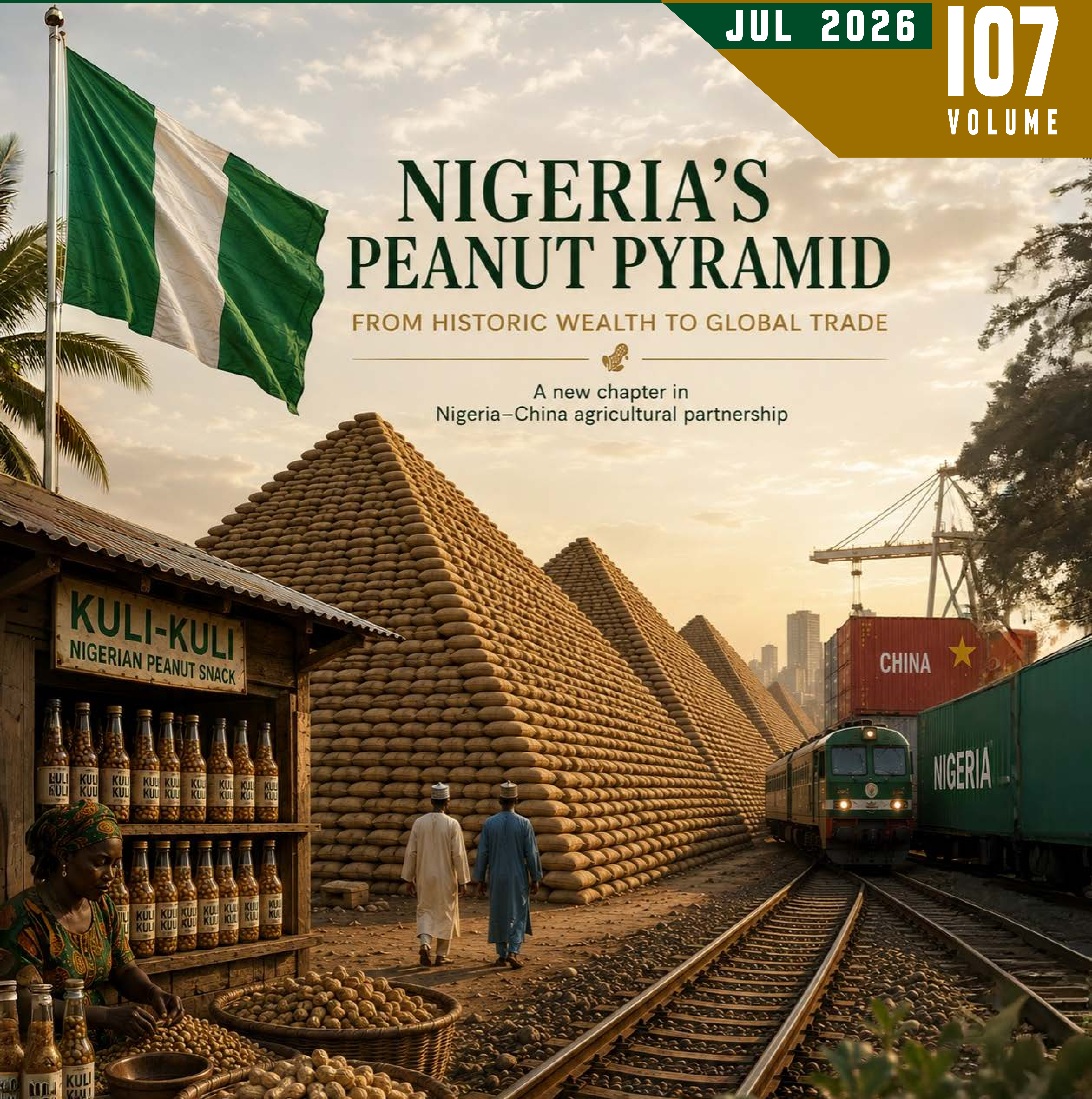
PEANUT POST

JUL 2026
107 VOLUME

NIGERIA'S PEANUT PYRAMID

FROM HISTORIC WEALTH TO GLOBAL TRADE

A new chapter in Nigeria–China agricultural partnership





Global Markets P6
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Peanut Wizard | Current Crops | Shelled Facts | Peanut Voice | Sustainability

MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

DEMAND

CHINA

Demand remained subdued throughout the month despite a modest recovery in edible oil futures. Peanut oil buying interest was largely limited to USD 1,500–1,550/MT CFR Qingdao, with very few buyers accepting higher price levels. Most importers focused on fulfilling pending contracts and cancelling overdue high-priced purchases rather than initiating fresh buying.

Peanut demand also remained weak despite Nigeria gaining 0% import duty access into China. Ample availability of Henan-origin peanuts pushed blanching prices down by more than USD 50/MT within 10 days, indicating oversupply. At the current pace of offtake, the market could see significant carry forward stocks into the next crop year.

INDONESIA

Domestic demand remained steady during June, with buyers continuing to bargain hunt despite rising prices. Local peanut prices increased by nearly 10% during the month, trading from IDR 26,000/kg to IDR 32,000/kg, before ending June in the IDR 29,000–35,000/kg range. The increase was primarily driven by the newly introduced import quota system and the associated cost burden, while the implementation of GlobalG.A.P. requirements remains unclear.

Local stocks continue to decline, supporting higher prices. However, food manufacturers and importers currently hold comfortable inventories, while the unofficial Dumai import route continues to supply peanuts at a landed cost of IDR 25,000–28,000/kg, largely bypassing the impact of the quota system.

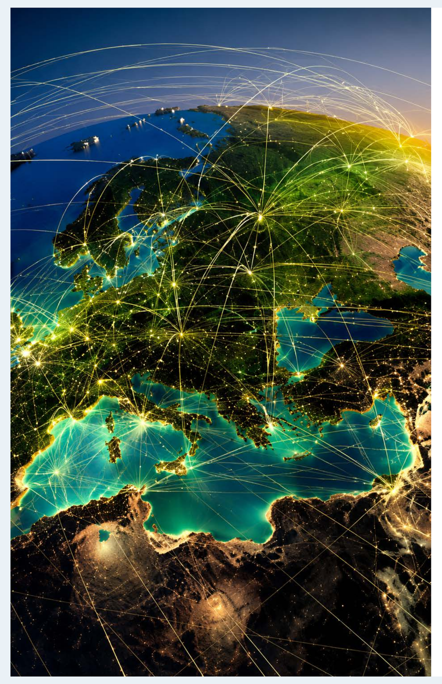
Demand is expected to strengthen from July, with peak buying anticipated during August and September. If current market conditions persist, local prices could potentially reach IDR 40,000/kg.

EUROPE

Demand from the human consumption sector shifted towards larger peanut counts, particularly 30/35 and 38/42 raw and blanched peanuts from India, China and Argentina. Buyers are targeting price levels of USD 1,550–1,700/MT CIF.

The bird feed market remained relatively quiet, likely due to prolonged high temperatures across Europe, with many regions experiencing 30–40ºC, reducing seasonal consumption. This could result in pent-up demand once temperatures moderate.

Current bird feed buying interest remains at USD 875–925/MT CIF, although suppliers are generally unwilling to sell at these levels. The market remains divided between buyer expectations and seller offers. Softer freight rates and increased supply could help narrow the gap and support trading activity in the coming months.



NON-EU EUROPE & CIS

Demand from non-EU markets, including Turkey, Ukraine, Russia, and neighbouring countries, remained steady during June, with buyers actively seeking quotations. Trading activity is expected to gain momentum in July and August as buyers adjust to the new market price and freight environment.

Demand from Iran via Turkey increased significantly over the past 2–3 weeks, driven by higher freight costs to Bandar Abbas and comparatively more competitive freight to Mersin. This trend is expected to continue supporting regional demand.

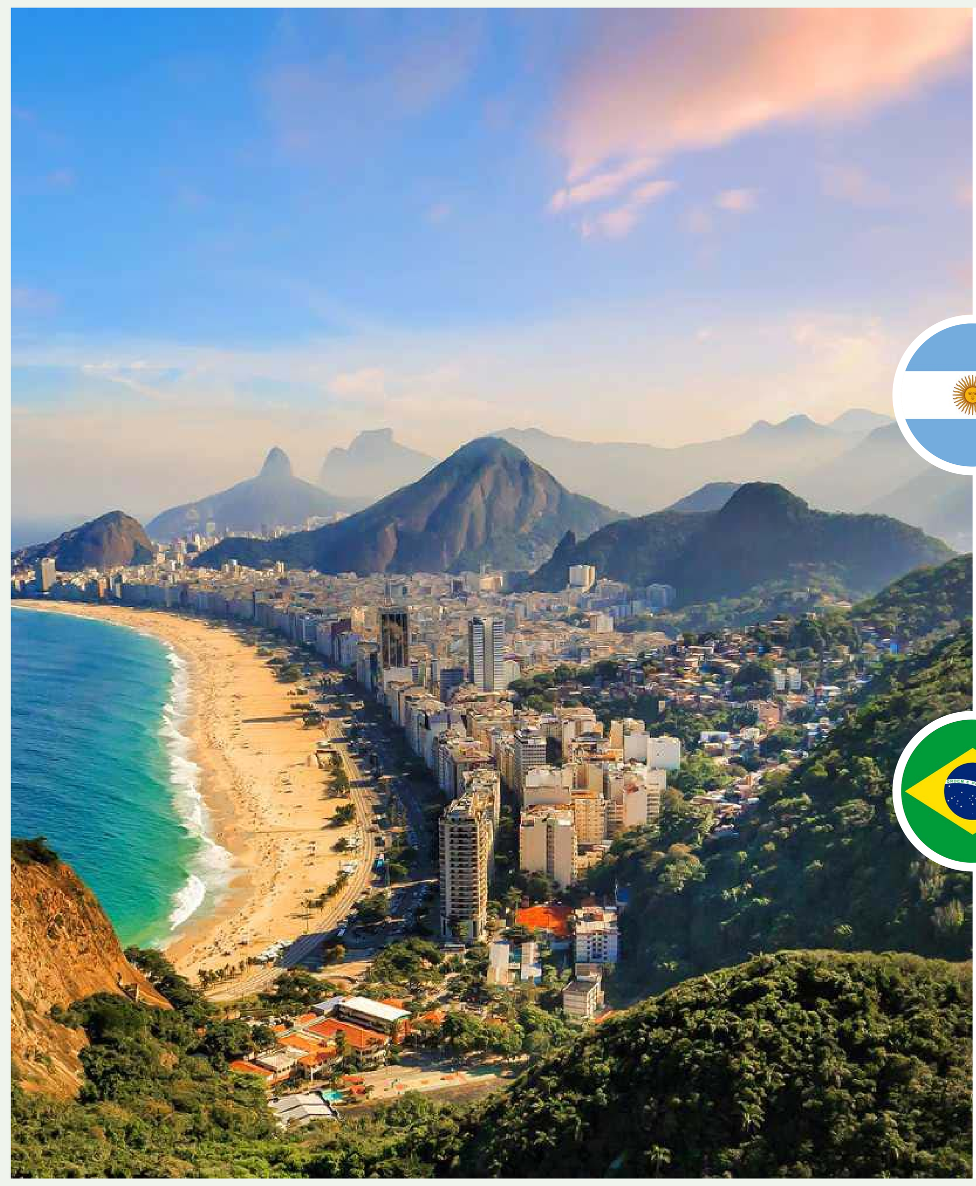
Russia is also positioning itself to increase purchases from the upcoming Argentina and Brazil crop, indicating stronger import activity in the months ahead.

SUPPLY

CHINA

China has emerged as one of the most competitive origins, with export prices increasingly challenging Indian offers. Blanched peanuts are widely offered at approximately USD 1,175/MT FOB for 61/71 count and USD 1,250/MT FOB for 25/29 count, supported by ample availability from both Henan and Dongbei.

Raw kernel supplies also remain abundant, with offers generally ranging between USD 1,200–1,300/MT FOB. However, the quality of carryover stocks is becoming a concern for food manufacturers, as much of the remaining crop is of lower quality. Soft pricing and frequent price fluctuations continue to characterize the Chinese export market as processors work through surplus inventories.



