoesitgrowpecan](https://gfb.ag/howdoesitgrowpecan)

Middle Georgia Pecan Farmer:  
[gfb.ag/pecanshaker](https://gfb.ag/pecanshaker)

Largest Pecan Shelling Business in Georgia:  
[gfb.ag/pecanshelling](https://gfb.ag/pecanshelling)

It's Harvest Time in South Georgia:  
[gfb.ag/pecanharvest](https://gfb.ag/pecanharvest)

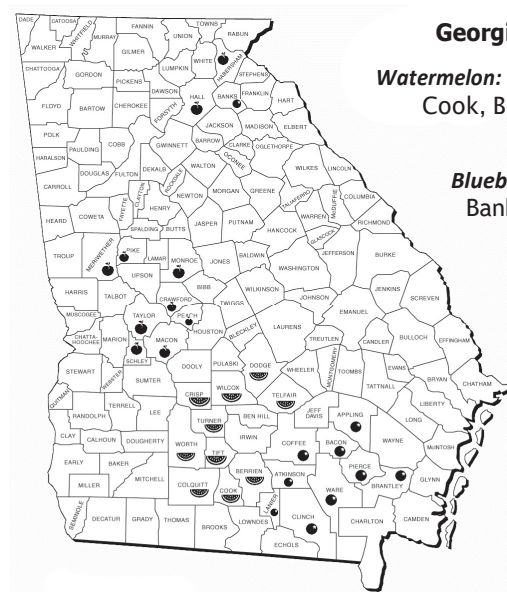
## HELPFUL WEBSITES

US Pecan Growers: [gfb.ag/uspecans](https://gfb.ag/uspecans)

Georgia Grown Pecans:  
[gfb.ag/georgiagrownpecans](https://gfb.ag/georgiagrownpecans)

Georgia Pecan Commission:  
[gfb.ag/gapecancommission](https://gfb.ag/gapecancommission)

National Pecan Shellers Association:  
[gfb.ag/pecanfacts](https://gfb.ag/pecanfacts)



### Georgia's Top 10 Counties:

**Watermelon:** Crisp, Tift, Turner, Wilcox, Cook, Berrien, Worth, Colquitt, Telfair, Dodge

**Blueberries:** Bacon, Appling, Banks, Clinch, Ware, Coffee, Pierce, Atkinson, Brantley, Lanier

**Peaches:** Taylor, Peach, Macon, Crawford, Meriwether, Habersham, Schley, Pike, Monroe, Hall

### GROWING CONDITIONS

Watermelon like sunny, hot weather and they should be planted in sandy to medium textured soil with good drainage. Blueberries need to be planted where there is good drainage, like sandy soils, and where they can get a lot of sun. Peaches trees require a site with well-drained sandy soil and plenty of sunlight.

### PLANT AND HARVEST

Watermelons are planted in March. Watermelons typically need 90 days to grow, before they are ready for harvest. Blueberry bushes are planted and then three to four years later they produce fruit. Blueberry harvest is from mid-April through the end of July. Peach trees are planted and then two to four years later they produce fruit. Peaches are ripe from early May to August.

### FROM FARM TO TABLE

Watermelons are cut from the vine and then loaded into a trailer and taken to a packing shed. Once at the packing shed they are graded, weighed and packed into bins. The bins are then loaded onto a transport truck and taken to grocery stores. Blueberries can be picked by hand or with large harvesting machines. After being picked the blueberries are placed in large bins and taken by truck or tractor to the packing plant. The blueberries are sorted and any bruised or unripe berries are removed. The berries can then be put in bags and frozen or placed in clear containers and refrigerated until trucks transport the berries to grocery stores. Peaches are picked by hand from the trees. Then they go through an ice-water bath that lowers the temperature of the peach to delay the ripening process. Next they are cleaned, defuzzed and sent through graders that remove leaves and removes fruit that is bruised. The remaining peaches are sorted by an electric sizer. Finally, they are packed and shipped in refrigerated trucks to arrive in grocery stores.

### USES OF CROP

Nearly all peaches and watermelons are sold as fresh produce. Nearly half of the blueberries grown are sold as fresh produce.

### IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's fruit and nut industry supports approximately 13,000 jobs and contributes more \$1.9 billion to the state's economy each year.

### FUN FACTS

- Georgia's nickname is The Peach State and the peach is our official state fruit.
- Cordele, Georgia claims to be the Watermelon Capital of the World.
- Georgia ranks 3rd in the nation in production of peaches, 4th in the nation in the production of watermelons and ranks 5th in the nation in the production of blueberries.

### VIDEOS

Toombs County Watermelon Farmer: [gfb.ag/Watermelon-season](http://gfb.ag/Watermelon-season)

Peach Co Peach Farmer: [gfb.ag/Peach-Season](http://gfb.ag/Peach-Season)

Peaches: [gfb.ag/gapeaches](http://gfb.ag/gapeaches)

How Does it Grow: Peaches: [gfb.ag/growpeaches](http://gfb.ag/growpeaches)

Blueberry Farmers: [gfb.ag/blueberryfarm](http://gfb.ag/blueberryfarm)

Blueberries: [gfb.ag/gablueberries](http://gfb.ag/gablueberries)

How Does it Grow: Blueberries: [gfb.ag/growblueberries](http://gfb.ag/growblueberries)

### BOOK READ ALOUD

The Berry Book: [gfb.ag/berrybook](http://gfb.ag/berrybook)

