PEANUT POST

JUN 2026

106 VOLUME

THE NEXT SUPER IMPORTER

INDIA'S RISING DEMAND

(From 2nd Largest Producer to 2nd Largest Consumer)

Global Markets P6

Bird Feed P16

Peanut Science P18

Peanut Wizard | Current Crops | Shelled Facts | Peanut Voice | Sustainability

MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

DEMAND



INDONESIA

Indonesia witnessed strong buying activity for shipments scheduled until 7th of May, driven by the government's implementation of a new quota system mandating GlobalG.A.P. certification across all origins without exception. As most exporters require an estimated three to four months to align with the compliance framework, buyers rushed to secure shipments with onboard Bill of Lading dated prior to the enforcement timeline. However, over 50% of the anticipated shipments reportedly failed to depart within the estimated ETD window. Domestically, demand in Indonesia remains stable — neither particularly aggressive nor weak — with prices gradually inching upward, though not yet reacting sharply to the quota transition. The new compliance structure is expected to inherently increase landed costs by approximately USD 220/MT, translating to a cost escalation of over 10% against prevailing FAQ 80/90 TJ market levels of around USD 1,850/MT. Local supply conditions currently remain healthy as importers had anticipated the policy implementation much earlier and stocked inventories accordingly. Nevertheless, going forward, the market could face tighter supply conditions if procedural compliances are not met efficiently by exporters and importers. In parallel, the continued weakening of the Indonesian Rupiah (17850/US$), which recently touched historic lows, may also gradually soften downstream demand sentiment.



CHINA

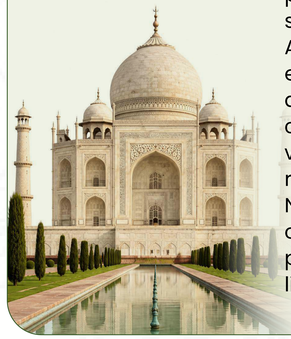
China continued to exhibit extremely weak buying sentiment across both peanut oil and kernel markets. Demand for crude peanut oil remained largely limited to buyers seeking 2 FFA material from any origin at target CFR Qingdao levels of approximately US$1,480–1,500/MT, with little flexibility beyond these price indications. Kernel demand across origins also stayed significantly subdued, including for Senegalese peanuts despite tariff-related advantages. Market sentiment suggests that Chinese buyers are likely to maintain a cautious and defensive purchasing stance over the coming months. Additionally, industry feedback indicates acreage expansion in the Dongbei region, coupled with improving availability of good quality food-grade peanuts within the domestic Chinese market, further reducing immediate import dependency and pressuring international demand sentiment.



BIRDFEED

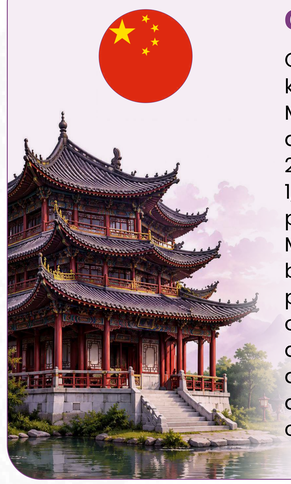
Bird feed demand across the European market remained largely stagnant, with prevailing CFR price levels hovering between US$850–900/MT across various qualities, sizes, and crop years. Buying interest continued to stay weak despite Latin America transitioning from old crop inventories into the new crop cycle. Market sentiment remained notably passive, as European bird feed processors and importers showed limited urgency even amidst the availability of multiple distressed or aggressively priced lots in the market. The overall environment reflects cautious downstream consumption and a lack of immediate replenishment demand from buyers.

SUPPLY



INDIA

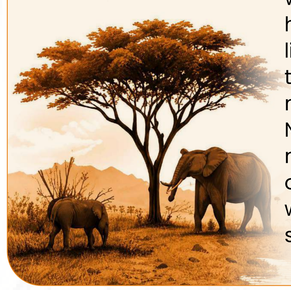
On the supply front, Indian availability from the Winter Crop 2025 has largely depleted, with most remaining inventories currently held by NAFED, where market participants continue to raise concerns regarding quality consistency. In the southern regions, supplies from the Spanish crop are also nearing completion. Attention is now shifting toward the upcoming Gujarat summer crop harvest, expected to commence by the first week of June, with trade sentiment indicating a potentially strong crop outlook. Market indications for Spanish-type peanuts are currently projected in the range of USD 1,400–1,600 per ton, depending on kernel size variations from 80/90 through 40/50 counts. Meanwhile, domestic peanut oil supply remains constrained due to elevated in-shell procurement prices maintained by NAFED (currently holding 1.1 million tons - inshell), resulting in significantly higher crushing costs. In particular, the production economics for genuine 2 FFA crude peanut oil are currently estimated to accumulate near US$1,750 CFR China levels, limiting competitiveness in the export market.