ARGENTINA & BRAZIL

New crop supplies from Argentina are gradually entering the market as exporters and processors become more active. Initial offers for 60/70 Grade 1 are reported at USD 1,200–1,250/MT FOB, while larger counts such as 30/35 and 38/42 remain limited, with indicative values around USD 1,550–1,600/MT CIF Europe.

Brazil continues to offer split peanuts at approximately USD 1,100/MT CIF, while larger-count splits are quoted between USD 1,150–1,200/MT CIF. Bird feed supplies remain ample due to the challenging Argentine harvest and carryover stocks from Brazil. Current indications are USD 850–900/MT CIF for the 2025 crop and USD 900–950/MT CIF for the 2026 crop, subject to freight movements.

Despite fresh crop availability, both Argentina and Brazil remain cautious in their selling approach due to ongoing cost and quality pressures. While several exporters have already committed volumes through Q3 2026, the broader market continues to assess demand before adopting more aggressive sales strategies.

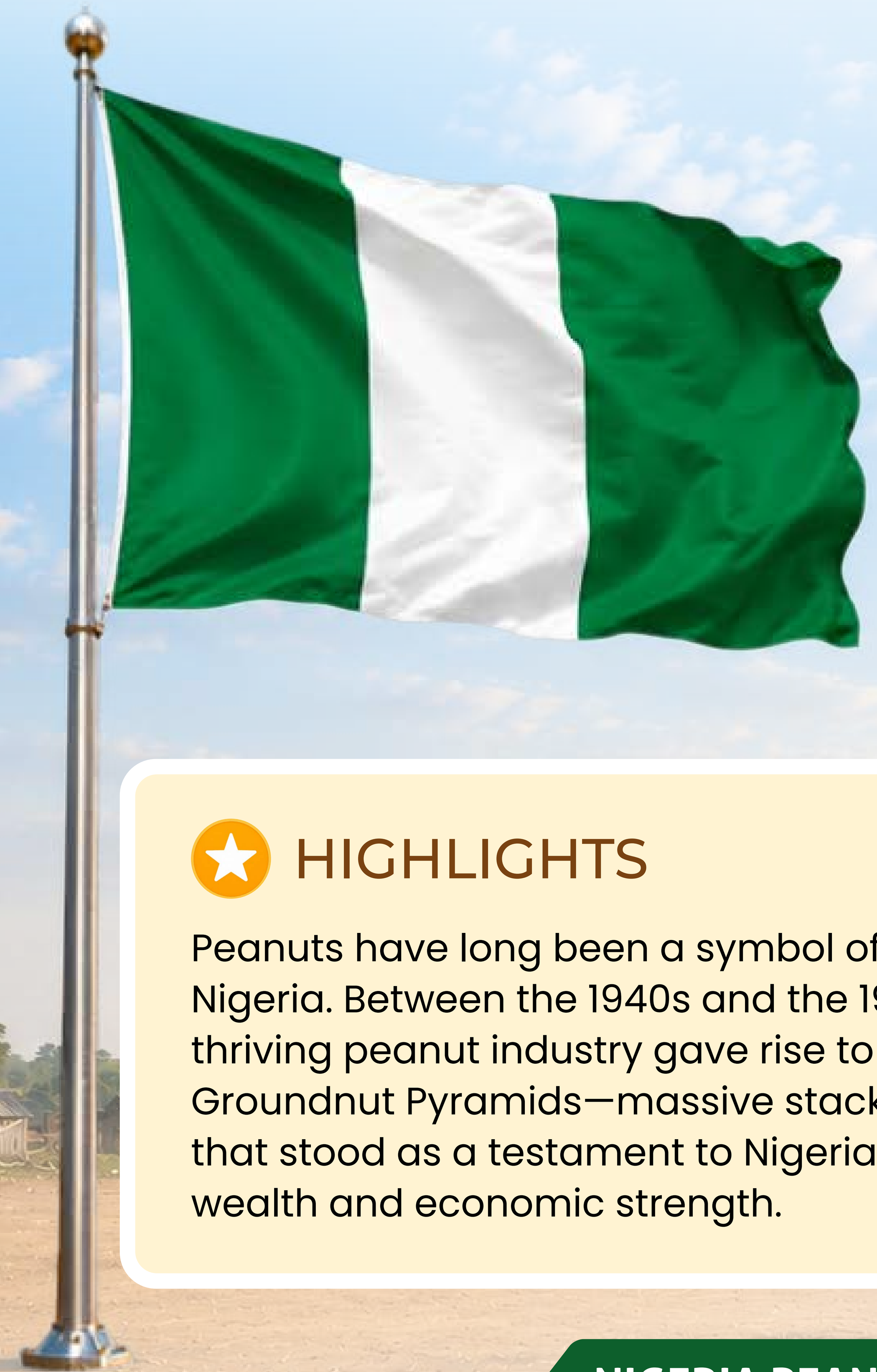
AFRICA

Peanut supplies remain abundant across Mozambique, Tanzania, and Nigeria. Nigeria continues to be a predominantly domestic-driven market, limiting its export competitiveness despite sufficient availability.

Mozambique and Tanzania are carrying ample stocks following Indonesia's import quota restrictions, which have effectively halted imports from these origins. Mozambique is expected to have export availability through July–September, while Tanzania is likely to remain active during July–August.

Current offer levels are around USD 950–1,000/MT FOB. However, with Indonesia largely absent from the market and China unlikely to absorb significant additional volumes, African exporters face the challenge of identifying alternative markets for these supplies.

PEANUT WIZARD



Nigeria is the world's third-largest producer of peanuts, harvesting approximately 4.5 million metric tons in a single cropping season. It is also Africa's largest peanut producer, accounting for nearly 40% of the continent's total production. Despite this remarkable production capacity, Nigeria contributes less than 1% of global peanut exports, highlighting the strength of its domestic market, where the vast majority of production is consumed locally.

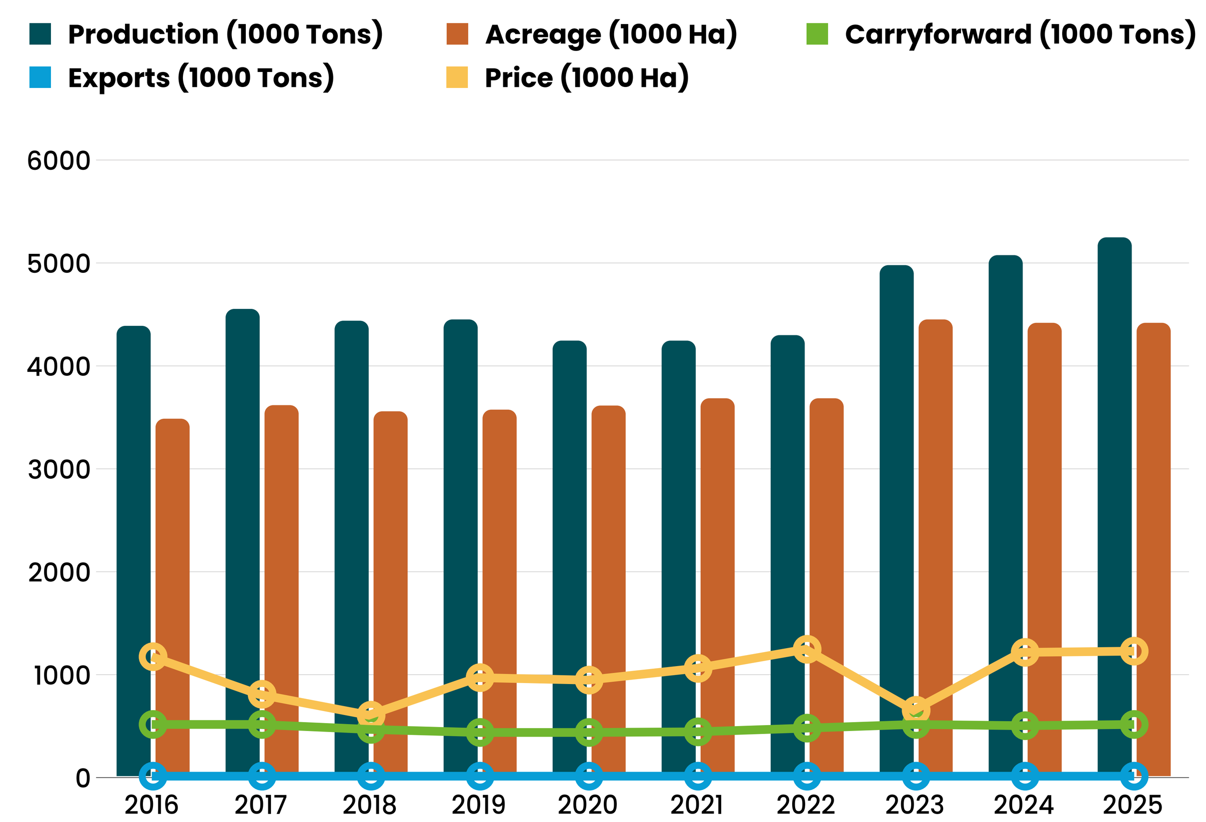
HIGHLIGHTS

Peanuts have long been a symbol of prosperity in Nigeria. Between the 1940s and the 1970s, the country's thriving peanut industry gave rise to the iconic Groundnut Pyramids—massive stacks of peanut sacks that stood as a testament to Nigeria's agricultural wealth and economic strength.

NIGERIA PEANUT MARKET TREND (LAST 10 YEAR)

Peanuts have long been a symbol of prosperity in Nigeria.

Between the 1940s and the 1970s, the country's thriving peanut industry gave rise to the iconic Groundnut Pyramids—massive stacks of peanut sacks that stood as a testament to Nigeria's agricultural wealth and economic strength.



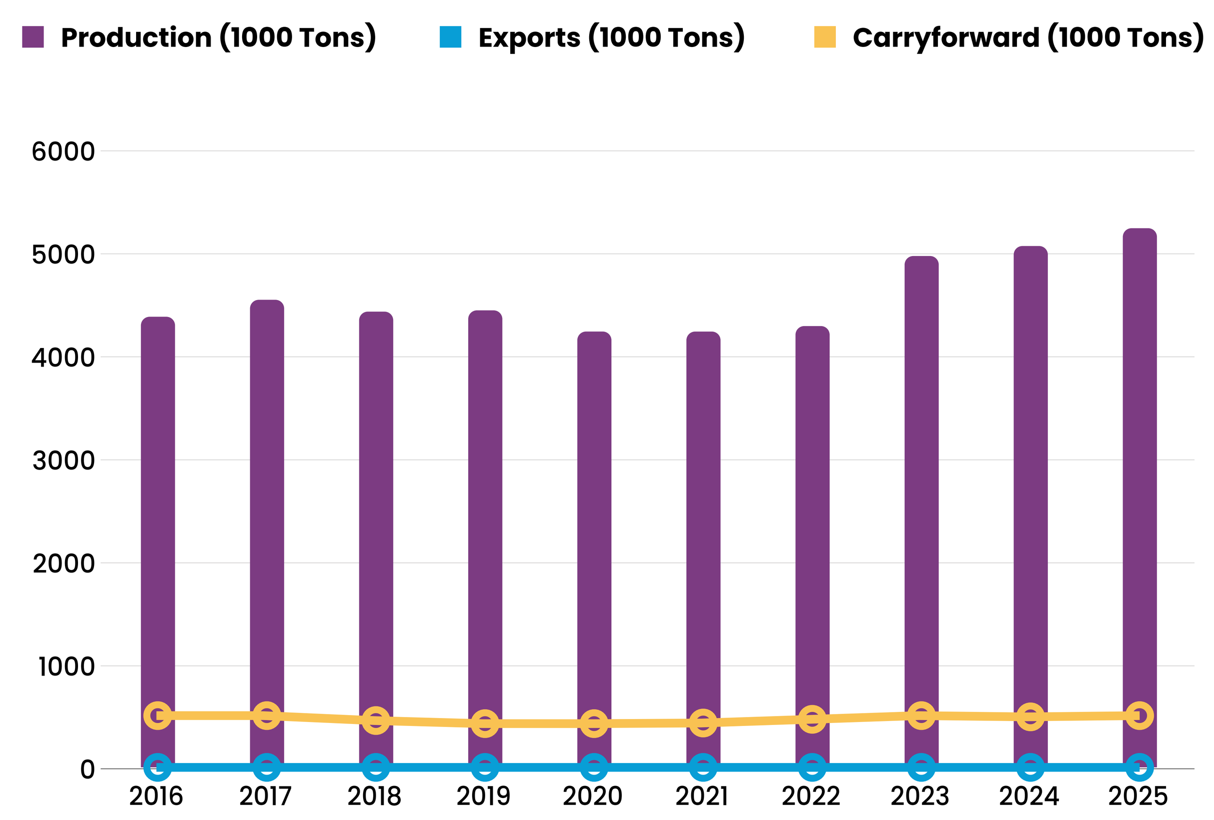
KEY DRIVERS OF GROWTH

- Farm Input Support Programme (FISP) via NADF
- Export Incentive Schemes
- AFAN and Farmer Capacity Building
- Duty-free Imports of Agricultural Machinery

NIGERIA PEANUT PRODUCTION, EXPORTS AND CARRY-FORWARD STOCKS

Peanut production in Nigeria has grown by approximately 51% over the past decade, driven primarily by an expansion in cultivated acreage and supported by proactive government policies. Key initiatives include the Farm Input Support Programme (FISP) implemented through the National Agricultural Development Fund (NADF), export incentive schemes, the efforts of the Afrigroundnut Farmers Association of Nigeria (AFAN), and duty-free imports of agricultural machinery. These measures have been instrumental in increasing production, improving farm productivity, and creating employment opportunities across the value chain.