My Family's Peach Farm: [gfb.ag/peach](http://gfb.ag/peach)

Watermelon Day: [gfb.ag/watermelonday](http://gfb.ag/watermelonday)

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

Watermelon.org: [gfb.ag/watermelonfacts](http://gfb.ag/watermelonfacts)

U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council: [gfb.ag/blueberryfacts](http://gfb.ag/blueberryfacts)

Georgia Peach Council: [www.gapeaches.org](http://www.gapeaches.org)

### AG MAG

Specialty Crop: [gfb.ag/specialtycropmag](http://gfb.ag/specialtycropmag)



# VEGETABLES

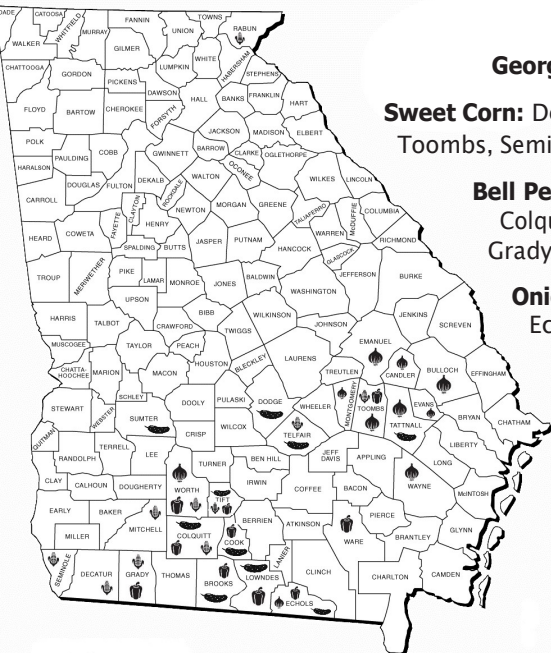


## GEORGIA AG EXPERIENCE

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### Georgia's Top 10 Counties:

**Sweet Corn:** Decatur, Mitchell, Colquitt, Worth, Toombs, Seminole, Tift, Grady, Rabun, Telfair

**Bell Peppers:** Echols, Lowndes, Colquitt, Brooks, Tift, Cook, Grady, Worth, Ware, Toombs

**Onions:** Tattnall, Toombs, Echols, Wayne, Evans, Emanuel, Montgomery, Candler, Bulloch, Worth

**Cucumbers:** Brooks, Dodge, Echols, Colquitt, Lowndes, Telfair, Sumter, Cook, Tift, Tattnall

### GROWING CONDITIONS

Bell peppers, sweet corn and cucumbers need to be planted in well drained soils in full sun. Onions need to be planted in sandy soils in full sun.

### PLANT AND HARVEST

Bell peppers, sweet corn and cucumbers are planted in April. Bell peppers take 60–80 days to ripen and harvest, sweet corn takes 60–100 days to ripen and harvest and cucumbers take 55–65 days to ripen and harvest. Onions are planted in from September through February each year and are harvested in late April to mid–November.

### FROM FARM TO TABLE

Bell peppers are picked by hand and taken to the packing facility and washed.. The peppers are then graded and sorted by size, color and weight and packed in boxes. The boxes are moved to the shipping cooler and are shipped to grocery stores in refrigerated trucks. Corn is harvested by hand and thrown up into the “wing”

of a mule train, a type of tractor. The packers put the corn into crates and then the crates are stacked on a truck. The truck is takes the corn to the packing shed where it is unloaded and cooled. The corn is packed and then is ready to get in refrigerated trucks and shipped to grocery stores. Most cucumbers are picked by hand. Once they arrive at the packing shed they are washed, graded by size, packed and then cooled. Cucumbers are delivered to grocery stores by refrigerated trucks. At harvest time, sweet onions plants are undercut by a tractor to pull them from the dirt and onto the surface of the field. The onions dry naturally in the sun for several days before they're brought to the packing facilities. Each onion is placed into drying bins and they cure for 24 to 48 hours in drying rooms. The onions are sized and graded when they're brought into the packing and storage facility. Once packaged, the onions are loaded onto trucks and shipped to your local grocery store.

### USES OF CROP

Most of the bell peppers and onions harvested are sold as fresh produce. Cucumbers are sold as fresh produce or turned into pickles. Sweet corn is sold fresh or frozen and canned.

### IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's vegetable industry supports approximately 13,900 jobs and contributes more \$2.6 billion to the state's economy each year.

### FUN FACTS

- The Vidalia Onion is the state vegetable.
- Georgia is number 3 in the nation in sweet corn production.
- Georgia is number 4 in the nation in bell pepper production.
- Georgia is number 5 in the nation in cucumber production.