CHINA

On the Chinese supply side, offers for Dongbei 80/100 kernels were reported in the range of US$1,250–1,375/MT, depending on lot size, packaging specifications, and shipment timelines. Blanched peanuts in the 25/29 count category were quoted around US$1,250–1,300/MT FOB Qingdao, subject to varietal differences, product specifications, and blending compositions. Meanwhile, Chinese 50/60 Baisha offers ranged between US$1,375–1,450/MT, with pricing differentials primarily influenced by whether the material originated from Dongbei or Henan crops. Supply availability from Henan remains relatively abundant and competitively priced, largely due to the weaker quality profile observed in the 2025 harvest, which continues to pressure market values.





AFRICA

African market offers for crude peanut oil from Senegal were reported around US$1,750–1,775/MT CFR Qingdao basis for genuine 2 FFA quality. In the kernel segment, supplies from Mozambique and Tanzania were quoted in the range of US$900–1,050/MT FOB; however, these origins are currently facing significant limitations in accessing the Indonesian market following the implementation of the new quota regime and mandatory GlobalG.A.P. compliance requirements. Nigerian offers also remained actively available in the market, although overall buying interest for African-origin peanuts continued to stay subdued amid weak downstream demand and cautious purchasing sentiment across major destinations.



PEANUT WIZARD

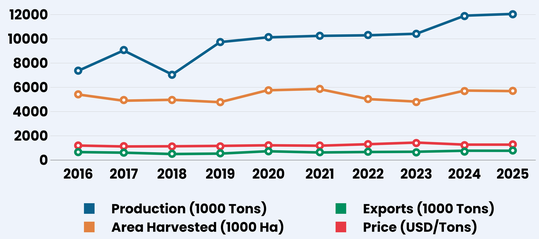
With a population of 1.47 billion people, compared with China's 1.40 billion, is India set to emerge as the next super importer of peanuts and peanut products?

Can India become both the world's largest producer and one of the world's largest consumers of peanuts? Can this happen even with import tariffs of nearly 50%?



1 India Peanut Market Trend

(Last 10 Year)



With only a 10–15% increase in acreage, supported by crop shift from cotton and corn and the adoption of peanut cultivation in newer provinces, India's peanut harvest on an in-shell basis has risen by more than 50% over the last nine years.

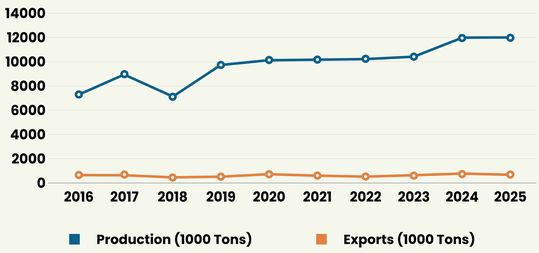
This growth has been driven by a combination of factors: the state government's MSP programme encouraging farmers with better margins, strong domestic demand for peanut oil and snacking, and stable export demand — despite relatively weak export-promotion efforts.

India's peanut exports have declined from nearly 20% of the harvest in earlier years to less than 10% today.

The reasons are not due to lack of demand. Indian peanuts continue to have strong global relevance. The challenge lies more in areas such as aflatoxin risk management, stronger processor-exporter accreditation, traceability, and a more robust quality-control framework.

2 India Peanut Production & Exports

(In-shell Production in Tons)

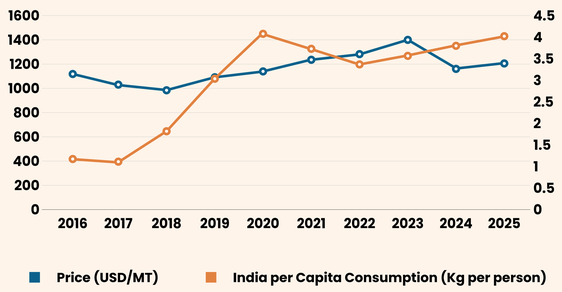


Consequently, India has been losing export market share to other origins, and the pressure is already being felt across the export fraternity.