Nigeria continues to maintain consistently low year-end carry forward stocks, reflecting robust domestic consumption and strong market offtake. Despite rising production, peanut prices have remained relatively stable, indicating a healthy balance between supply and demand. This also presents a significant opportunity to develop new export markets, which could further stimulate demand, encourage additional acreage expansion, and strengthen Nigeria's position in the global peanut industry.

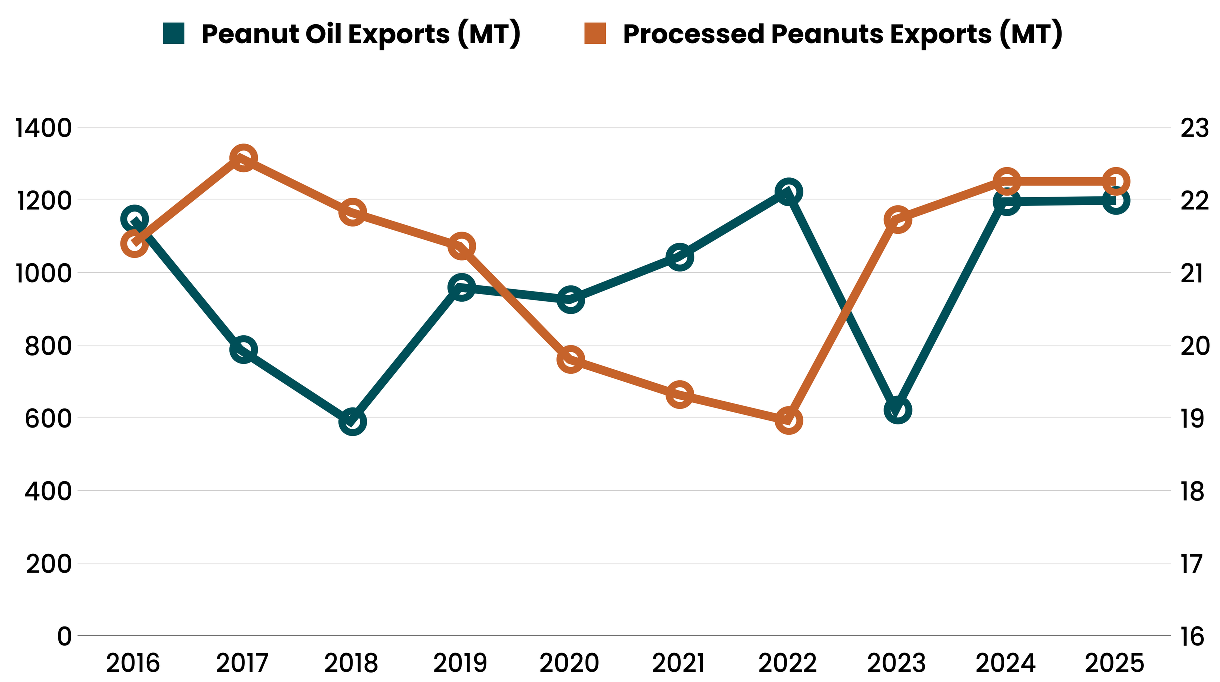


- Production ↑ 51% (2015–2025)
- Consumption ↑ 57% (2015–2025)
- End Stocks Consistently Low

PRICING VS CONSUMPTION

Nigeria's peanut exports have remained relatively stable over the years, with no significant growth trend despite the country's position as one of the world's largest producers. However, a recent breakthrough trade agreement with China—another strategic initiative by the Nigerian government—has the potential to transform the sector. Under the agreement, Nigerian peanuts and peanut oil can enter the Chinese market duty-free, eliminating the previous 10% import tariff and placing Nigeria on a level playing field with Senegal.

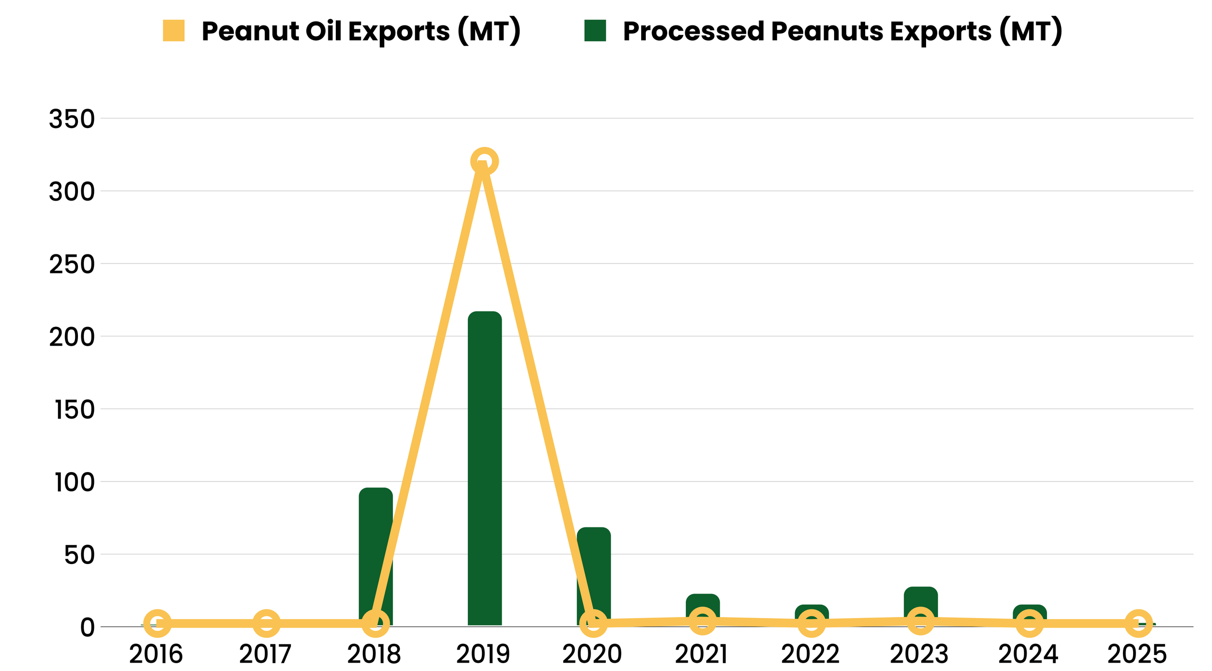
This preferential market access is expected to significantly enhance Nigeria's export competitiveness, create new demand opportunities, improve farmer incomes, and serve as a major catalyst for growth across the country's peanut value chain.



- Less than 1% of Global Peanut Exports
- Duty-free Access to China Market
- Unlocking New Markets for Sustainable Export Growth

EXPORT PERFORMANCE OF PEANUT OIL VS PROCESSED PEANUTS

Driven by strong domestic demand for peanuts in the form of snacks, edible oil, peanut butter, and traditional food products, Nigeria ranks among the world's highest consumers of peanuts, with an estimated per capita consumption of over 20 kg per year. With a remarkably young population and a median age of just 18 years, domestic consumption is expected to remain robust for decades to come. As demand continues to outpace supply growth, the only sustainable path forward is to increase production through higher productivity, expanded acreage, and continued investment across the peanut value chain.



Global Markets

ARGENTINA

Quantity and quality losses have increased considerably. About 55% of unharvested dug in-shell peanuts have moisture levels above 20–30%. Climatic conditions continue to be dominated by very humid days, completely overcast skies, and widespread drizzles. Soil moisture remains so high that even a few hours of sunshine are insufficient to adequately air and dry peanuts beneath the rows. Artificial dryers cannot operate because their intelligent control systems do not allow them to turn on under current conditions. Most peanuts were dug in high-moisture soils, resulting in excessive soil accumulation between plants and pods, making drying even more difficult. More than 15 days have passed without harvest progress, and the percentage of large (jumbo) peanuts obtained is lower than usual for Argentina.

BRAZIL

Brazil has completed harvesting its 2025/26 peanut crop. Planted area declined by at least 25% this season and is projected to decrease by a further 25–30% in the next crop, marking two consecutive years of acreage contraction. Yields also fell below expectations, easing from an estimated 5.0 MT/ha to around 4.1 MT/ha due to late leaf spot and earlier digging, reducing total production to approximately 1.0 million MT. Crop quality remains a key positive, with strong kernel formation, excellent uniformity, and well-controlled aflatoxin levels, reinforcing Brazil's position as a reliable supplier of edible peanuts. The market remains quiet with limited trading activity. Prices are primarily supported by production costs rather than surplus availability. As market prices remain below growers' production costs, many producers continue to hold stocks. In-shell peanut prices range between BRL 68–80 per 25 kg bag, while premium lots with controlled aflatoxin and high outturn trade around BRL 75. A stronger Brazilian real (USD/BRL 5.05–5.20) has enhanced export competitiveness despite subdued domestic demand. Globally, declining acreage in Brazil, the U.S., and Argentina, combined with frost-related quality concerns, stricter EU aflatoxin inspections on Argentine peanuts, and the emerging El Niño risk for the 2026 planting season, indicate tightening edible peanut supplies and a firmer market outlook.

USA

Most industry participants expect Southeast peanut acreage to decline 18–20%. Prices may continue rising if acreage falls more than expected or weather turns unfavorable. Shellers and growers are waiting for clearer acreage data. As of June 21, 2026, crop conditions were 2% very poor, 5% poor, 30% fair, 58% good, and 5% excellent. Georgia crops look better than expected but need rain. Alabama faces wet conditions, possible replanting decisions, and soil-management efforts. Texas crops look excellent and need rain.

PEANUT SPOTLIGHT

INDIA

The market remains steady to firm, supported by ongoing sowing demand, although sowing is still incomplete and dependent on rainfall. Once sufficient rainfall is received, sowing demand is expected to conclude within a week. Most stocks are held by farmers, stockists, and seed distributors. Arrivals are 70–80% complete in Pathwada, Kutch, and Himmatnagar, and 90–95% complete in Bhavnagar. Under the revised NAFED policy, buyers must purchase entire warehouse lots, making procurement difficult for smaller suppliers. Oil prices remain steady, with oilseeds trading at ₹85–86/kg. Trading activity is limited, with demand driven mainly by the domestic and seed segments, while exporters remain cautious.

New crop arrivals have begun from Gadwal, Adoni, Yemmiganur, and Kurnool, with Anantapur expected shortly. Arrivals are mainly 70/80 and 80/90 counts, sold largely in the domestic market at ₹122/kg. Limited old crop stocks remain available, while Alangudi arrivals are expected in 2–3 weeks, mainly in 70/80 count. The 50/60 spot rate is ₹125/kg. Export enquiries continue, but price and quantity mismatches limit business, with some exporters still holding cold storage stocks.