### VIDEOS

Georgia Grown Cucumbers: [gfb.ag/gagrowncuc](http://gfb.ag/gagrowncuc)

Tattnall Co. Cucumber Farmer: [gfb.ag/tattnallfarmer](http://gfb.ag/tattnallfarmer)

Cucumber | How Does it Grow?: [gfb.ag/growcucumber](http://gfb.ag/growcucumber)

Georgia Grown Sweet Corn: [gfb.ag/gagrowncorn](http://gfb.ag/gagrowncorn)

Georgia Grown Vidalia Onions: [gfb.ag/gagrownonion](http://gfb.ag/gagrownonion)

Vidalia Onion Farm: [gfb.ag/onionfarm](http://gfb.ag/onionfarm)

Bell Pepper | How Does it Grow?: [gfb.ag/growpeppers](http://gfb.ag/growpeppers)

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

Vidalia Onions: [gfb.ag/vidaliaonions](http://gfb.ag/vidaliaonions)

Sweet Corn: [gfb.ag/sweetcorn](http://gfb.ag/sweetcorn)

Bell Peppers: [gfb.ag/bellpeppers](http://gfb.ag/bellpeppers)

Cucumbers: [gfb.ag/cucumbers](http://gfb.ag/cucumbers)

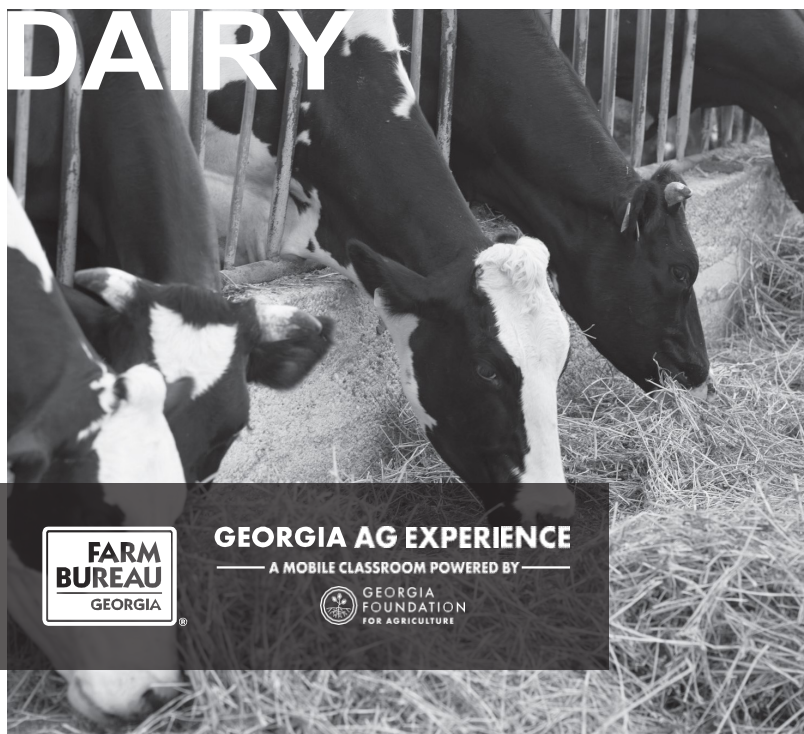
### BOOKS

Yumion the Onion Ambassador: [gfb.ag/yumionbook](http://gfb.ag/yumionbook)

My Family's Corn Farm: [gfb.ag/familycornfarmbook](http://gfb.ag/familycornfarmbook)

### AG MAG

Specialty Crop: [gfb.ag/specialtycropmag](http://gfb.ag/specialtycropmag)



## USES OF COMMODITY

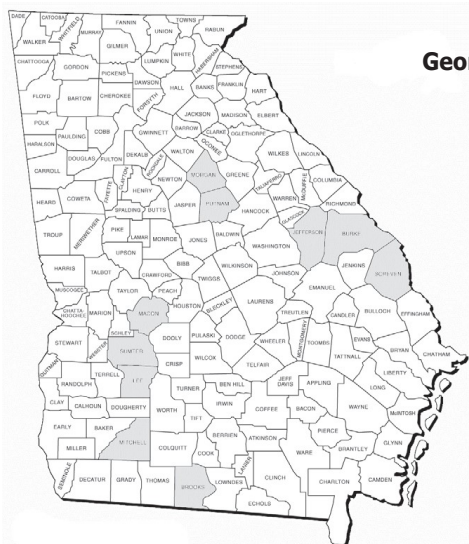
Milk from a dairy cow can be used to create many dairy products such as cheese, yogurt, whey protein, cottage cheese, sour cream, butter, ice cream, butter milk and cream cheese.

## IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia dairy industry contributes close to \$836 Million to Georgia's economy each year.

## FUN FACTS

- Dairy cows can eat up to 100 pounds of food per day.
- Dairy cows can drink as much as 50 gallons of water each day.
- Dairy cows spend up to 12 hours lying down daily.
- A typical Georgia farm has a herd of 530 dairy cows.



### Georgia's Top 10 Dairy Counties:

Macon  
Burke  
Brooks  
Sumter  
Morgan  
Putnam  
Mitchell  
Screven  
Jefferson  
Lee

## LIVING CONDITIONS

Dairy cows need clean and comfortable housing, fresh water, food and medical attention when necessary. Some cows eat grass or alfalfa hay. Many farmers supplement their cows' diets with mixed ration feeds including corn, soybeans, sorghum and other grains. Cows require a lot of time to rest and digest their food, so farmers provide cows with a variety of bedding options such as sawdust shavings, sand, shredded recycled tire rubber, dried manure that's been pressed and sanitized, and some barns even have waterbed-style mattresses. Many farmers equip their cow barns with fans and sprinklers or mister systems in the summer so their cows can stay cool.

## FROM FARM TO TABLE

Cows are milked 2-3 times each day with equipment that milks the cows and pumps that milk directly from the cow to a refrigerated storage tank. It is then quickly cooled to preserve freshness. Fresh milk is driven from the farm to a local dairy processing plant in an insulated, sealed tanker truck. Once the milk is unloaded from the truck, it is pasteurized and packaged into cartons. Distribution companies pick up milk and other dairy products in refrigerated trucks from the local processing plants and deliver stores or schools. It takes about 2 days for milk to go from the cow to the grocery store.