Yet, the opportunity remains highly attractive. Over the past two years, the sector has witnessed a significant rise in new merchant and processor exporters, with more than 50 new entrants joining the trade on a conservative estimate.

Institutions such as APEDA have an important role to play in reshaping the sector through stronger accreditation, quality systems, export promotion, traceability, and international market positioning.

3 Pricing Vs Consumption

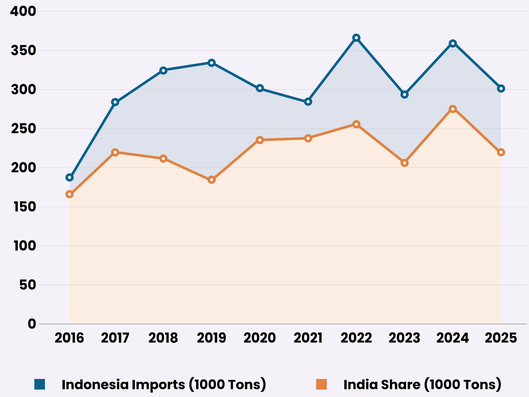


"Data does not lie."

After adjusting for inflation of around 6–8%, India's peanut price trend has remained relatively stable over the years. More importantly, the per capita consumption data clearly highlights why India needs to produce more peanuts for its own domestic market.

Credit must be given to the Indian government for recognising this long-term trend and managing the sector through MSP support and seed development programmes. These efforts have helped protect farmer interest, support production growth, and maintain stability in a market that is increasingly important for India's food and edible oil economy.

4 Indonesia Imports Vs India Share



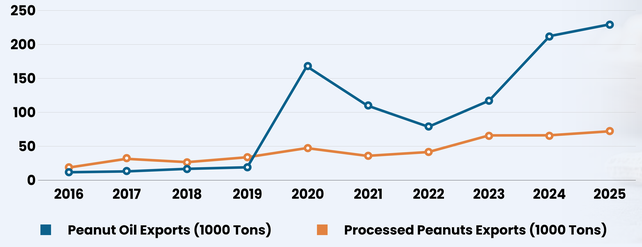
Indonesia is one of the world's largest importers of peanuts. India has historically been the dominant supplier to Indonesia, accounting for over 75% share of its peanut imports.

However, concerns around aflatoxin, traceability, and export-level quality governance have created serious pressure on this trade flow. At one stage, Indonesia temporarily restricted Indian peanut imports for around three months. Although the restriction was later lifted, the subsequent procedural changes and G2G framework created several operational anomalies in the market.

These developments appear to have pushed Indonesia toward a more structured import-control framework, including stronger traceability expectations through Global G.A.P. and a quota-based system, in line with its national food safety and food security priorities.

If India loses market share in Indonesia, Indian peanut exports could face a further decline of at least 25%, based on conservative estimates.

5 Export Performance of Peanut Oil Vs Processed Peanuts





The growth of oil factories, peanut butter units, and blanching facilities has strengthened India's processed peanut export segment.

However, limited availability of high-oleic raw material reduces India's competitiveness in premium markets compared with Argentina and Brazil. A major share of India's peanut oil exports continues to move to China, competing directly with Brazil and Senegal, while India benefits from a clear geographical advantage.

Conclusion

The mathematics is simple. Data from 2016–2025 shows a clear structural shift in India's peanut economy.

Oil exports increased by 1,800%, (estm. 460,000 tons in-shell). Processed peanut exports rose by 280%, (estm. 130,000 tons). Per capita consumption increased by 250%, (estm. 6 million tons). Production rose by 62%, while raw peanut exports grew by only 2%, (estm. 1.05 million tons in-shell).

Assuming carryover stocks of 10%, (1.2 million tons in-shell), the balance stock after production and expenditure is estimated at around 3.3 million tons.

India is strategically moving in a China-like direction: focusing more on value-added peanut exports, localising consumption, and increasing production to feed the system.

