PEANUT POST

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CERTIFIED PEANUTS

Fairtrade
Organic
Rainforest Alliance

Certified peanuts although ranks a lower % out of the total global production, they are not just niche but rather take the industry forward in reengineering the conventional farming and supply chain management.

Organic Certified

Organic certification has long been a standard, primarily catering to the EU and the US markets. In the U.S., the organic category is valued at $89 billion, making it the second-largest organic market, while EU organic market is valued at $101 billion. The organic-certified nut market is valued at $5.5 billion in the U.S. and $7.5 billion in the EU. However, organic certification is not just about the end product—it ensures that the produce is grown and harvested following strict organic farming practices.

Fairtrade Certified

Fairtrade Certified Peanuts are cultivated and traded according to Fair Trade standards, promoting ethical, sustainable, and socially responsible farming practices. Farmers benefit from a guaranteed minimum price along with a Fairtrade premium, which supports community development initiatives.

The global market for Fairtrade certified products is valued at $8 billion, with the nut categories accounting for less than 1% of this total. Among Fairtrade certified nuts, cashews lead in both supply and market presence.

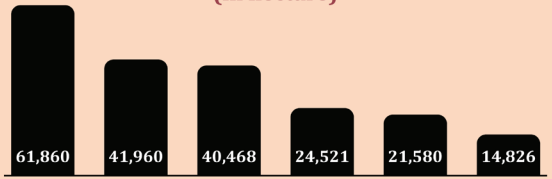
PEANUT WIZARD

Less than 1% of peanuts are certified out of the 55 million tons produced globally. Where is this niche industry headed?

Rainforest Alliance Certified

Rainforest Alliance Certified peanuts are peanuts grown according to the Rainforest Alliance's sustainability standards, which focus on environmental protection, social responsibility, and economic viability for farmers. These standards help ensure Sustainable farming practices and climate resilience.

Top Countries in Organic Peanut Cultivation (in hectare)



Other certifications in the industry include Global G.A.P. (sustainable, environmentally responsible, and safe agricultural practices), FSA (environmental, social, and economic sustainability in farming operations).

EDiTOR'S PiCK

Scientists Use CRISPR to Develop Fragrant Peanuts

Scientists from the Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences and their partners in China have utilized CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing to create fragrant peanuts for the first time. By targeting the AhBADH1 and AhBADH2 genes, which typically suppress the production of 2-acetyl-1-pyrroline (2-AP), they increased the aroma of the peanuts. This involved inducing mutations in all four copies of these genes. The resulting fragrant peanut lines not only had a stronger aroma but also displayed a darker seed coat and higher oil content compared to regular peanuts. While other traits like yield remained unchanged, the modifications suggest these genes may affect other developmental aspects. Analysis confirmed successful gene edits with no unintended off-target effects, paving the way for new fragrant peanut varieties.

Global Markets

ARGENTINA

The peanut market remains calm, with buyers inquiring but few deals being made. Origin sellers are under pressure to clear current stocks before the new Argentine harvest arrives, which will provide clearer price direction. While good harvests in other origins are expected to drive prices down, the extent remains uncertain. In Argentina, with around 500,000 hectares planted, three heat waves have already impacted crops. The estimated yield is 3.6 TM/ha, projecting a total production of 1.80 million metric tons of in-shell peanuts. Crop conditions vary: the north reports good to very good yields, the central region is average to good, while the south (La Pampa) faces weaker results. Uneven rainfall and prolonged heat make an exceptional harvest unlikely.

BRAZIL

The Brazilian peanut crop is performing well, with about 10% already harvested. Early results indicate good quality and yield. The estimated planted area ranges between 380,000 and 400,000 hectares, with a projected total production of 1.52 to 1.6 million MT of in-shell peanuts.However, the market remains slow, with weak demand from both the EU and other regions. Large volumes of old crop (non-EU quality) remain unsold, adding to price pressure. Additionally, reports of seller defaults are emerging, affecting market stability.In January 2025, Brazil's peanut oil exports surged by 74.75% year-on-year to 6,277 MT, while edible peanut exports dropped by 5.2% to 22,410 MT. Key export destinations include Russia, Algeria, the EU, South Africa, and Colombia.