## VIDEOS

Meet Several Georgia Dairy Farmers: [gfb.ag/dairyfarmers](http://gfb.ag/dairyfarmers)

Robotics at a Dairy Farm: [gfb.ag/robotsdairy](http://gfb.ag/robotsdairy)

The Journey of Milk: [gfb.ag/journeyofmilk](http://gfb.ag/journeyofmilk)

Jenna, a Dairy Farmer: [gfb.ag/dairyfarmer](http://gfb.ag/dairyfarmer)

## BOOK READ ALOUD

Tales of the Dairy Godmother: [gfb.ag/icecreambook](http://gfb.ag/icecreambook)

The Milk Makes: [gfb.ag/milkmakers](http://gfb.ag/milkmakers)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

Milk-From Farm to Store: [gfb.ag/farmtofridge](http://gfb.ag/farmtofridge)

Virtual Dairy Farm Tour: [gfb.ag/dairytour](http://gfb.ag/dairytour)

The Story of Milk: [gfb.ag/storyofmilk](http://gfb.ag/storyofmilk)

Dairy Farm Information: [gfb.ag/happycows](http://gfb.ag/happycows)



# BEEF



## USES OF COMMODITY

99 percent of a cow is either used as meat or recovered as byproducts, both edible and inedible.

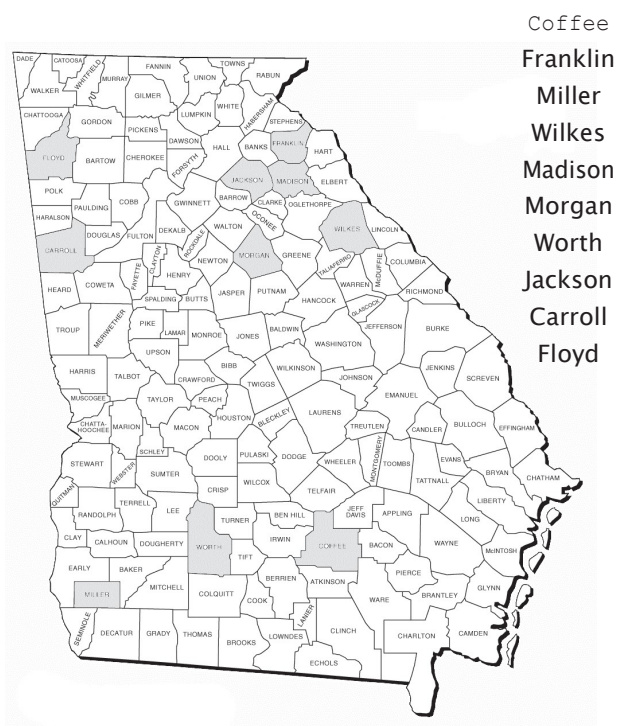
## IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's beef industry contributes \$2 billion to the state's economy each year

## FUN FACTS

- Cattle are raised in all 159 counties of Georgia.
- Americans eat an average of 56 pounds of beef every year.
- There are over 1 million cattle and calves on Georgia farms.
- A 1,000 pound market steer yields approximately 425 pounds of beef.

## Georgia's Top 10 Beef Cow Counties:



## LIVING CONDITIONS

Cattle need approximately 2 acres each to live on. Cattle also need access to fresh water and food. Cattle eat pasture grass when available and the farmer supplies hay in the winter when grass isn't growing.

## FROM FARM TO TABLE

When the cattle are of the desired weight they are taken to a meat processor to be processed. The animal is killed and then stored in a cooler. When the meat is cooled it is processed into the cuts that customers want. The meat is then packaged and labeled. The meat can be picked up directly from the processor, or it can be delivered to stores. Customers purchase the meat and cook it at their home.

## VIDEOS

Addison Hook-Beef Farmer: [gfb.ag/beeffarmer](http://gfb.ag/beeffarmer)

Hunter Cattle Farm: [gfb.ag/cattlefarm](http://gfb.ag/cattlefarm)

Farmers Jarrod and Becca Creasy:  
[gfb.ag/cattlebusiness](http://gfb.ag/cattlebusiness)

## BOOK READ ALOUD

Can-Do Cow Kids: [gfb.ag/candocowkids](http://gfb.ag/candocowkids)

Beef Cattle in the Story of Agriculture:  
[gfb.ag/beefcattlebook](http://gfb.ag/beefcattlebook)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

Beef By Products: [gfb.ag/beefbyproducts](http://gfb.ag/beefbyproducts)

Printable Beef By Product Poster: [gfb.ag/beefposter](http://gfb.ag/beefposter)

Georgia Beef Board: [gfb.ag/georgiabeef](http://gfb.ag/georgiabeef)

Printable Coloring Book with Beef Facts:  
[gfb.ag/beefcoloringbook](http://gfb.ag/beefcoloringbook)

Raising Beef: [gfb.ag/raisingbeef](http://gfb.ag/raisingbeef)