At this pace, the current 3 million tons of excess production could quickly disappear and disturb India's oilseed production-consumption balance unless production continues to keep up with demand. India must import in the near future! Be ready shippers!



Global Markets

ARGENTINA



Severe frosts in Argentina have effectively ended the peanut development cycle, raising concerns over crop quality and yields. On May 18, temperatures in Córdoba Province dropped close to -10°C, impacting peanuts that had been dug and left exposed before harvest. The extreme cold caused pod blackening, frozen kernels, increased internal moisture, and potential shelling and sorting difficulties, all of which are still being evaluated. In addition, many peanut lots failed to achieve the desired 55–60% maturity levels, resulting in lower kernel weight and size. Harvest results remain highly inconsistent, with yields ranging from 1,700–2,200 kg/ha in drought-affected areas to over 6,000 kg/ha in better regions. The sharp variability is closely linked to prolonged drought conditions since late December and January. *(Reported by Georgalos Peanut World)*

BRAZIL



Few sectors can absorb a 100% increase in costs and remain profitable. Brazilian peanut growers are facing an even tougher reality: production costs have nearly doubled since 2020, while prices have fallen sharply from the elevated levels seen in 2023 and 2024. Since late October 2024, the market has experienced a sustained decline in prices that continued through January 2026. Speaking with growers in Itaju, in the countryside of São Paulo state, one producer described the situation as "the hangover after the party." The "party" was the period of unusually strong prices in 2023 and 2024, driven largely by Argentina's poor 2023 crop, which tightened global supply and lifted international prices. Encouraged by these returns, Brazilian growers expanded production, leading to significantly higher land rental costs. The "hangover" began when supply normalized. A return to normal production in Argentina, combined with strong crops across both major South American origins in 2025, pushed prices downward. Costs, however, remained stubbornly high. As a result, many growers reduced planted area by roughly 30% for the 2025/26 season. Yet by May 2026, prices had not responded as expected. With the next planting season approaching, producers face a difficult question: should acreage be reduced again, and by how much? April peanut exports totaled about 23,000 tons, with Russia purchasing roughly 7,000 tons. Peanut oil exports doubled compared with March 2026 but remained 41% below April 2025 levels. *(Reported by Samtraco)*

USA

Drought conditions and delayed rainfall are raising concerns over peanut crop health and production. Geopolitical tensions, including the Trump-Xi China summit and the Iran conflict, may also influence markets. USDA/NASS estimated peanut acreage at 1.67 million acres, down 14.4% from last year, while rising cotton prices encouraged growers to shift toward cotton and corn. Industry estimates now suggest peanut plantings in the Southeast could decline 18–20%. Market participants remain cautious, awaiting stability in peanut prices and sustained strength in cotton markets. *(Reported by Georgalos Peanut World)*



PEANUT SPOTLIGHT

INDIA

India's peanut market is entering a transition phase as new crop arrivals begin in Gujarat while supplies tighten across South India. In Gujarat, arrivals are increasing in the Bhavnagar, Talaja, Patavada, Deesa, and Palanpur regions, although arrivals from Halvad and Kutch remain slow. Strong demand for sowing seed is supporting prices, but exporters remain cautious and have yet to actively enter the new crop market due to elevated price levels.

NAFED procurement continues at $705–725/MT, though quality concerns persist regarding some stocks due to higher levels of damaged and mixed material. Despite weakness in the broader oilseed complex, peanut oil prices have remained relatively stable. Lower cake prices have compressed crushing margins, reducing support from processors. Stockists are also releasing inventories to take advantage of strong seed demand, while factories remain busy with seed processing activities.

Meanwhile, arrivals in South India are nearing completion. Tamil Nadu has only limited stocks left to process, while Andhra Pradesh markets are receiving just 200–300 bags daily. Sowing has started in some areas, and suppliers are mainly serving local demand. Karnataka arrivals remain minimal, with trade focused largely on domestic consumption. Overall market activity remains subdued across the southern region.



INDONESIA

The market remains stable, with prices largely unchanged and no signs of aggressive selling pressure. Importers are releasing stocks gradually in line with demand, although the anticipated price increases have yet to materialize.

China 50/60 white peanuts are trading at around $1,740/MT in 50 kg jute bags.

In the 80/90 TJ segment, new-crop prices are reported at $1,630/MT for reddish TJ, $1,680/MT for Kadiri, $1,740 for white TJ, and $1,800 for Andhra White 80/90.