USA

U.S. peanut exports declined 14.91% in the first four months comparedto last year. Canada is now the top market (29%), followed by Mexico (27.7%) and China (18.6%). Exports to the EU remain low, with volumes below 1980s levels due to strict aflatoxin testing. While USDA regulations ensure safety, the EU imposes additional tests on 20% of U.S. shipments, creating a competitive disadvantage compared to countries like China, which face less stringent testing requirements.

PEANUT SPOTLIGHT

INDIA

Gujarat: Stock availability varies across regions, impacting factory operations. Kutch has only 10% stock left, leading to factory shutdowns, while Junagadh, Keshod, Porbandar, and Gondal hold 40-50% stock, though 70-80% of factories remain closed due to pricing issues. Bhavnagar, Talaja, and Mahuva have 15-20% stock, with Java variety sales focused on local markets. Pathawada stocks are at 10-15%, but over 90% of factories are closed there. Rajasthan retains 50% stock, with demand for graded in-shell varieties keeping some factories running. Rhe factory shut downs amid poor price parity. Summer sowing is underway in Kutch, Himmatnagar, Jamnagar, and Pathawada, while Rajkot and Gondal regions continue planting.

Southern Region: Karnataka has harvested 70% of its crop, with 80/90 count trading at ₹88/kg and 70/80 count at ₹96-₹100/kg. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have completed 80% of their harvest, with 80/90 count at ₹92-₹92.5/kg and 60/70 count exceeding ₹105/kg. Tamil Nadu's arrivals will begin next week in Panruti and Cuddalore at ₹110-₹112/kg for the 50/60 count, with other regions following in 15 days.

Demand from Indonesia and other Southeast Asian markets remains exceptionally weak, with irregular Ramadan-driven consumption. Additionally, purchasing power in key consuming regions, including China, is significantly low.

AFRICA

South Africa Peanut crop is progressing well, with 48,000 hectares planted and an estimated 65,000-ton yield. A dry spell in January and early February impacted some regions, but recent rains have aided recovery. Harvesting will begin after Easter, with expectations of larger peanut counts. Reduced domestic demand may lead to lower imports and increased exports. Meanwhile, international prices are declining due to strong crops in Argentina and Brazil.

Sudan New crop started arriving destination ports, seed quality good and price ranges $900-$1000 FOB

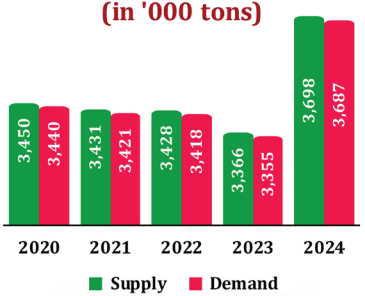
Tanzania New crop harvest is expected this month, Its almost harvest time just few weeks away.

CHINA

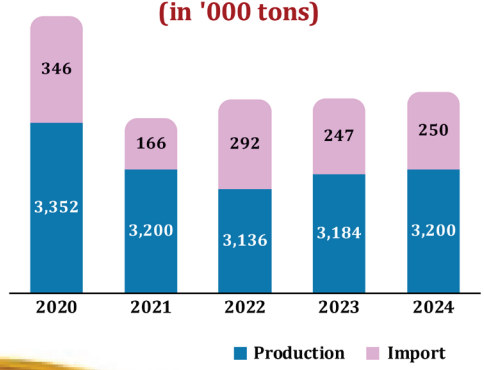
The Chinese peanut market remains stable with fluctuating trends, showing signs of bottoming out. Improved trader confidence has led to a rebound in quotations across producing regions. Increased purchases by local traders, driven by COFCO's price hikes and low inventory levels, have revived market activity. Junan Jinsheng has seen improved transactions, boosting confidence. However, demand remains weak, limiting significant price increases. Major buyer Luhua has yet to announce purchasing plans, while oil factories maintain limited purchases with strict quality controls. Blanched peanuts are priced at 1,310 USD FOB for 25/29 and 1,285 USD FOB for 29/33. Sudanese peanuts at Huangdao Port are around 7,900 RMB/MT, while first-grade peanut oil averages 14,500 RMB/MT. The USD to RMB exchange rate stands at 7.25. Without strong demand recovery, price momentum remains constrained despite fading negative factors.