# PEANUTS

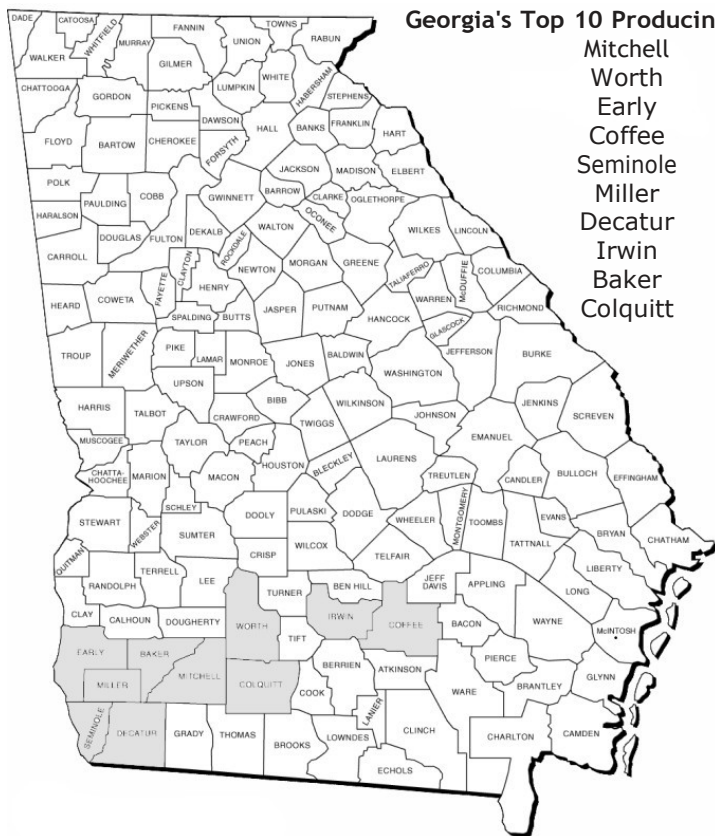


## GEORGIA AG EXPERIENCE

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### Georgia's Top 10 Producing Counties:

Mitchell  
Worth  
Early  
Coffee  
Seminole  
Miller  
Decatur  
Irwin  
Baker  
Colquitt

**GROWING CONDITIONS** Peanuts need to be planted where they receive full sun. Peanuts grow best in loose, well-drained soil rich in organic matter. A sandy-loamy soil is best.

### PLANT AND HARVEST

Farmers typically plant peanuts in April or May. The peanuts grow for 140–150 days then they are harvested.

### FROM FARM TO TABLE

After digging up the peanuts they are left in rows for 2–3 days to dry. After they have dried a combine separates the peanuts from the vines, placing the peanuts into a hopper on the top of the machine and depositing the vines back in the field. The freshly combined peanuts are then placed into peanut wagons for further curing with forced warm air circulating through the wagon.

## USES OF CROP

In the United States, peanuts are rarely eaten raw, they are usually roasted. About one-half of all edible peanuts produced in the United States are roasted to make peanut butter. Roasted peanuts can also be found in candy bars and other desserts. Many people in the Southern United States enjoy eating boiled peanuts. Peanuts can also be turned into flour and oil.

## IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's peanut industry supports approximately 50,000 jobs and contributes more \$2 billion to the state's economy each year.

## FUN FACTS

- The peanut is Georgia's official state crop.
- Georgia accounts for more than half of the peanuts produced annually in the United States.
- Jimmy Carter was a peanut farmer in Plains, Georgia before becoming the 39th President of the United States of America.
- Peanuts are grown in 70 Georgia counties.
- Georgia farmers plant over 650,000 acres of peanuts every year.

## VIDEOS

Peanut Farmer Jan Jones: [gfb.ag/janjones](http://gfb.ag/janjones)

Peanut Sheller: [gfb.ag/peanutsheller](http://gfb.ag/peanutsheller)

Peanut Harvesting: [gfb.ag/peanutharvest](http://gfb.ag/peanutharvest)

Chase Farms: [gfb.ag/chasefarms](http://gfb.ag/chasefarms)

Planting Peanuts: [gfb.ag/plantingpeanuts](http://gfb.ag/plantingpeanuts)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

National Peanut Board: [gfb.ag/nationalpeanutboard](http://gfb.ag/nationalpeanutboard)

American Peanut Council: [gfb.ag/peanutsusa](http://gfb.ag/peanutsusa)

Georgia Peanut Commission: [gfb.ag/gapeanuts](http://gfb.ag/gapeanuts)

## BOOK READ ALOUDS

A Home Run for Peanuts: [gfb.ag/homerunforpeanuts](http://gfb.ag/homerunforpeanuts)

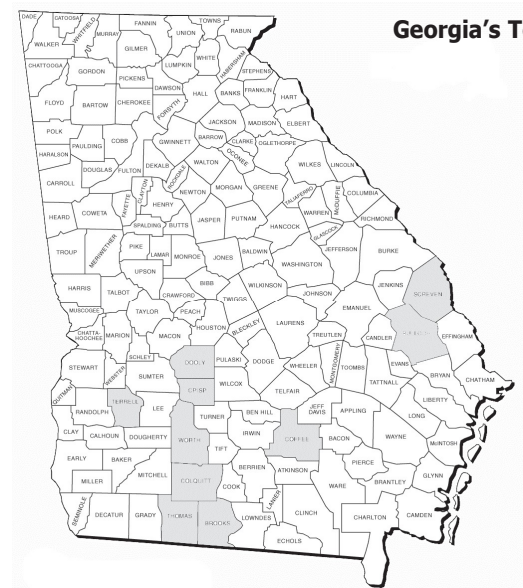
Peanuts to Peanut Butter: [gfb.ag/peanutstopb](http://gfb.ag/peanutstopb)

## AG MAG

Georgia Farm Bureau Peanut Ag Mag:  
[gfb.ag/peanutagmag](http://gfb.ag/peanutagmag)



# COTTON



## Georgia's Top 10 Cotton Counties:

Coffee  
Dooley  
Worth  
Colquitt  
Bulloch  
Brooks  
Screven  
Thomas  
Terrell  
Crisp

## GROWING CONDITIONS

Cotton is a hot weather plant and it tends to wear out the natural nutrients in soil quickly, so farmers use fertilizer to give the plants nutrients they need. Cotton seeds are best planted in muddy or sandy soil that receives plenty of sun.