Demand remains firm for the 140/160 grade, with Indian OBE quoted at $1,740/MT and China OBE at $1,570/MT.

For local crops, clean large-size cargoes from Tuban and Kediri are available at around $1,850/MT ex-PPN, while mixed cargoes are trading near $1,680/MT ex-PPN. In Bima, much of the crop is being sold in-shell, with indications of prices around $1,570/MT ex-PPN.

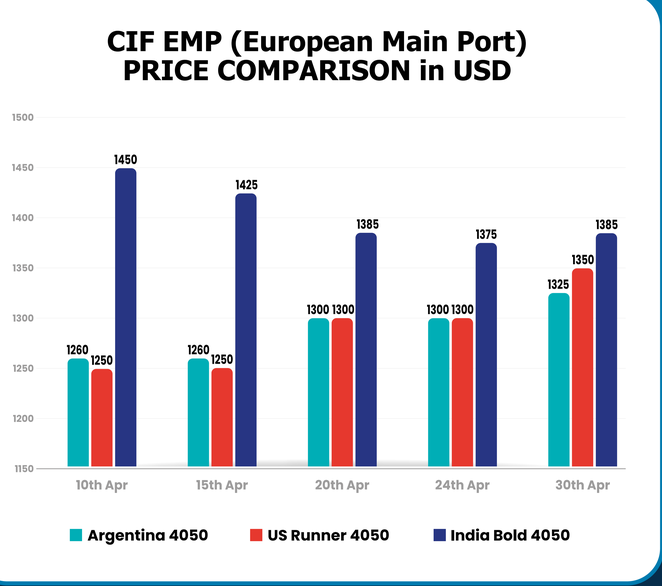
Overall, the market remains balanced, supported by steady demand and disciplined selling activity.

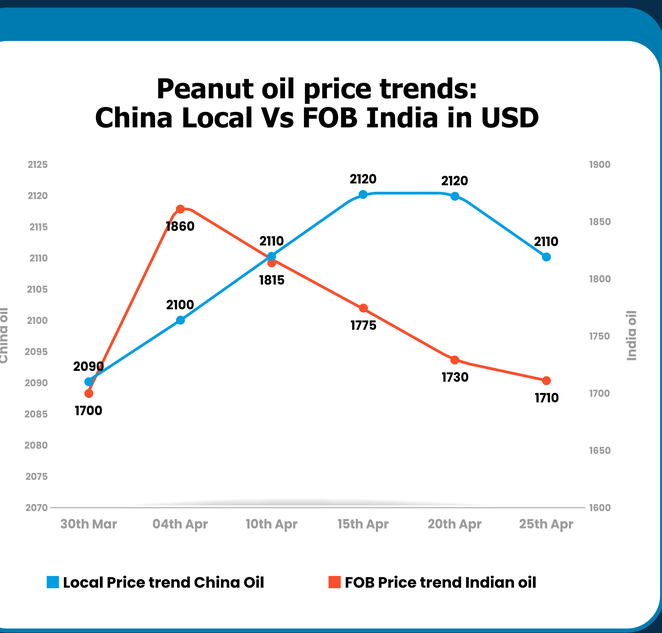


CHINA

The domestic peanut market remains relatively stable but continues to show a weak tone, with actual transaction prices gradually trending lower. Weak demand has hurt market confidence, while support from oil plants remains limited. Luhua has suspended procurement entirely, and Yihai has tightened quality standards and reduced purchase prices, further pressuring sentiment. Rising temperatures in production areas are increasing storage risks for ground inventory, especially in Northeast China, leading some suppliers to accelerate sales. Concerns over mold and spoilage in higher-moisture lots may also create pricing pressure, with lower-quality goods dragging down premium prices. Meanwhile, arrivals at Yihai plants from major regions remain high, creating unloading pressure and raising the possibility of further procurement restrictions. As the market remains in the seasonal demand off-period, significant improvement is unlikely. However, with prices already near production costs, downside risks appear limited, suggesting continued weak but stable market fluctuations.