OTHERS

Indonesia The Indonesian peanut market remains firm as importers continue to increase offer prices despite sluggish demand. Buying activity remains slow, with buyers focusing on securing the lowest-priced cargoes while maintaining good quality standards. China origin 50/60 white kernels in 50kg jute bags are offered at USD 1,850/MT, while slightly dull-colored cargo is available at USD 1,790/MT. Henan white 70/90 is quoted at USD 1,790/MT, with dull-quality cargo at USD 1,698/MT. New crop 80/90 TJ is offered at USD 1,790/MT for reddish kernels and USD 1,850/MT for white kernels. Demand for Indian OBE 140/160 remains strong at INR 32,000/MT. Local Indonesian 8mm kernels are offered at USD 1,850/MT ex-PPN, while mixed cargo is quoted at USD 1,790/MT ex-PPN.

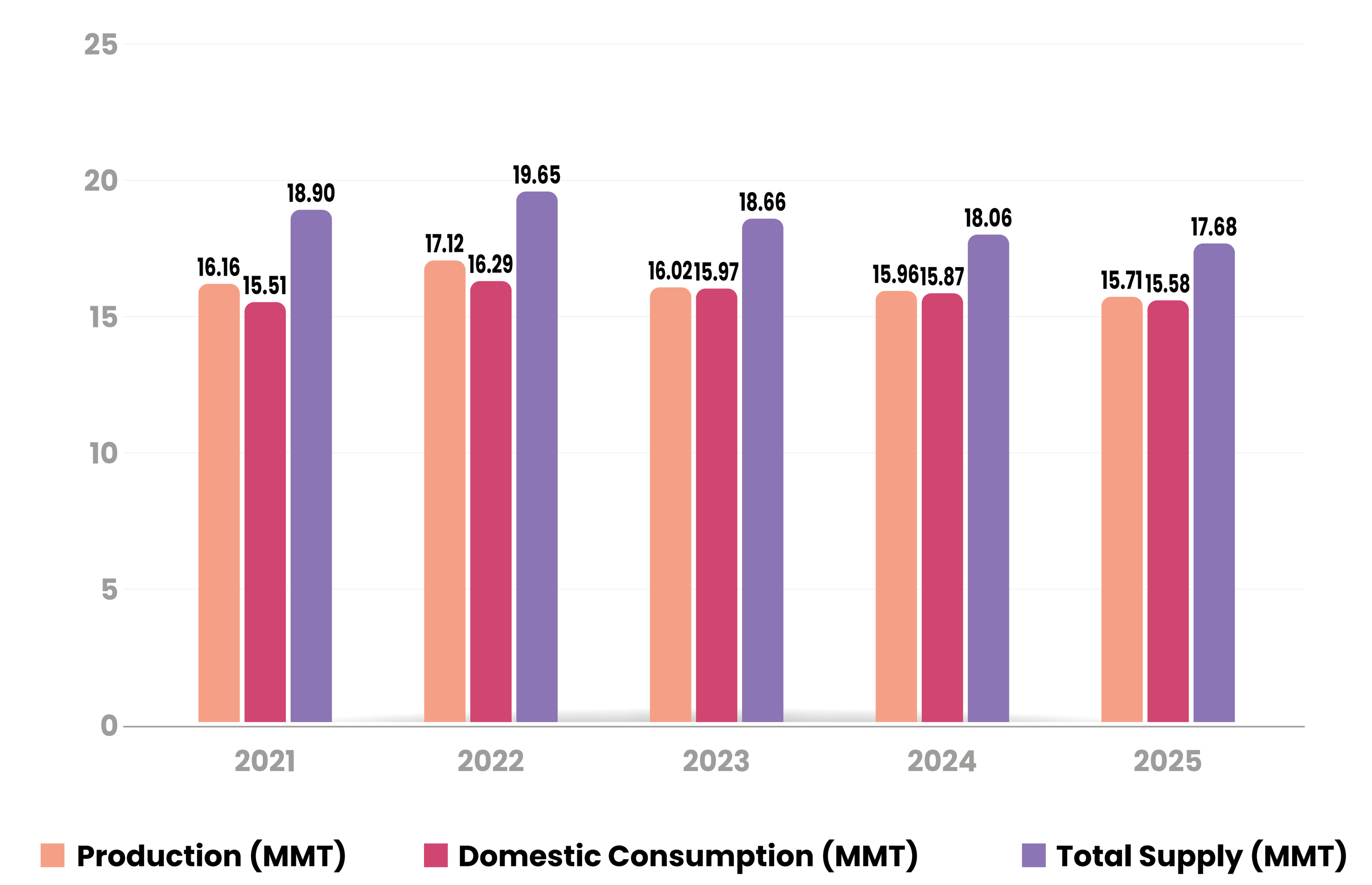
South Africa South Africa's official 2026 peanut crop estimate remains unchanged at approximately 57,000 MT of kernels. Harvesting has progressed well, with 85–90% of the crop already completed under favorable field conditions. However, rainfall during the harvest has adversely affected both kernel quality and yields, raising concerns over increased aflatoxin levels. As a result, industry participants now anticipate the final crop to be closer to 50,000 MT, significantly below the official estimate. The expected production shortfall is likely to require peanut imports to meet domestic demand. A clearer picture of the final crop size, quality, and import requirements is expected by the end of July 2026, following the completion of harvesting and post-harvest assessments.

CHINA

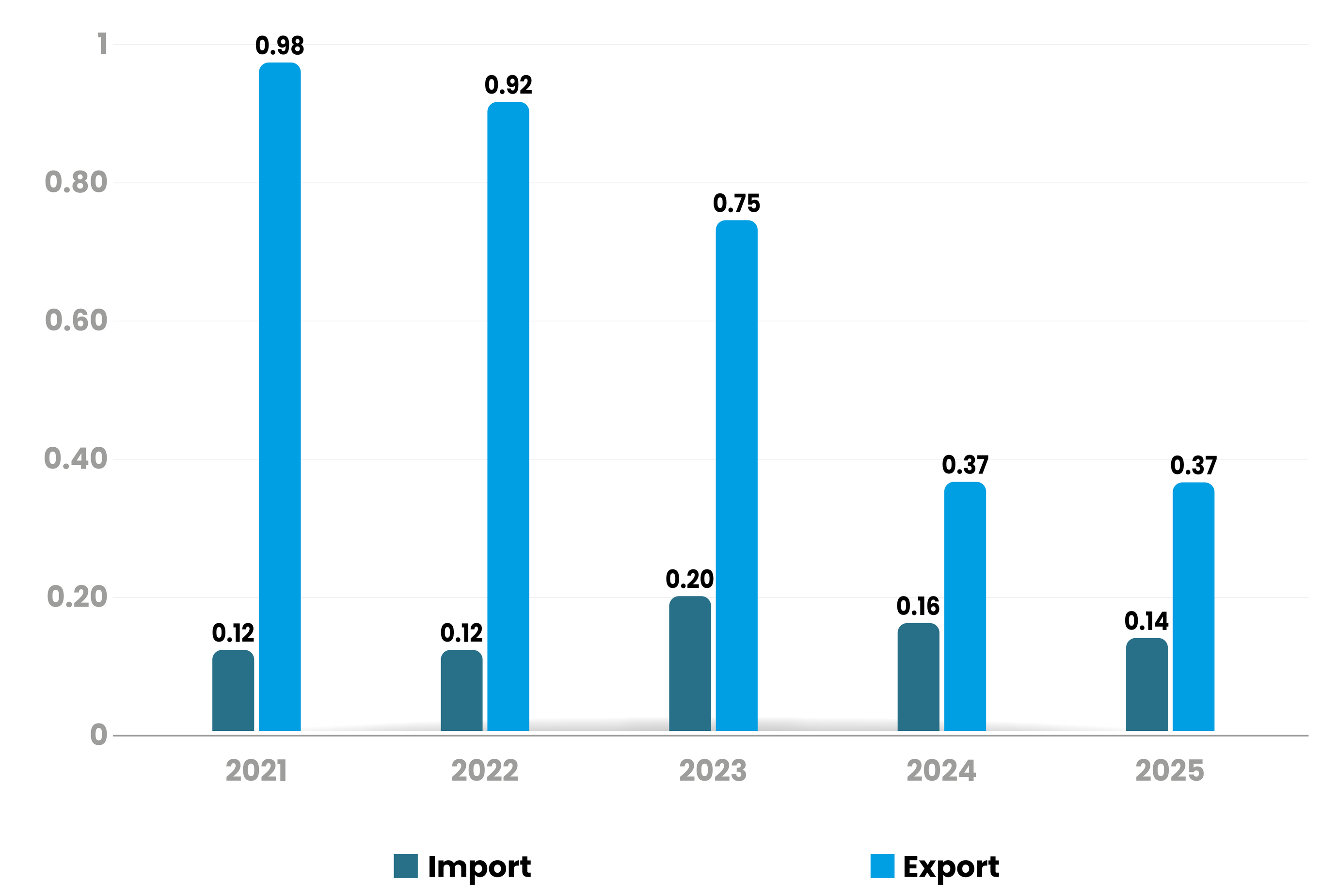
The domestic peanut market remains stable with sluggish trading. Traders are cautious about higher prices, and after a brief rise, Northeast Baisha peanut prices have retreated. Buyers remain hesitant, while sellers continue withholding low-priced supplies, creating a persistent supply-demand standoff. Concerns about major production losses have eased. Henan wheat-stubble peanuts have not seen the severe declines previously expected, and Northeast crop conditions remain generally favorable. Oil mills are purchasing only as needed, offering limited market support. Weak consumption, a bearish commodity environment, and declines in agricultural and oil futures have further reduced bullish sentiment. Given weak demand, ample old-crop inventories, and limited room for speculation, a major price rally appears unlikely. However, growers and traders are reluctant to sell at losses, especially with prices in Henan and Shandong near multi-year lows. This restrained selling continues to provide price support, though ample future supply suggests caution remains warranted.

AFRICA PEANUT DEMAND & SUPPLY

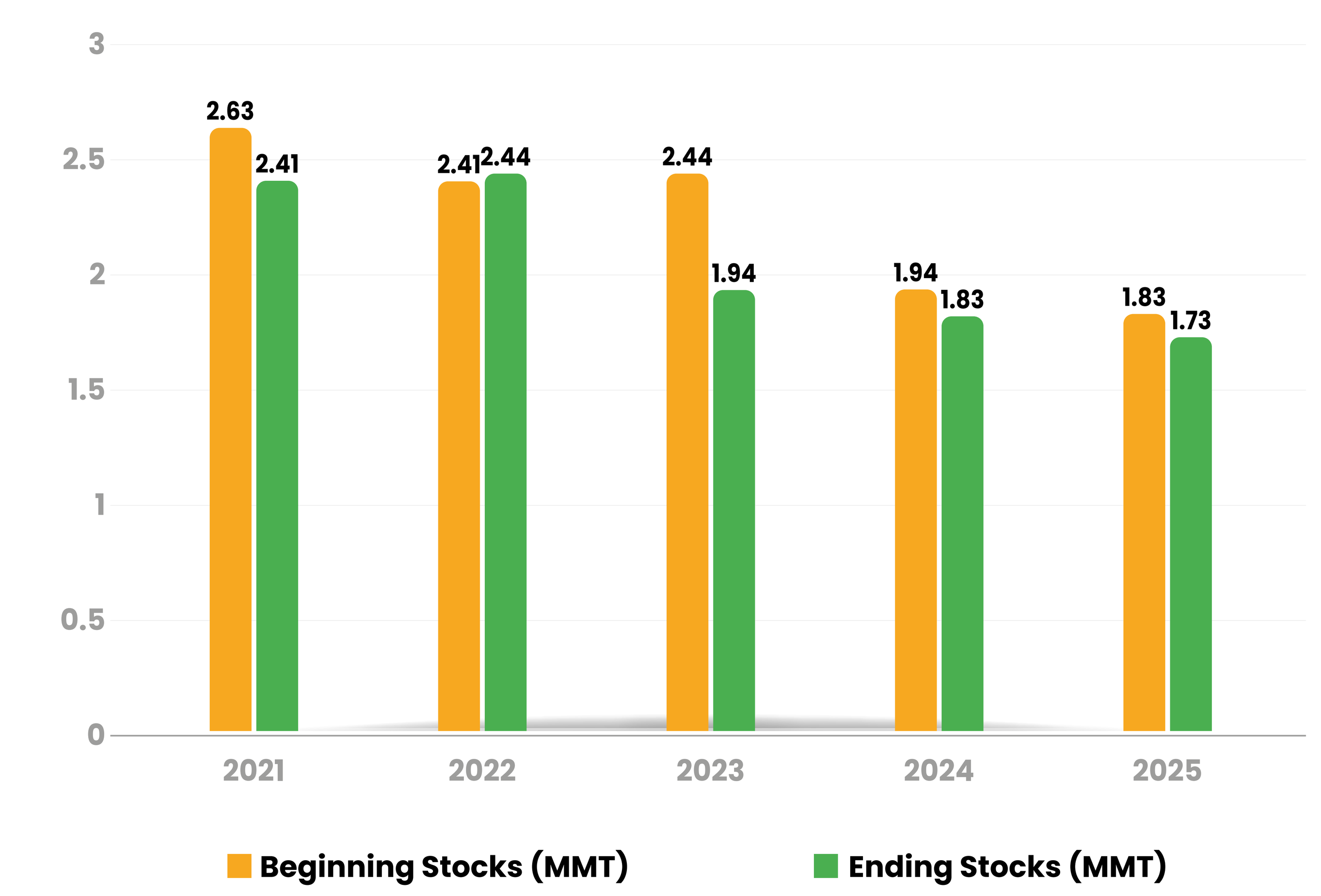
Africa Production, Domestic Consumption & Total Supply (In MMT)