DEMAND & SUPPLY

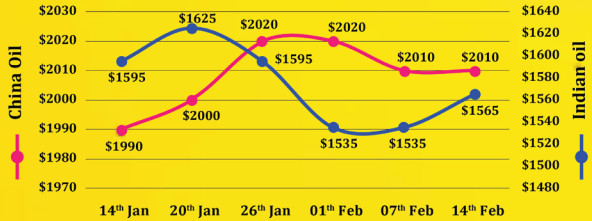
China Peanut Oil Supply Vs Demand (in '000 tons)

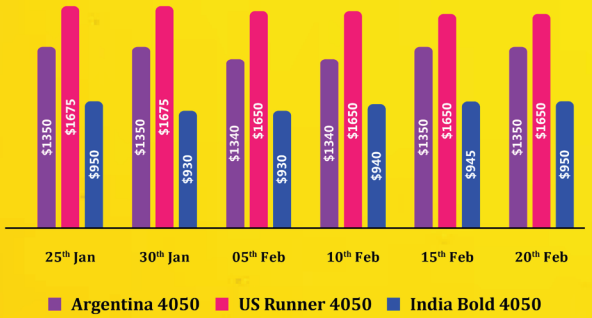


China Peanut Oil Production & Imports (in '000 tons)



Peanut Price Trend Jan - Feb 25





Insights

U.S. Peanut Exports Face Tariff Challenges

The U.S. peanut industry is under pressure as trade tensions rise. After the White House announced a 25% tariff on Canadian and Mexican imports, Canada retaliated with tariffs on agricultural products, including peanut butter. The EU also plans tariffs in response to U.S. aluminum and steel tariffs. Since 57% of U.S. processed peanut exports go to Canada and Mexico, these trade barriers could significantly impact the industry.

Can Tariff Tensions Reshape Global Peanut Trade?

As trade disputes put U.S. peanut exports at risk, importing nations like Canada, Mexico, and the EU may turn to alternative suppliers such as Brazil, Argentina, India, and China. These key producers could gain a competitive edge, expanding their market share amid shifting global trade dynamics.

Current Crops

ARG — Argentina
The peanut crop faces mixed conditions; northern regions thrive, while southern areas struggle with heat and dryness.
ARG 4050 $1350 ▼

BRZ — Brazil
Crops are being harvested already, Quality and yield are good.
BRZ 3842 $1250 ▼

CHI — China
CHI 4151 $1345 ▲

IND — India
Tamil Nadu all set to harvest in March a good quality, average quantity Spanish harvest.
IND 5060J $1310 ▲

INDO — Indonesia
New crop is has just started in central java region, nuts are not dry enough, new crop will hit markets in a two week.
INDO 8090 $NA

RSA — South Africa
The South African peanut crop is looking good despite a dry spell; the harvest ends mid of April.
RSA $NA

SUD — Sudan
New crops have started arriving, and the quality of the seeds is good.
SUD 8090 $950 ▲

U.S.A — U.S.A
USA 3842 $1650 ▼

TAN — Tanzania
Harvest to be done in Upcoming week.
TAN 8090 $NA

Peanut Voice

"As President & CEO of the National Peanut Board, I work to promote USA-grown peanuts on behalf of America's peanut farmers and their families."

Mr.Ryan Lepicier
National Peanut Board

Do you see a big future for organic peanuts, and how do you think peanut products will evolve over the next 30 years?