INDIA DEMAND & SUPPLY

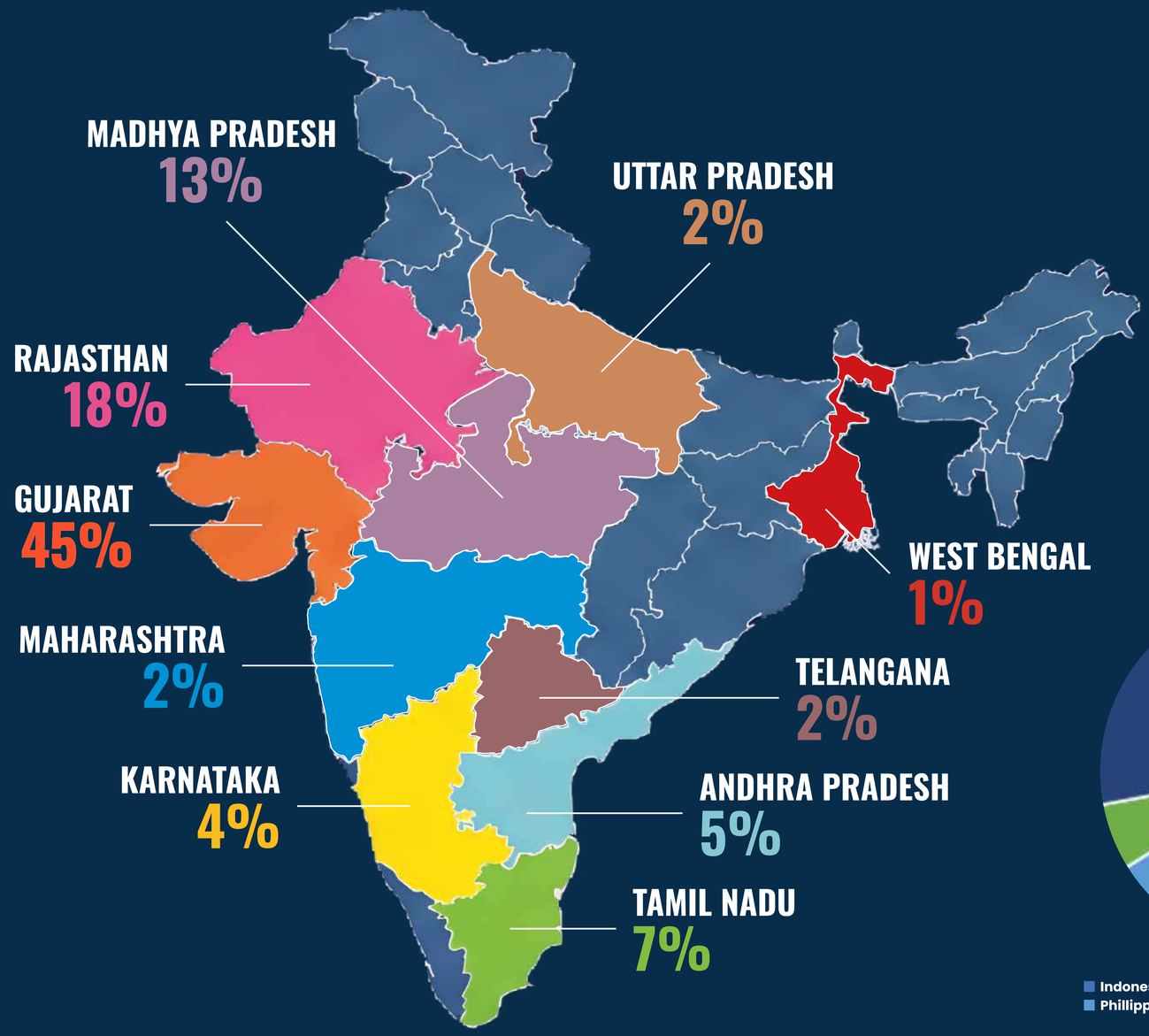




Top Producing States

(Production Share)

Production	12 MMT
Domestic use	11 MMT
Population	1.47 Billion





Current Crops

ARG 4050 - $1400

Argentina

ARG

Peanuts exposed to temperatures near -10°C were affected by freezing.

Brazil

BRA

BRA 4050 - $1350

After a 30% acreage cut last season, further reductions are expected in the upcoming crop year.

CHI 41/51 - $1600

China

CHI

India

IND

IND 4050 - $1395

South India's peanut harvest has concluded.