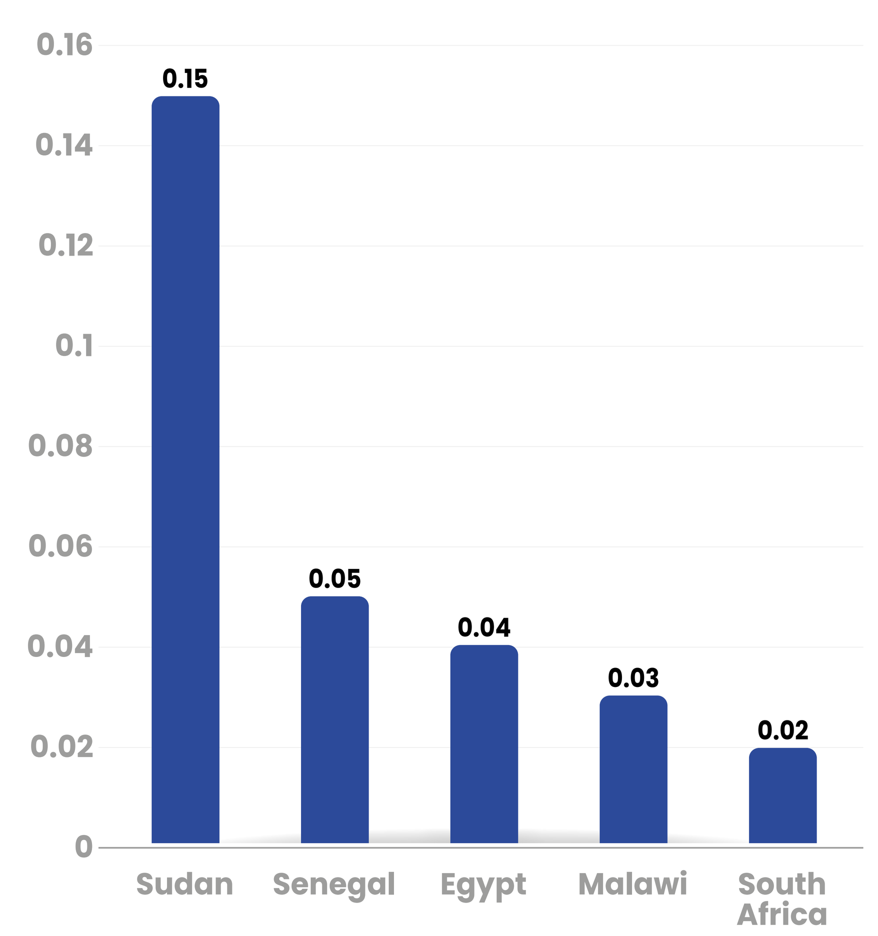
Africa Trade (In MMT)



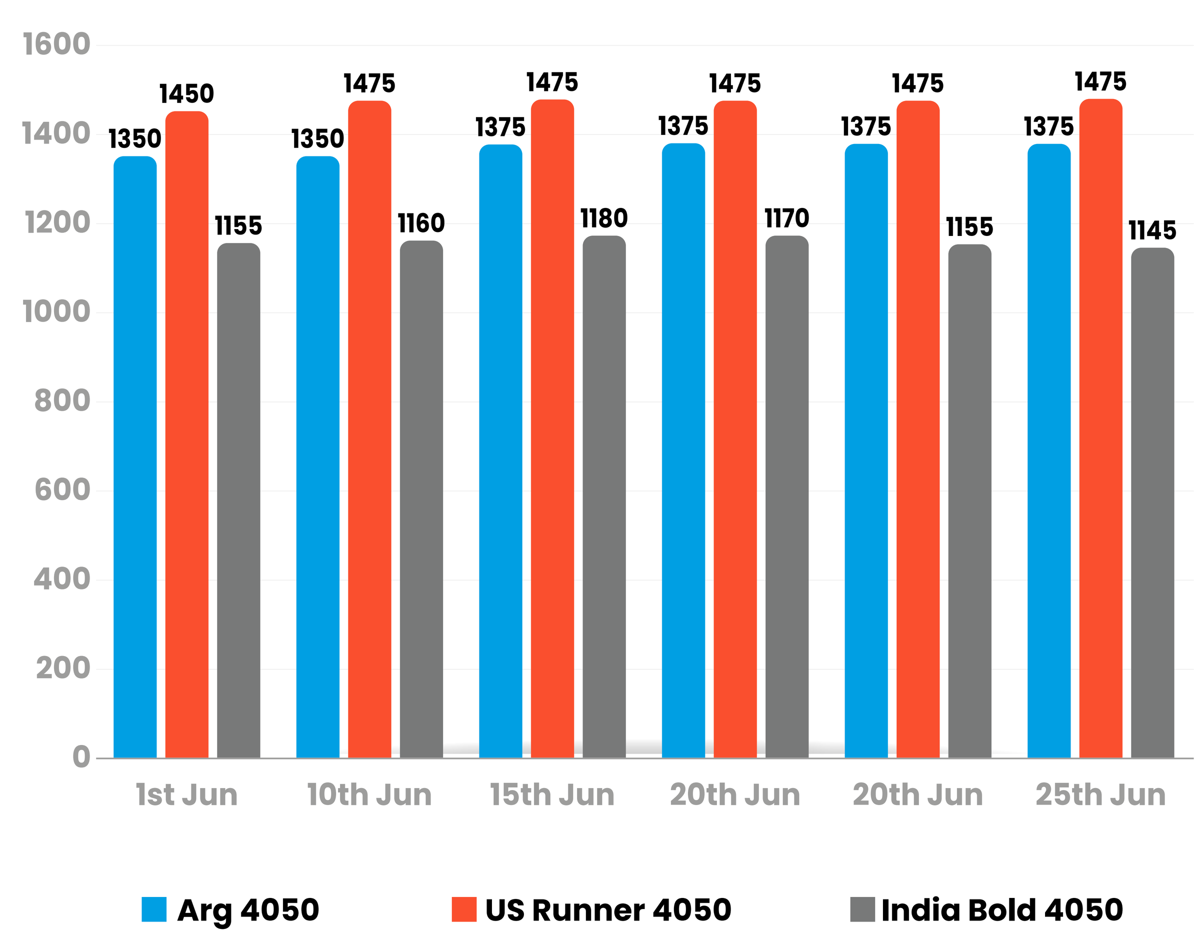
World Stock Variations (In MMT)



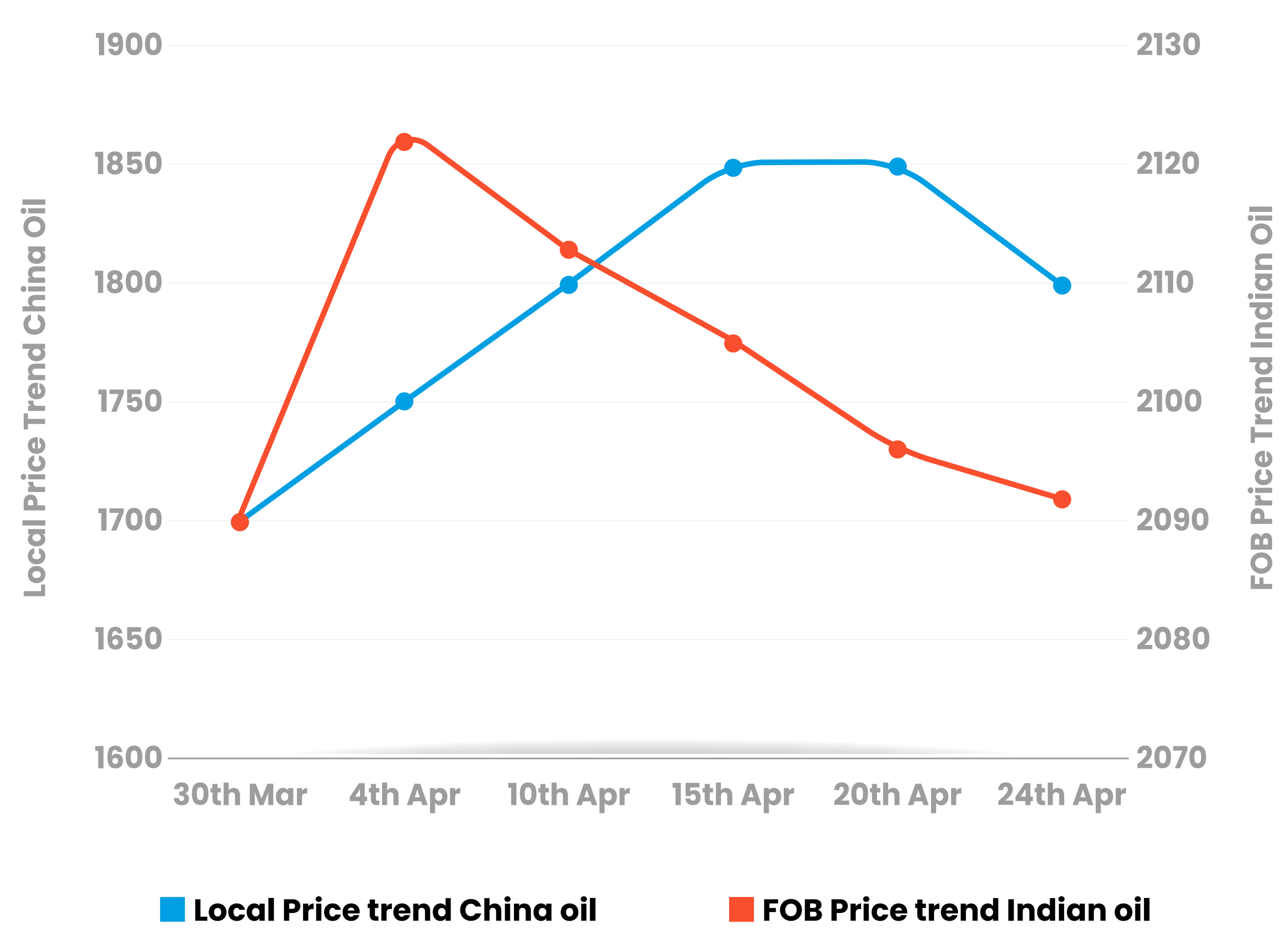
Top Exporters in Africa (MMT)