## PLANT AND HARVEST

Farmers typically plant cotton in May or June. Cotton is fully mature and ready for harvesting approximately 160 days after being planted.

## FROM FIELD TO FABRIC

When it is time to harvest the cotton mechanical picker picks and twists the raw cotton fiber from the bur, and the raw fiber is captured in a basket on the back of the picker. Next, the harvested cotton is converted into modules that typically weighs 20,000 pounds. The module is then taken to the gin where it is broken down, and the cotton fiber is separated from the seed. The fiber is now referred to as lint and is packed into bales which weighs approximately 500 pounds. The lint is shipped to textile mills, while the seed is transported to other mills.

## USES OF CROP

Cotton lint is used in clothing, shoestrings, pillowcases, denim, towels and dollar bills. Linters are used in plastics, paper products, films, yarns and cosmetics. Cottonseed is crushed into three separate products—oil, meal and hulls. The oil is the cottonseed's most valuable by-product.

## IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's cotton industry supports approximately 53,000 jobs and contributes more \$3 billion to the state's economy each year.

## FUN FACTS

- Georgia ranks 2nd in the nation in cotton production.
- Georgia was the first colony to produce cotton commercially, first planting it near Savannah in 1734.
- The cotton gin was invented by Eli Whitney in 1793 while he was visiting a Georgia farm.
- Sometimes called "white gold," cotton is the most widely grown row crop in Georgia.
- One bale of cotton can make 215 pairs of jeans.

## VIDEOS

South Georgia Cotton Farmer:  
[gfb.ag/cottonjeans](http://gfb.ag/cottonjeans)

How Cotton is Processed in Factories:  
[gfb.ag/processingcotton](http://gfb.ag/processingcotton)

How A Cotton Picker Works: [gfb.ag/cottonpicker](http://gfb.ag/cottonpicker)

After Harvest, Georgia Cotton Heads To Local Gins:  
[gfb.ag/cottongin](http://gfb.ag/cottongin)

The Cotton Board cotton life cycle:  
[gfb.ag/cottonboardvideo](http://gfb.ag/cottonboardvideo)

## BOOK READ ALOUD

From Plant to Blue Jeans: [gfb.ag/planttojeans](http://gfb.ag/planttojeans)

From Cotton To T-shirt: [gfb.ag/cottontoshirt](http://gfb.ag/cottontoshirt)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

The Story of Cotton: [gfb.ag/storyofcotton](http://gfb.ag/storyofcotton)

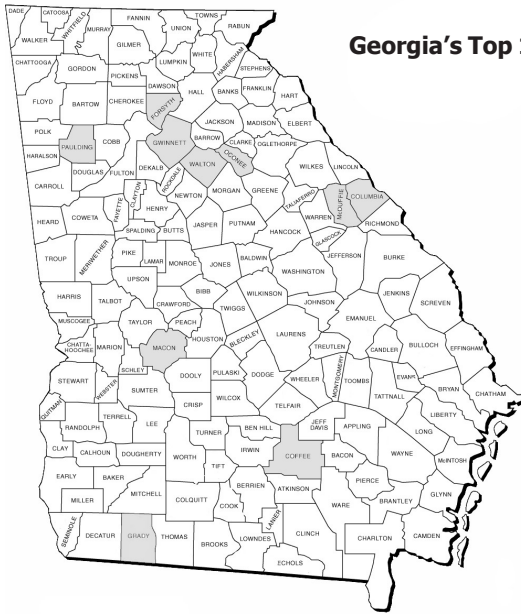
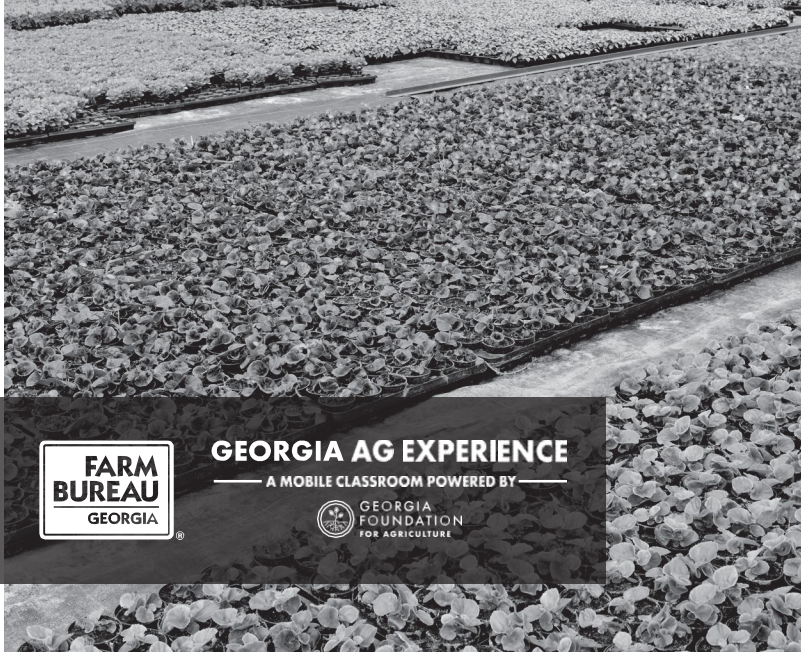
Georgia Cotton Commission:  
[gfb.ag/georgiacottoncommission](http://gfb.ag/georgiacottoncommission)

