

Why Peanuts? Peanuts are an important food source in many underdeveloped countries.

- Highly nutritious (high in protein, unsaturated fats, fiber, several vitamins and minerals)
- Used to treat severe malnutrition as Ready-To-Use-Therapeutic-Food (RUTF)
- Global importance (39 million tons produced annually, 95% in developing countries)
- Important cash crop in developing countries, often considered a woman's crop
- Improves soil fertility by fixing atmospheric nitrogen

Why Mycotoxin? Peanuts are often contaminated with deadly mycotoxin.

- Linked with childhood stunting
- Carcinogenic with serious health effects
- Reduce quality and marketability



Overview

Since 1982, the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences along with other U.S. and international partners have worked together in the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded PMIL (formerly the Peanut CRSP).

PMIL is managed by Director (Dave Hoisington), Assistant Director (Jamie Rhoads), Business Manager (Allen Stripling), Communications Specialist (Christy Fricks), Web Developer (Michelle McGeehan) and Administrative Assistant (Bonnie Klostermann).

An External Advisory Panel (EAP), composed of strategic top level research and industry partners from around the globe, provides unbiased advice on technical matters across the PMIL portfolio of projects.

Over the years, PMIL and Peanut CRSP have supported over 136 student degree programs and trained numerous farmers and researchers in innovative, safe and productive peanut technology.

Our current focus countries are Ghana, Haiti, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia.



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THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Our Global Challenge

Achieving food security through sustainable intensification.

925 million people worldwide suffer from chronic hunger, with nearly 30% of children in sub-Saharan Africa malnourished.

Demand for food is projected to increase by 50 percent over the next 20 years. Increased demand will come primarily from population and income growth in middle-income countries.

Diversified diets are increasingly in demand—especially animal source foods.



Our Current Research Focus

The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Peanut Productivity and Mycotoxin Control (Peanut & Mycotoxin Innovation Lab, PMIL) funds research that catalyzes broad-based agriculture-led economic growth with the specific goals of reducing rural poverty and hunger, and increasing food safety and nutrition.

PMIL scientists and partners conduct peanut research focused on three key themes:

- Breeding and introducing improved peanut varieties
- Addressing critical constraints along the peanut value chain
- Developing effective methods for better monitoring of mycotoxin.



Current Research Project Portfolio

Mycotoxin Detection Projects

AflaGoggles for Aflatoxin Detection—Haibo Yao
Mycotoxin Detection Options—Kumar Mallikarjuna
Mycotoxin Detection in Dried Blood—Jia-Sheng Wang

Improved Peanut Variety Projects

Peanut Genomics—Peggy Ozias-Akins
Peanut Varietal Development—C. Michael Deom
RNAi Silencing of Aflatoxin Synthesis—Renee Arias

Peanut Value Chain Intervention Projects

Ghana Peanut Value Chain Interventions—David Jordan
Haiti Peanut Value Chain Interventions—Greg MacDonald
Interventions to Decrease Mycotoxin Risks—Nicholas Magnan
Malnutrition Interventions—Mark Manary
Southern Africa Peanut Value Chain Interventions—
Rick Brandenburg