The demand for organic food in the U.S. has grown steadily, now making up over 5% of retail food sales. However, challenges in organic peanut production and premium pricing may limit widespread adoption. Meanwhile, peanut products will continue evolving with changing consumer preferences. Snacking remains a strong trend, and peanuts fit perfectly. Innovations like frozen PB&J sandwiches and single-serve peanut butter cups highlight their versatility. As consumer demand shifts, peanuts will adapt, offering convenient, nutritious, and innovative options.

Peanuts in Dynamite? You Won't Believe It!

Peanuts play a surprising role in making dynamite? It all comes down to peanut oil! Peanuts contain fats that can be processed to produce glycerol, which is then converted into nitroglycerin—a key ingredient in dynamite. This discovery traces back to Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, who used nitroglycerin mixed with absorbent materials to create a safer explosive. While peanuts aren't directly explosive, their oil contributes to this powerful chemical reaction. Beyond dynamite, peanut oil is widely used in cosmetics, biodiesel, and even lubricants. So, next time you enjoy peanut butter, remember—these humble legumes have a hidden, explosive side! Fascinating, isn't it? Who knew peanuts had such a blast of a backstory!

SUSTAINABILITY

Biochar: A Game-Changer in Regenerative Agriculture

#Peanut 360

Suresh Kumar
Assistant Manager R&D

Reducing Carbon Footprint in the Supply Chain

A major step towards sustainability is minimising our carbon footprint. We are actively investing in renewable energy sources and optimising logistics to lower emissions. Our transition to biodegradable packaging and reduction in plastic use are significant milestones in our journey towards a greener supply chain. Additionally, we have implemented recycling initiatives across our production units to ensure minimal waste.

Commitment to a Greener Tomorrow

Sustainability is more than just a concept—it is a responsibility. Our approach to sustainability focuses on eco-friendly farming, responsible sourcing, and reducing our environmental footprint. Through innovative farming techniques and ethical sourcing, we ensure that every step of our production process supports a healthier planet.

Empowering Farmers Through Sustainable Practices

Our commitment extends to the backbone of our industry—the farmers. We provide extensive training on climate-smart agriculture, water conservation, and organic farming techniques. By equipping them with the right knowledge and resources, we not only enhance their productivity but also contribute to long-term environmental sustainability. The integration of precision farming tools has further improved efficiency, reducing waste and optimising resource use.

Promoting Ethical & Sustainable Sourcing

We prioritise ethical sourcing by working directly with farmer cooperatives, ensuring fair wages and better working conditions. Traceability is at the heart of our operations, allowing consumers to track the journey of our products from farm to table. Our partnerships with Fairtrade-certified suppliers reinforce our commitment to transparency and ethical business practices.

Innovating for a Sustainable Future

Innovation is key to addressing sustainability challenges. Our R&D team is dedicated to developing eco-friendly alternatives in packaging and processing. We are also exploring regenerative agriculture techniques to restore soil health and enhance biodiversity. By embracing technology, such as AI-driven supply chain management, we are improving efficiency while reducing our overall environmental impact.

Key Points

- Expansion of sustainable farming projects in key agricultural regions.
- Increased investment in renewable energy for processing plants.
- Launch of biodegradable packaging across all product lines.
- Strengthening partnerships with ethical sourcing organisations.
- Implementation of advanced waste management systems to achieve zero waste production.

BIRD FEED

Peanut Safety 101: What Bird Lovers Need to Know

Peanuts are an excellent source of energy and protein for birds, making them a popular choice among bird enthusiasts. However, feeding peanuts to birds requires careful attention to quality and safety. Poor-quality or contaminated peanuts can pose serious health risks. Here's a complete guide to ensuring the peanuts you offer are safe for birds.

Harvest Date and Shelf Life

Peanuts have a limited shelf life and can develop mold or go rancid. Check the harvest date for freshness, the best-before date for quality, and store in a cool, dry place to prevent spoilage.