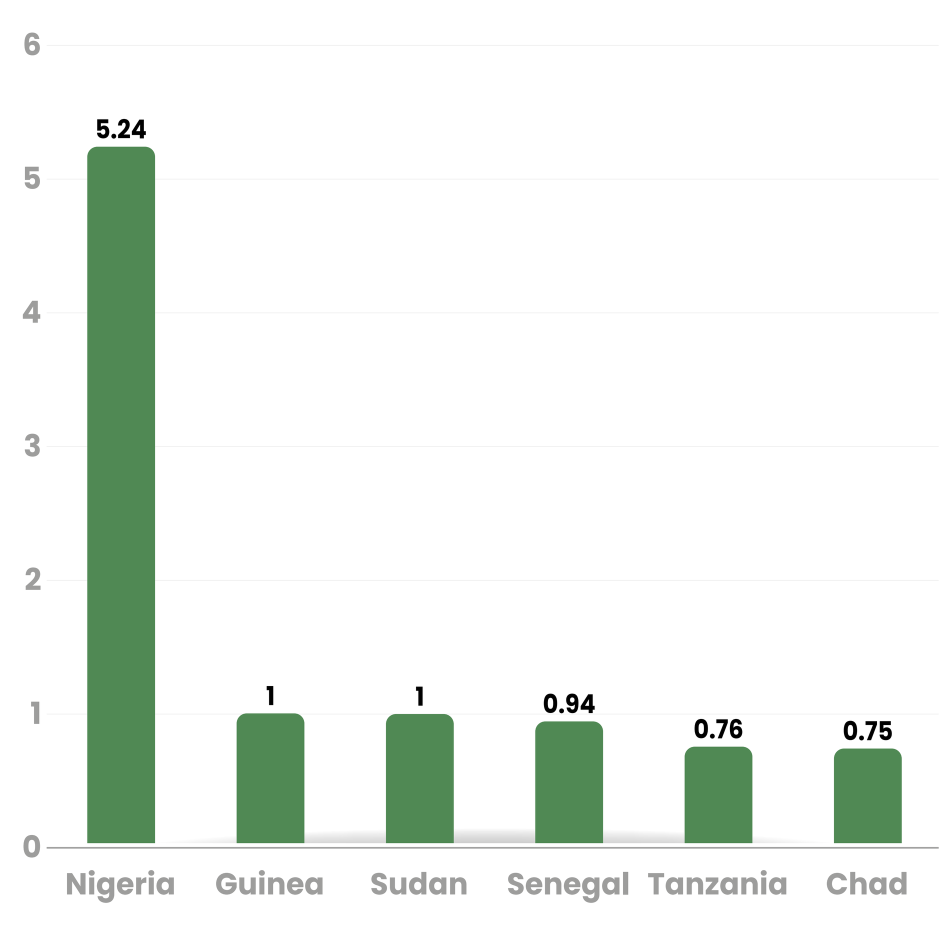
CIF EMP (European Main Port) PRICE COMPARISON in USD



Peanut oil price trends: China Local Vs FOB India in USD



Top Producers in Africa (MMT)



Current Crops

ARG 4050 - $1475 ▲ — ARG

Argentina

55% of unharvested in-shell peanuts recorded moisture content above 20–30%.

BRA — **BRA 4050 - $1400 ▲**

Brazil

Strong kernel uniformity with well-controlled aflatoxin levels.

CHI 41/51 - $1400 (FOB) ▼ — CHI

China

IND — **IND 4050 - $1465 ▲**

India

Harvest completion has reached 70–95% across key regions.

RSA - $NA — RSA

South Africa

85–90% of harvesting has been completed

USA — **USA 4050 - $1475 ▲**

USA

Southeast peanut acreage expected to decline 18–20%.

TNZ - $NA — TNZ

Tanzania

PEANUT VOICE

> “ Dr. Mounirou ElHassimi Sow, Agricultural Scientist, Agribusiness Co-founder and Farmer dedicated to reinforce agriculture production in our communities and by improving access to improve varieties for a better producticity and nutrition. ”

Dr. Mounirou ElHassimi Sow

SOW AGRITECH LTD

What are the biggest opportunities you currently see in peanut production in Nigeria?

Scaling high oleic peanut varieties registered in Nigeria by NutriK KFZE presents a major opportunity to increase yields, improve nutrition, and enhance product quality. With strong aflatoxin management, widespread adoption can raise farmer incomes, strengthen Nigeria’s peanut sector, and expand processing and export opportunities.

Can your cooking oil fight diabetes? Check the surprising new science of Peanut Oil

Did you know peanut oil has powerful antidiabetic properties? A ground-breaking 2025 study published in Frontiers in Nutrition discovered that pure peanut oil can actively help control blood sugar. It works by inhibiting alpha-amylase, a key digestive enzyme responsible for breaking down carbohydrates into glucose. Amazingly, the natural phytochemicals in peanut oil slowed down this starch-digesting enzyme significantly better than acarbose, a standard prescription diabetes medication. By delaying carbohydrate breakdown, peanut oil helps smooth out post-meal blood glucose spikes. It’s an incredible reminder that this kitchen staple isn't just delicious, it's a functionally smart choice for your everyday metabolic health!

Reference: Benouchenne, D. et al. (2025). Frontiers in Nutrition. https://doi.org/10.3389/fnut.2025.1592468

HOW THE TOTOX FORMULA GUARANTEES PEANUT QUALITY

WHY PEANUT FRESHNESS IS ALL ABOUT THE OIL

Peanuts are uniquely delicious because they are packed with natural oils, which make up about 50% of their total weight. This means the true freshness of a peanut depends entirely on the health of its oil. When exposed to air, light, or heat, these fats slowly break down in a process called oxidation.

50% OF PEANUT WEIGHT IS NATURAL OIL

For decades, food companies checked "Free Fatty Acids" (FFA) or "Peroxide Value" (PV) to test for freshness. However, relying on these individual tests can be a major quality trap.

TOTOX: A COMPLETE PICTURE OF OIL HEALTH

- Detects Early Damage
- Measures Advanced Rancidity
- Ensures Consistent Quality
- Delivers Superior Taste & Freshness

REFERENCE:
Mavromatis, T., et al. (2002). Climate Research, 22, 129–140.
https://www.int-res.com/articles/cr2002/22/c022p129.pdf

01 WHY PEANUT FRESHNESS IS ALL ABOUT THE OIL

Here is the fascinating catch with oil chemistry: the Peroxide Value only measures early-stage damage. When oil first begins to spoil, it creates temporary compounds called peroxides.

But as the oil continues to degrade, these initial peroxides quickly break down into secondary compounds like aldehydes. These aldehydes are the real villains that cause the foul, stale, "cardboard" smell of rancidity.

If you test an old, deeply ruined batch of peanut oil using only the Peroxide Value, it can give you a deceptively low, "perfect" score simply because the early compounds have already transformed into advanced damage!

02 ENTER TOTOX: THE ULTIMATE GLOBAL SCORE

To eliminate this blind spot, food scientists worldwide rely on a mathematical score called TOTOX, short for Total Oxidation. This value combines the oil's current state with its past history.

To calculate TOTOX, a lab measures both the Peroxide Value (PV) and the p-Anisidine Value (AV), which tracks those smelly secondary aldehydes. They plug them into a globally standardized formula:

$$\text{TOTOX} = (2 \times PV) + AV$$

By doubling the weight of the early peroxide indicators, this formula catches early warning signs while fully measuring permanent, advanced staled flavors.

In the global food industry, a TOTOX score below 10 means your peanut oil is pristine, ensuring the final product stays fresh and tastes exactly as intended.

With thanks to our contributors

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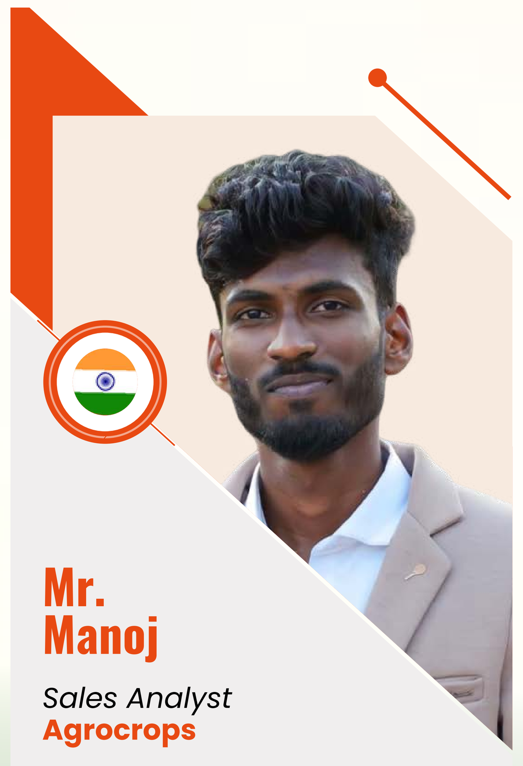

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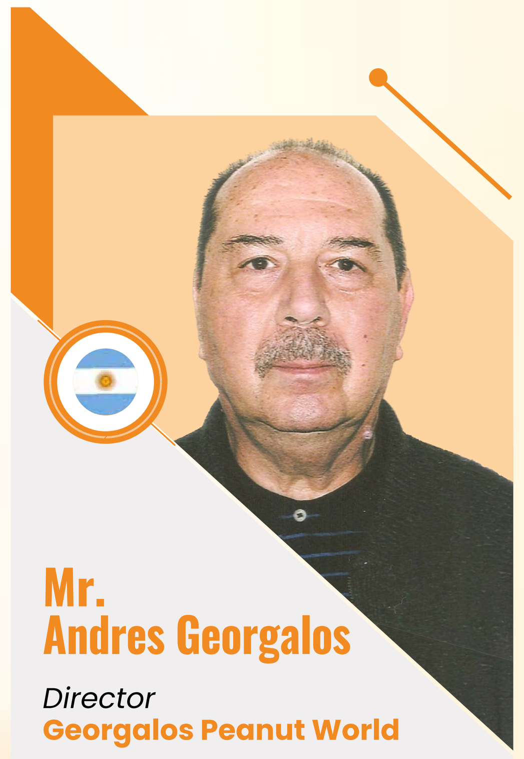

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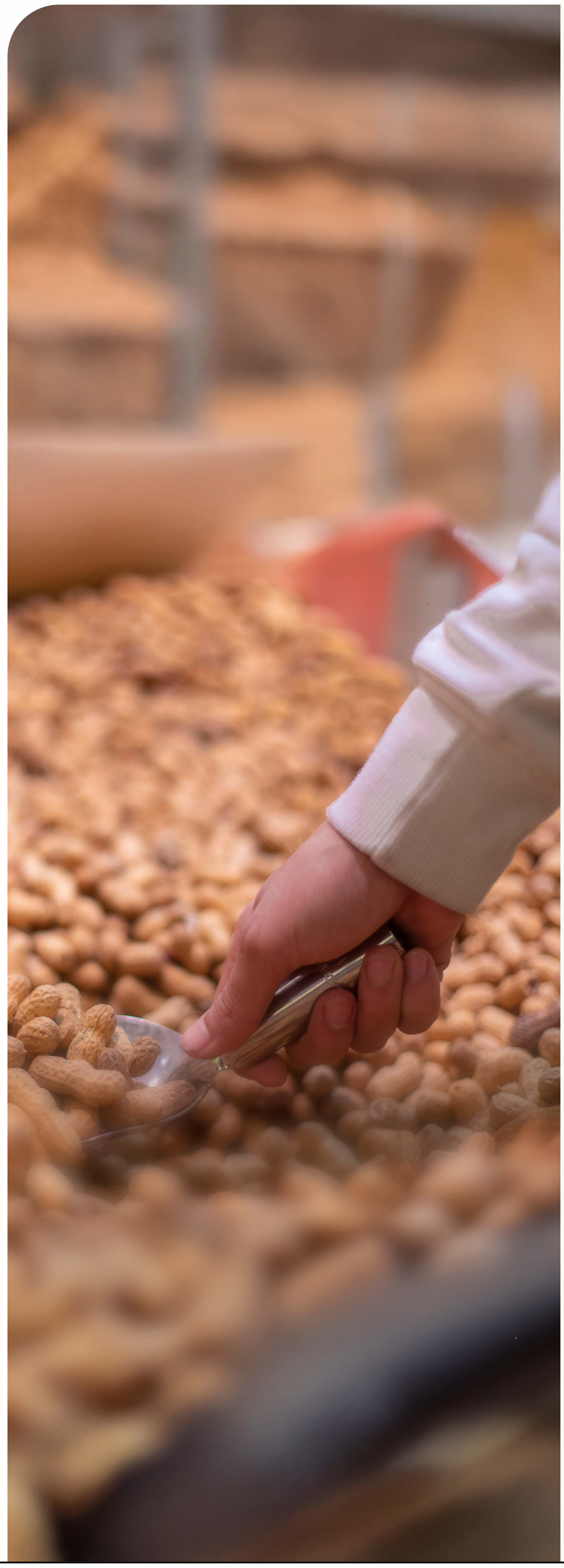
Reducing Waste Through Food Longevity: The Case for Peanuts

When food is wasted, the loss goes far beyond what is visible on the plate. Every discarded item also represents wasted water, energy, farmland, labor, and transportation used to produce it. With nearly one-third of all food produced globally being lost or wasted before consumption, reducing spoilage has become a critical part of building a more sustainable food system (Food and Agriculture Organization – FAO).