From Field to Fiber: Cotton's Journey:  
[gfb.ag/journeyofcotton](http://gfb.ag/journeyofcotton)

## AG MAG

Cotton: [gfb.ag/cottonagmag](http://gfb.ag/cottonagmag)

# HORTICULTURE



## Georgia's Top 10 Horticulture Counties:

Columbia  
Forsyth  
Grady  
McDuffie  
Paulding  
Walton  
Macon  
Oconee  
Coffee  
Gwinnett

## GROWING CONDITIONS

–In a greenhouse plants are grown in a controlled atmosphere so plants can grow year-round. The humidity and temperature are kept at a constant in a greenhouse.  
–A field nursery should be free of large stones and hard soil that would interfere with root growth. The soil needs to be fertile and well-drained and it must hold together around the roots when plants are dug up.  
–In a container nursery the plants grow in containers and they need to be watered several times per day throughout the growing season.

## PLANT AND HARVEST

Plants grown in containers and greenhouses can be harvested any day of the year. The time it takes for plants to reach a saleable size will depend on the type of plant and growing conditions. Plants grown at a field nursery are harvested when the desired height is reached. Plants are harvested either by hand or with a mechanized tree spade.

## FROM FARM TO TABLE

Plants are loaded onto trucks and shipped to garden centers when it's the correct season for them to be sold.

## USES OF CROP

Ornamental horticulture includes grass and plants. Turf grass is used on lawns and certain sports arenas, like baseball fields and golf courses. Some nurseries grow trees that can be used on tree farms or to reforest an area that has been burned. Flowering plants and shrubs are used to make parks, gardens, and home pretty. Fruit and vegetable plants are used by farmers and home gardeners to grow food.

## IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's ornamental horticulture industry supports approximately 83,000 jobs and contributes more \$8 billion to the state's economy each year.

## FUN FACTS

- Researchers at the University of Georgia developed a turfgrass, TifTuf™ bermudagrass. It has been used on lawns, golf courses, Major League and Little League Baseball playing fields in Georgia and across the nation and the world.
- The Pure Flavor greenhouse is in Peach County. They are building a 75-acre greenhouse and when completed it will be the largest of its kind greenhouse in the southeast. It will grow tomatoes and cucumbers year-round.

## VIDEOS

UGA Turf Breeders: [gfb.ag/ugaturf](http://gfb.ag/ugaturf)

McCorkle Nursery in Dearing, GA.: [gfb.ag/mccorklenursery](http://gfb.ag/mccorklenursery)

Nurseries Help Landowners: [gfb.ag/nurseries](http://gfb.ag/nurseries)

Plant Nursery in Baxley, Ga.: [gfb.ag/plantnursery](http://gfb.ag/plantnursery)

Pure Flavor Green-house in Fort Valley: [gfb.ag/pureflavor](http://gfb.ag/pureflavor)

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

Pure Flavor: [gfb.ag/pureflavorsite](http://gfb.ag/pureflavorsite)

Turfgrass TifTuf™: [gfb.ag/ugaturfgrass](http://gfb.ag/ugaturfgrass)



# FORESTRY

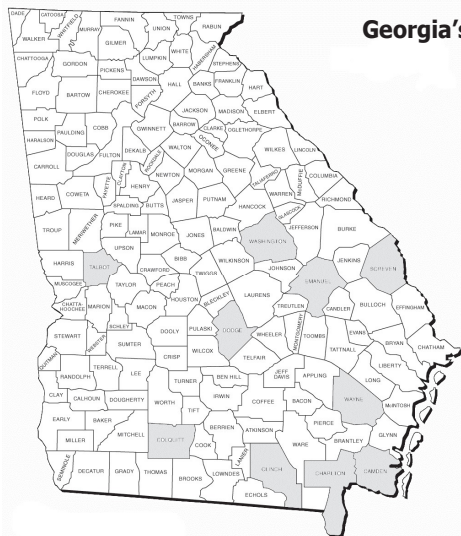


## GEORGIA AG EXPERIENCE

A MOBILE CLASSROOM POWERED BY



GEORGIA  
FOUNDATION  
FOR AGRICULTURE



### Georgia's Top 10 Forestry Counties:

Talbot  
Wayne  
Clinch  
Emanuel  
Colquitt  
Camden  
Charlton  
Screven  
Dodge  
Washington

### GROWING CONDITIONS

There are many conditions that impact how well a tree grows. Some above-ground conditions are the amount of sunlight the tree receives, how much rain the tree gets and extremes in temperature. Some below-ground conditions include soil texture, structure, soil moisture and underground obstacles that could hurt root growth.

### PLANT AND HARVEST

A pine tree farmer usually does their first cutting in 15 years and trees will be about 40 feet tall. The second cutting will occur about 8 years later. When the trees are 35 years old, trees will be sawtimber size trees. The total height will be about 100 feet but not all the tree

will be utilized for sawtimber. The top will be utilized as pulpwood because of the size diameter and quality.