RSA - $NA

South Africa

RSA

USA

USA

USA 4050 -$1350

Southeast Planting Area Expected to Decline 18–20%.

TNZ - $NA

Tanzania

TNZ

PEANUT VOICE



"Accidentally entered the peanuts industry from banking, I turned crisis into creation. After nearly 20 years of complete focus on peanuts, it still feels unfinished. My life statement remains: Peanut or Nothing."

Saravanan Lokasundaram

CEO

Agrocrops Group

What is your vision for the future of India's peanut industry over the next five years?

India's self-sufficiency drive will standardise industry verticals, reduce low-end exports, and shift focus to value-added products, accelerating policy change, consumption growth, and India's rise as a major global peanut consumer.



The "Perfect Peanut" is Rare

Did you know that only 1 in 100 peanuts is good enough to become Peanut M&M's? This highlights the extremely high quality standards set by Mars, Incorporated, where peanuts are carefully selected for size, taste, texture, and consistency.

This statistic also reveals a bigger challenge, up to 30% of peanuts are lost due to pests, disease, and climate stress. To address this, Mars is investing millions in advanced agricultural research, including genome-based breeding, to develop stronger and more resilient peanut varieties.

Behind every peanut snack lies intense science, strict quality control, and global efforts to secure the future of peanuts.

Quality Science

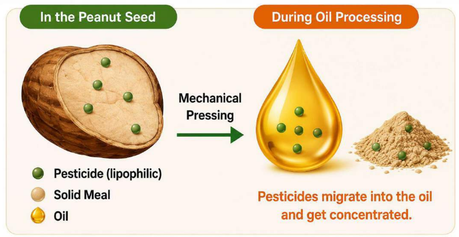
The Oil-Pesticide Connection:

Safeguarding Peanut Quality and Consumer Health





Peanuts are a rich source of healthy lipids, but their high oil content introduces a unique challenge in food safety and quality management. A landmark study highlights a critical chemical mechanism: during processing, peanut oil acts as a powerful medium that actively dissolves and concentrates fat-soluble (lipophilic) pesticides used during crop cultivation.



1 WHY PESTICIDES CONCENTRATE IN THE OIL

Many agricultural pesticides are chemically hydrophobic, meaning they repel water and bind preferentially to fats. During mechanical pressing, these chemical residues migrate away from the solid peanut meal and dissolve straight into the fluid oil. The research established that this behaviour is directly driven by the pesticide's oil-water partition coefficient. The higher this value, the more easily the chemical dissolves into the oil phase.

In tests, residues of common pesticides like chlorpyrifos and deltamethrin wound up **2.05 to 3.63 times** more concentrated in the final oil than in the leftover meal.

2 HEALTH RISKS AND FOOD TRANSFER

This lipid-binding trait has serious health implications. The study proved for the first time that when contaminated peanut oil is used for frying, these trapped pesticides do not break down. Instead, they transfer directly into the fried food (such as potato chips). This unexpected pathway introduces hidden dietary risks to consumers, shifting toxic compounds directly into the broader human food chain.



3 QUALITY REJECTION AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

From a quality assurance perspective, this concentration effect is a major bottleneck. Global regulatory bodies enforce strict Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs). Because processing amplifies pesticide levels in the oil, whole batches can easily cross legal limits, triggering immediate quality rejections and costly product recalls. Economically, this can ruin processing margins, close international export doors, and cause devastating financial losses for manufacturers, proving that strict field-to-bottle tracking is vital for the modern peanut industry.



REFERENCE: Residual levels of five pesticides in peanut oil processing and chips frying. J Sci Food Agric. 2022 Apr;102(6):2494-2499. doi: 10.1002/jsfa.11590. Epub 2021 Nov 4. PMID: 34689325.

With thanks to our contributors



Mr. Suresh Kumar
R&D
Agrocrops



Mr. Ravirajsinh Zala
Purchase Manager
Agrocrops



Mr. Manoj
Sales Analyst
Agrocrops



Daman Chand
Sales Manager
Agrocrops



Zhang LinLin
Manager
TianJin HongLiangDao Trading



Ocean Meng
Sales Manager
Qingdao Nut Co., Ltd



Mr. Jorge Rocha
Sales Manager
Samtraco



Mr. Andres Georgalos
Director
Georgalos Peanut World

SNACKEX

June 17–18, 2026

Lisbon, Portugal

Sustainability

How Peanuts Contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



INTRODUCTION

As the world faces growing environmental and food-security challenges, sustainable agriculture has become essential for achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While major technological solutions often dominate discussions on sustainability, one simple agricultural crop — the peanut — is proving to have remarkable global importance.

