

# Peanut Blog

An ounce of information



## Groundnut Gold: Turning Farmland into Fortune in Borno - By Tijjani Ibrahim

**With its favorable climate, available arable land, and expanding market opportunities, Borno is blessed with well positioned to lead a new wave of groundnut farming success in Northern Nigeria ,crop’s low maintenance costs, multiple uses, and environmental benefits make it one of the most reliable options for rural empowerment.**

### Agriculture & Business Feature

Across Borno State, a quiet revolution is taking root—one driven not by machines or technology, but by an age-old crop that continues to prove its worth: the groundnut. Once known as the “golden crop” of Northern Nigeria, groundnut farming is regaining prominence as farmers rediscover its potential for income generation, food security, and sustainable development. Groundnuts, or peanuts as they are known globally, are no longer just a household snack. They have become a vital source of edible oil, animal feed, and industrial raw materials. Their nutritional value—rich in protein, vitamins, and healthy fats—has made them popular among health-conscious consumers. As global and local demand for nutritious foods continues to rise, farmers in Borno are finding new reasons to invest in groundnut cultivation.

### Borno’s Natural Advantage

Borno’s warm climate and sandy soils provide an ideal environment for groundnut production. In local government areas such as Maiduguri, Konduga, Biu, and Gwoza, farmers have long relied on groundnuts as a dependable cash crop. The crop’s ability to thrive in semi-arid conditions makes it particularly suitable for the region, where rainfall can be unpredictable.

**Another key advantage is sustainability.** Groundnuts naturally fix nitrogen in the soil, improving fertility and reducing the need for expensive chemical fertilizers. This makes it possible for farmers to maintain soil health while cutting down on input costs. With a short growing period of 120 to 150 days, many Borno farmers can plant and harvest twice a year—an opportunity to boost both yields and profits.

### Reviving the Groundnut Economy

Once a major contributor to Northern Nigeria’s economy, groundnut farming is making a comeback, driven by renewed interest from both smallholders and large-scale investors. The consistent demand for groundnut oil and processed products such as roasted nuts, peanut butter, and confectionery items has opened new markets. According to agricultural experts in Maiduguri, there is growing potential for Borno to reclaim its place as a major player in the national groundnut value chain. With better access to improved seed varieties and modern farming techniques, local farmers can increase productivity and compete favorably with producers from other regions.

### Government Support and Opportunities

The Borno State Government has continued to encourage farmers to diversify beyond traditional grains like millet and sorghum by supporting legume crops such as groundnuts. Through collaboration with agricultural extension officers and local cooperatives, farmers are gaining access to improved seeds, fertilizer support, and basic mechanization tools. Some have also benefited from federal initiatives like the Anchor Borrowers’ Programme, which provides soft loans and inputs to boost small holder productivity. With additional focus on irrigation systems under dry-season farming schemes, farmers across Borno have an opportunity to maintain year-round production.

### Keys to Successful Cultivation

Experts advise that farmers begin with soil testing to determine nutrient balance and pH levels. Selecting high-yield, disease-resistant seed varieties suitable for the local climate—such as SAM NUT 24 and 25—can significantly improve yields. Proper irrigation, especially during flowering and pod formation, alongside pest management and crop rotation, are essential practices that ensure better harvests. Marketing is also a crucial aspect. Farmers can partner with local processors in Maiduguri and Biu or explore bulk sales to oil millers and snack producers. Leveraging local markets and social media platforms helps them connect directly with buyers, reducing dependency on middlemen and improving profit margins.

### A Bright Future for Borno’s Farmers

With its favorable climate, available arable land, and expanding market opportunities, Borno is blessed with well positioned to lead a new wave of groundnut farming success in Northern Nigeria ,crop’s low maintenance costs, multiple uses, and environmental benefits make it one of the most reliable options for rural empowerment.

As more farmers embrace modern methods and value addition, groundnut farming is poised to become not just a source of income, but a pathway to economic renewal specifically in Borno State.

**Source:** <https://www.opinionnigeria.com/groundnut-gold-turning-farmland-into-fortune-in-borno-by-tijjani-ibrahim/>