### FROM FARM TO TABLE

Trees are chosen to be harvested. Then the tree is chopped so that it falls over. The tree is cut at both ends and the branches are cut off. The log is now ready to be loaded on to a logging truck and taken to the mill. When the logs arrive at the mill the bark is removed and they are sorted by species, size, and uses. Once the logs are cut to the size wanted, they are dried and then the surfaces are smoothed to a uniform width and thickness. Now the finished lumber is ready to be delivered to stores.

### USES OF CROP

Trees can be used for lumber, firewood, paper, natural dyes, scented oils, cleaning products, deodorants, fungicides, insecticides, shoe polish, perfumes, plastics, toothpaste, chewing gum, crayons, furniture polish, make up, tape, hair spray, medicine, floor tiles, helmets, hardhats, suit cases and much, much more!

### IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia's forestry industry supports approximately 55,000 jobs and contributes more \$36.3 billion to the state's economy each year.

### FUN FACTS

- There are an estimated 111 pine tree species worldwide and Georgia provides a native home to 11 varieties.
- In Georgia 2 out of every 3 raindrops fall on forested land.
- Georgia is home to the largest hardwood sawmill in the US and the largest recycled paper mill in North America.
- Georgia's forests grow two tons of wood per second.

### VIDEOS

Pine Tree Farmer: [gfb.ag/pinetreegrower](http://gfb.ag/pinetreegrower)

Twiggs County Tree Farmer: [gfb.ag/treefarmer](http://gfb.ag/treefarmer)

Tour a Georgia-Pacific Lumber Mill:  
[gfb.ag/lumbermill](http://gfb.ag/lumbermill)

### ONLINE BOOK

Our Family's Tree Farm: [gfb.ag/familytreefarm](http://gfb.ag/familytreefarm)

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

-Pine Trees of Georgia:[gfb.ag/gapinetrees](http://gfb.ag/gapinetrees)

-From Tree Farm to the Mill: [gfb.ag/lumber](http://gfb.ag/lumber)

-Sawmill Facts For Kids: [gfb.ag/sawmill](http://gfb.ag/sawmill)

-Georgia Forestry Commission:  
[gfb.ag/gaforestry](http://gfb.ag/gaforestry)

# POULTRY



## GEORGIA AG EXPERIENCE

A MOBILE CLASSROOM POWERED BY



GEORGIA  
FOUNDATION  
FOR AGRICULTURE



### Georgia's Top 10 Poultry Counties:

Madison  
Franklin  
Hart  
Jackson  
Banks  
Gordon  
Hall  
Habersham  
Colquitt  
Oglethorpe

### LIVING CONDITIONS

Chickens are raised in large, open structures called poultry houses. Those houses have a mechanical systems to deliver feed and water to the birds. Chicken feed consists primarily of corn and soybean meal with the addition of essential vitamins and minerals. Fresh water is provided in an enclosed watering system so the water will not spill on the floor. The birds are kept comfortable in a protective environment that has a ventilation system and heaters. The floor of the house is covered with bedding material consisting of wood chips, rice hulls, or peanut shells.

### FROM FARM TO TABLE

Eggs are picked up from and taken to an egg processing plant, the eggare washed and sanitized before being packaged for the store. After the eggs are packaged they are loaded in refrigerated vehicles and delivered to stores and restaurants.

Broilers (meat chickens) are grown to the ideal weight to be sold for meat (usually 4 –7 pounds). Once grown they are collected and transported to the processing plant. At the plant, they are processed and thoroughly washed and cleaned, chilled, packaged and inspected. After inspection the meat is chilled and then packed on a refrigerated truck. The chicken is kept chilled during transit and is delivered to grocery stores and restaurants.

### USES OF COMMODITY

Chickens are used for mostly for their meats. Feathers can be used in clothing, pillow stuffing and insulation.

### IMPACT ON GEORGIA'S ECONOMY

Georgia poultry industry contributes over to \$24 billion to Georgia's economy each year.

### FUN FACTS

- On an average day Georgia produces 26 million pounds of chicken and 9.2 million eggs.
- Georgia has been declared the "Poultry Capital of the World."
- Georgia has led the nation in broiler production for decades.
- 3 out of 4 Georgia counties are involved in poultry and egg production.

### VIDEOS

Technology on a Poultry Farm: [gfb.ag/techpoultry](http://gfb.ag/techpoultry)

Georgia Chicken House: [gfb.ag/poultryhouse](http://gfb.ag/poultryhouse)

Young Poultry Farmer: [gfb.ag/poultryfarmer](http://gfb.ag/poultryfarmer)

### ONLINE BOOK

My Family's Egg Farm: [gfb.ag/eggfarm](http://gfb.ag/eggfarm)

### BOOK READ ALOUD

Chicks and Chickens: [gfb.ag/chicksandchickens](http://gfb.ag/chicksandchickens)

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

Farm to Table: [gfb.ag/farmtotable](http://gfb.ag/farmtotable)

Egg 101 Videos: [gfb.ag/eggs101](http://gfb.ag/eggs101)

Virtual Egg Farm Field Trip: [gfb.ag/eggfarmfieldtrip](http://gfb.ag/eggfarmfieldtrip)

Virtual Chicken House Tour: [gfb.ag/chickenfarmtour](http://gfb.ag/chickenfarmtour)