This is where peanuts offer a clear advantage. Unlike highly perishable foods that require strict refrigeration or quick consumption, peanuts naturally combine strong nutritional value with long storage stability. When properly stored, especially in-shell, peanuts can remain usable for up to 9–12 months without significant quality loss, helping preserve nutrition long after harvest and reducing food waste (National Peanut Board). This makes them especially valuable in regions and supply chains where storage conditions are limited or inconsistent.

Peanuts also stand out because of their nutrient density. In a relatively small serving, they provide a powerful mix of energy and essential nutrients—approximately 26 grams of protein, 49 grams of healthy fats, and around 567 calories per 100 grams. This makes peanuts one of the most efficient crops in terms of nutrition delivered per unit of land and resource use (USDA FoodData Central).

Peanuts are more than a nutritious food. They are a smart solution for a more sustainable future.



Why Stability Matters:

Food stability plays an important role in sustainability because it directly influences how much food is ultimately wasted. The longer food remains usable, the more flexibility exists across storage, transport, and distribution systems. This flexibility helps reduce losses and ensures more consistent food availability even during delays or disruptions.

Peanuts perform particularly well in this regard because they require minimal post-harvest handling. Unlike many perishable foods that depend heavily on cold storage, peanuts maintain quality under relatively simple storage conditions. This reduces dependence on energy-intensive refrigeration systems and helps lower post-harvest losses, contributing to more resilient food systems (World Food Programme; Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems).

Food Shelf-Life Comparison:

FOOD CATEGORY	TYPICAL SHELF LIFE
Fresh leafy vegetables	1–2 weeks
Fresh fruits	2–8 weeks
Dairy products	Days to weeks
Grains	Several months
In-shell peanuts (properly stored)	Up to 9–12 months

(Sources: USDA, National Peanut Board)

Looking Beyond Harvest:

Sustainability is often evaluated based on how efficiently food is grown, but what happens after harvest is equally important. Foods that retain their quality over time help reduce waste, improve resource efficiency, and strengthen overall food security.

Peanuts demonstrate this balance well by combining long shelf life with high nutritional density. They show that sustainable food systems are not only about producing food efficiently, but also about preserving its value until consumption.

In a resource-constrained world, foods that remain useful for longer periods will play an increasingly important role in building a more stable and sustainable future.

Fueling Flight:

Why Energy-Dense Foods Like Peanuts Matter for Birds

Birds rarely need the same amount of energy every day. Flying, searching for food, caring for young, avoiding predators, and coping with changing weather all place different demands on their bodies.

To handle these changing conditions, birds possess an impressive ability known as **metabolic flexibility**—the capacity to adjust how they use and store energy depending on their immediate needs. This helps them respond efficiently to environmental challenges while maintaining the energy required for survival.

Because energy demands can change rapidly, birds benefit from foods that provide a large amount of energy in a relatively small serving. **Peanuts** are an excellent example. Naturally rich in healthy fats and nutrients, they offer a concentrated source of fuel that can help birds meet their energy requirements efficiently.

NATURAL FEEL

SUPPORTS DAILY ACTIVITY

FOR A HEALTHY LIFE

> *Sometimes the most important part of a bird's journey is not how far it flies, but how efficiently it fuels the journey.*

WHY ENERGY DENSITY MATTERS:

In nature, birds must balance energy intake with the time and effort required to obtain food. Foods with higher energy density provide more calories per unit of weight, making them especially valuable during periods of increased activity.

Among the three primary energy-providing nutrients, fat delivers the most energy per gram.

ENERGY PROVIDED BY MAJOR NUTRIENTS:

NUTRIENT	ENERGY
Fat	9 kcal/g
Protein	4 kcal/g
Carbohydrate	4 kcal/g

Source: USDA FoodData Central

Because peanuts contain a high proportion of healthy fats, they provide substantially more energy per gram than many fruits and other plant foods commonly eaten by birds. This makes them an efficient fuel source for supporting daily activities.

SUPPORTING SURVIVAL AND ACTIVITY:

For birds, efficient energy intake can have important benefits. Time spent foraging is time not spent resting, caring for offspring, maintaining territory, or staying alert to predators.

Energy-dense foods can help birds meet their needs while reducing the effort required to obtain sufficient fuel.

While birds require a variety of foods for a balanced diet, peanuts can serve as a particularly valuable source of concentrated energy within that mix.

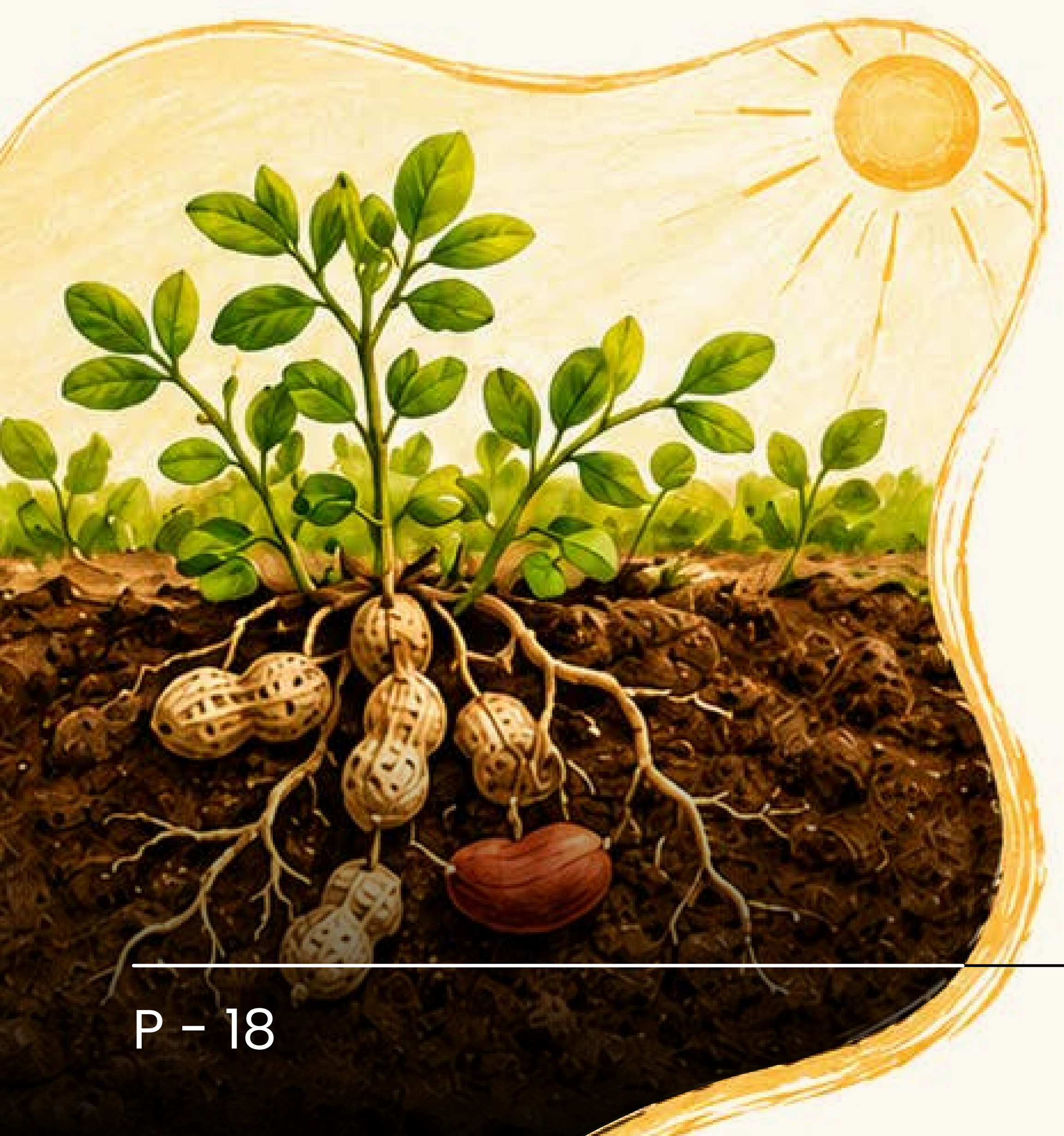
The next time you see a bird feeding on peanuts, remember that it is doing more than satisfying its hunger.
That small meal provides a rich source of energy that helps support movement, daily activity, and survival.

What a "Super El Niño" Means for Your Peanut Supply?

The Power of Wild Genetics: 'IAC Sempre Verde'

You might have seen news lately about a "Super El Niño" heading our way. This is a massive natural climate pattern that warms up parts of the Pacific Ocean, shifting weather and rainfall patterns all over the globe. For crops like peanuts, these sudden weather changes usually spark fears of bad harvests, shortages, and changing prices.

But science shows we do not need to panic. According to a key study published in the journal Climate Research, farmers can actually protect, and even increase, peanut yields during El Niño. By making one simple adjustment, **shifting their planting dates, growers can align the seeds with the new rainfall patterns, keeping the peanut supply steady and uniform.**



The Temperature Limit & Fungal Risks

Peanuts are naturally tough plants. In fact, research shows that peanut yields are highly resilient and will not be negatively affected by a temperature rise of up to 2°C to 3°C. However, they do have a hard limit: if daily temperatures consistently pass 35°C (95°F) during the flowering stage, the plants struggle to create pods, and yields begin to drop.

This combination of extreme heat and dry weather also triggers a hidden quality threat: aflatoxin. Aflatoxin is a harmful chemical produced by a natural soil fungus (*Aspergillus*). When peanut plants suffer from heat and drought stress in their final weeks of growth, their natural defences weaken, making it incredibly easy for this Mold to invade the pods.