Moisture Levels

High moisture accelerates mold growth. Keep peanuts dry by storing them in a cool, low-humidity place, using airtight containers, and ensuring moisture content is 7% or lower. Avoid damp or rain-exposed peanuts.

Avoid Moldy Peanuts

Moldy peanuts are toxic to birds. Look for signs like white, blue, green, or black fuzz, a musty smell, or a soft, discolored

Watch for Aflatoxins

Aflatoxins, produced by molds like Aspergillus flavus, can harm birds' livers. Minimize risk by choosing aflatoxin-tested peanuts (maximum total aflatoxin B1, B2, G1, G2 = 20 ppb), avoiding humid storage, and checking for mold or musty odors before feeding.

Choose Unsalted Peanuts

Salted peanuts can harm birds, causing dehydration and kidney issues. Opt for unsalted raw or dry-roasted peanuts or those labeled for wildlife feeding.

Check for Chemicals and Pesticides

Peanuts treated with chemicals or pesticides can be harmful to birds. Choose lab-tested peanuts that meet maximum residue limits for bird feed to ensure safety.

Ensure Proper Peanut Size to Prevent Choking

Small birds like tits and wrens can choke on large peanut pieces. Use mesh feeders, crush peanuts for smaller birds, and avoid whole peanuts for fledglings.

Choose Proper Packaging

Packaging is key to peanut quality. Choose sealed, moisture-resistant, and transparent packaging with no holes, pests, or contamination.

Certifications and Quality Assurance

When choosing peanuts for bird food, it's essential to buy from manufacturers who follow strict food safety and quality standards. Look for certifications such as BRC, HACCP, ISO 22000 and GMP.

PEANUT SCIENCE

Peanut harvesting is time-sensitive, with traditional manual methods proving labour-intensive and prone to high losses. Mechanized solutions, particularly the half-feed peanut combine harvester, have transformed the industry.

Half-Feed Harvester Technology

The half-feed peanut combine harvester is a game-changer, reducing labour intensity and pod damage while improving harvest quality. Its operational core picking and cleaning directly impacts efficiency. The picking stage affects breakage and loss rates, while cleaning determines impurity levels. However, fixed parameters struggle to adapt to China's diverse peanut varieties, climates, and planting systems, leading to inconsistent performance. Global advancements offer inspiration: U.S. models from AMADAS and COLOMBO feature auto-steering and yield monitoring, while European systems leverage machine learning for real-time optimization. Integrating such automation and IoT into half-feed harvesters could enhance adaptability and precision in China.

Widely adopted in Henan, Shandong, and southern China, these machines excel in medium and small fields with complex terrains. Comprising a digging and conveying mechanism, power chassis, cleaning device, collection system, and pod-picking device, the harvester lifts plants with a digging blade, moves them via a clamping chain, and uses pod-picking rollers to detach pods. A vibrating screen cleans debris, and pods are collected efficiently, boosting production scale and modernization.

Future Development Strategies

To elevate half-feed peanut combine harvesters, China must embrace intelligent technologies. Current research focuses on parameter monitoring, fault diagnosis, and navigation, but quality detection lags, relying on traditional methods. Future progress lies in real-time parameter adjustments using sensors and adaptive controls, mirroring innovations in Israel's precision agriculture and Europe's robotics. These upgrades would optimize operations across varied conditions, minimizing losses and boosting efficiency. By drawing on global advancements, China can refine its harvesters, supporting the peanut industry's growth and agricultural modernization.

Source: Gu, Man, Haiyang Shen, Jie Ling, Zhaoyang Yu, Weiwen Luo, Feng Wu, Fengwei Gu, and Zhichao Hu. 2025. "Current Status and Development Strategies of the Research on Half-Feed Peanut Combine Harvester" Sustainability 17, no. 4: 1708. https://doi.org/10.3390/su17041708

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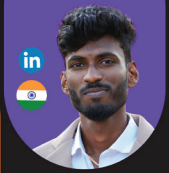

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