How We Counter the Risk

To stop aflatoxin and protect peanut quality, the food industry uses two primary tools:

Targeted Watering:

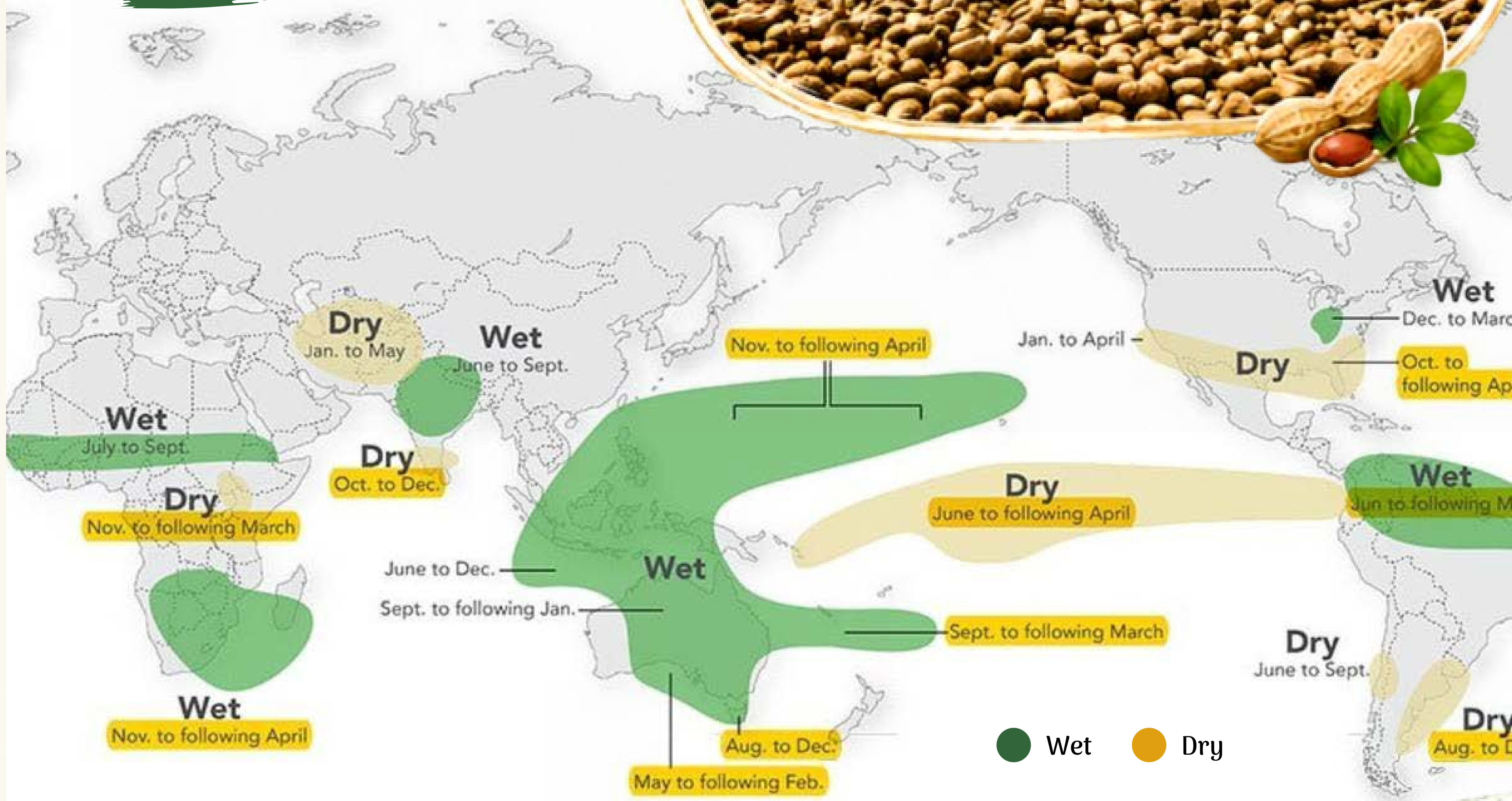
Providing steady irrigation during the last 4 to 6 weeks of growth keeps the soil cool, which stops the fungus from growing.

Rapid Post-Harvest Drying:

Once dug up, peanuts must be dried quickly to drop their moisture level below 8%. This fast drying completely locks out fungal growth before the peanuts ever reach the factory.

El Niño Impact on Global Peanut Growing Regions

Typical periods of wetter (beneficial) and drier (risky) conditions.



Reference:

Mavromatis, T., et al. (2002). Climate Research, 22, 129–140.
https://www.int-res.com/articles/cr2002/22/c022p129.pdf

FORMULA 1: PRECISION BEYOND SPEED

- Formula 1 teams spend millions chasing tenths of a second. Why?
- What does a 2% improvement actually look like when measured in tonnes instead of percentages?
- How can a number small enough to fit on a laboratory report determine access to global markets?

MOST PEOPLE WATCH FORMULA 1 AND SEE SPEED.
YET FORMULA 1'S GREATEST LESSON IS NOT ABOUT SPEED. IT IS ABOUT PRECISION.

A Formula 1 car can exceed 350 km/h, but races are often decided by fractions of a second. Teams spend entire seasons chasing improvements that most spectators would never notice—a slightly better fuel strategy, a small aerodynamic adjustment, or a marginal reduction in tyre degradation.

> **Individually, these improvements seem insignificant.**
> **Collectively, they win championships.**
> **The peanut industry may face a similar reality.**

The 2% Nobody Notices

A Formula 1 team can spend millions to save just 0.10 seconds per lap.

To most people, that sounds insignificant.

Until they realize that 0.10 seconds repeated over an entire race can be the difference between standing on the podium and watching someone else stand on it.

The peanut industry faces a similar reality.

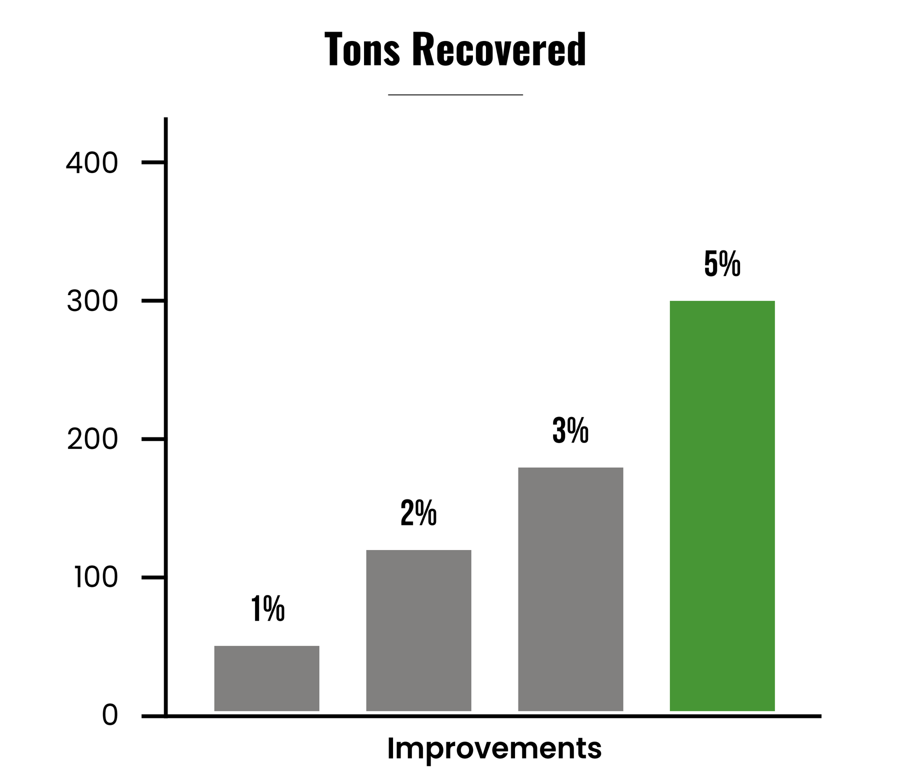
Consider a processing facility operating at 20 tonnes per day for 300 days a year.

That facility processes approximately 6,000 tonnes annually.

A 2% reduction in losses sounds small.

Until that 2% becomes **120 tonnes** of additional saleable product every year—without expanding capacity, adding labour, or increasing operating days.

The Impact of 2% Improvement



WE SEE 2%.
THE BEST OPERATORS SEE 120 TONNES.

The opportunity has not changed.
Only the perspective has.

The interesting question is not whether 2% is a large number.

Winning Before the Race Starts

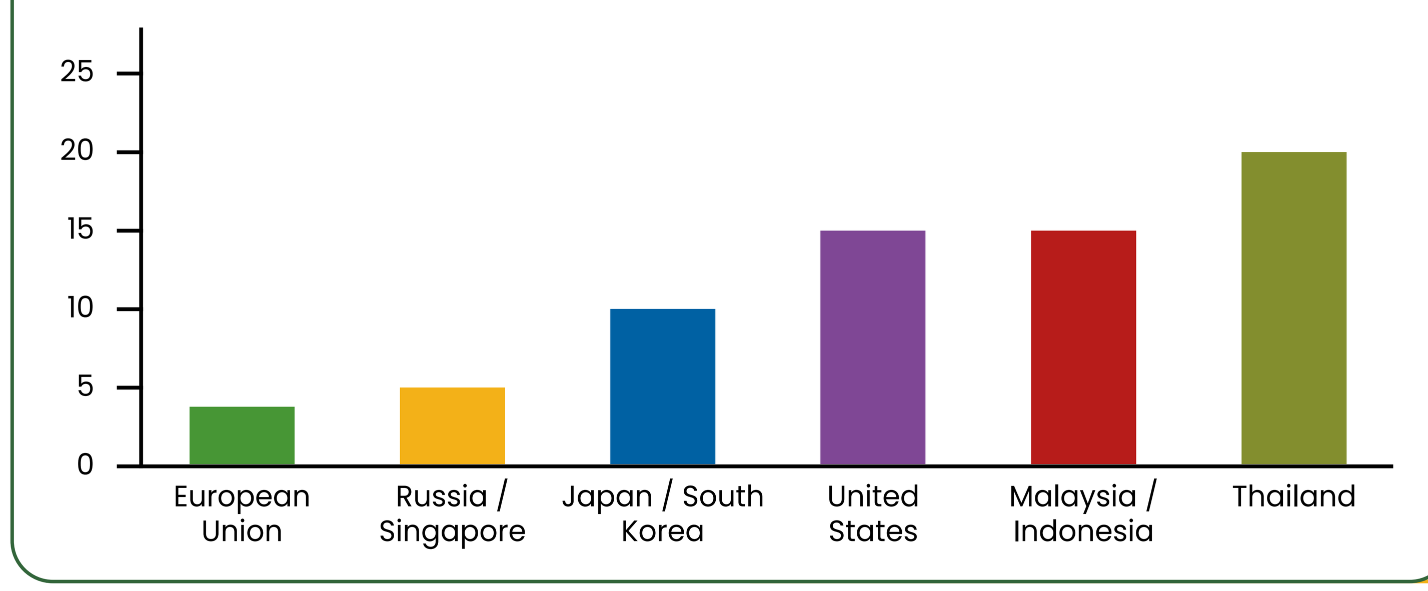
A Formula 1 team can build an exceptional car. But if it fails technical regulations, it never reaches the starting grid.

The peanut industry operates under a similar reality.

Global markets reward compliance as much as production.

For peanuts intended for direct human consumption, the European Union maintains a total aflatoxin limit of 4 μg/kg, among the strictest requirements globally.

Maximum Total Aflatoxin Limit (μg/kg)



The difference between 4 μg/kg and 20 μg/kg may appear small.

For exporters, it can determine whether a shipment reaches a premium market or not.

In Formula 1, regulations determine who gets to compete.

In global peanut trade, standards often determine who gets to sell.

The Invisible Advantage

Ask a Formula 1 engineer about aerodynamics. They will not talk about appearance. They will talk about performance.

The peanut industry's equivalent may be packaging.

Consumers see a pouch, jar, or label.

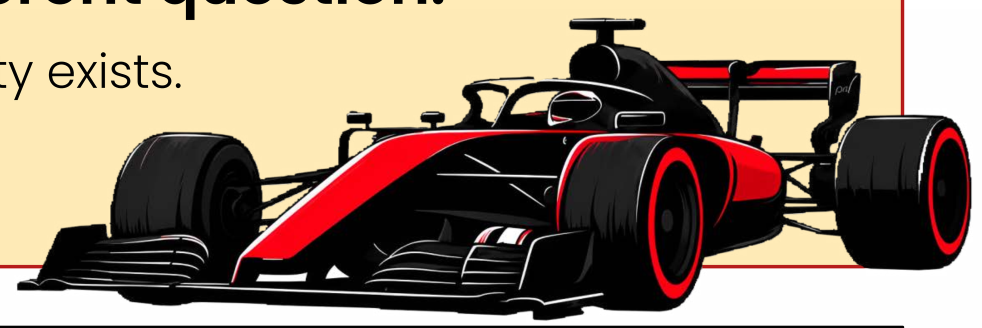
Businesses see product protection, shelf life, transportation efficiency, warehouse utilisation, and shelf visibility.

- Product Protection
- Extended Shelf Life
- Transportation Efficiency
- Warehouse Utilisation
- Shelf Visibility

Second Kernel Perspective

The F1 precision force us to ask a different question:

- The question is not whether the next opportunity exists.
- The question is whether we recognise it before someone else does.




Turning
Waste to
Watts
FUELLING THE FUTURE
nutco
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