Peanuts are more than a snack crop. They contribute to nutrition, soil conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable farming systems. Because of these benefits, peanuts are increasingly connected to several SDGs, particularly SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

2 ZERO HUNGER

SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER

One of the biggest global challenges is providing nutritious and affordable food for a rapidly growing population. Peanuts are highly valuable because they contain approximately 26 grams of protein per 100 grams, along with healthy fats, magnesium, and vitamin E.

In many developing countries, peanut-based foods are used to combat malnutrition due to their high nutritional density and long shelf life. Ready-to-use therapeutic foods made from peanuts have helped thousands of children suffering from severe acute malnutrition.



NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF PEANUTS

Nutrient	Amount (per 100g)
Protein	26 g
Healthy Fats	49 g
Energy	567 kcal

Their affordability and accessibility make peanuts an important crop in supporting global food security.

13 CLIMATE ACTION

SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION

Agriculture contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, especially through synthetic fertilizers and intensive farming practices. Peanuts help reduce this environmental pressure through a natural process called nitrogen fixation.

$$N_2 + 8H^+ + 8e^- \rightarrow 2NH_3 + H_2$$

This biological process allows peanut plants to convert atmospheric nitrogen into nutrients for the soil, reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers.

Peanuts also require less water compared to many other protein sources.

WATER USAGE COMPARISON

Beef	15,000 L/kg
Chicken	4,300 L/kg
Peanuts	3,000 L/kg

This makes peanut farming more sustainable in drought-prone and water-stressed regions.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Peanut farming also supports responsible agricultural practices. Farmers often use peanuts in crop rotation systems because they improve soil fertility and reduce erosion. In addition, peanut shells and agricultural waste can be reused as:



- Animal feed
- Compost
- Biofuel
- Biodegradable packaging material

This supports the idea of a circular economy, where agricultural waste is reused instead of discarded.

Countries such as India and China are among the world's leading peanut producers, showing the crop's global economic importance.

CONCLUSION

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires innovative yet practical agricultural solutions. Peanuts demonstrate how a small crop can contribute to global sustainability through nutrition, climate resilience, and resource-efficient farming.

Although peanuts alone cannot solve global environmental challenges, they represent an important example of how sustainable agriculture can support both people and the planet.

BIRD FEED

Peanuts, Metabolism, and Migration:
The Physics of Bird Energy

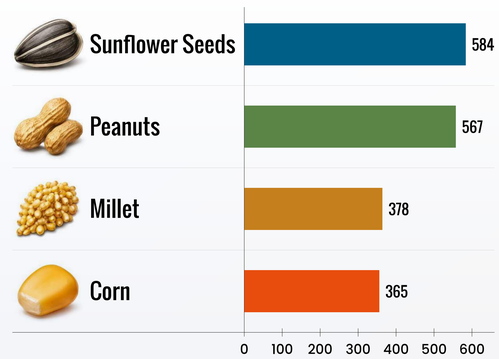
Why T ny B rds Need H gh-Energy Fuel

Every year, billions of migratory birds travel thousands of kilometers across continents, often without stopping for several hours. A small songbird weighing less than 20 grams can fly continuously overnight while maintaining wingbeat frequencies exceeding 10–15 beats per second. Such extreme endurance demands an extraordinary energy system — and surprisingly, peanuts provide one of the most efficient fuels for it.



> Modern bird nutrition studies show that peanuts are not simply snacks for backyard feeders. Their high fat concentration and caloric density make them biologically valuable for migration, thermoregulation, and feather maintenance.

Energy Ava lab l ty Graph



Because fats produce nearly 9 kcal per gram, migratory birds preferentially metabolize lipid-rich foods before long flights. Research has shown that some migratory species can gain up to 40% of their body weight in fat reserves before migration periods.

M grat on Ecology and Cl mate Stress



Climate change and urbanization are reducing natural food availability along migratory routes. Habitat fragmentation often forces birds to depend on concentrated food sources in urban and suburban ecosystems.

This is where peanut-based feeding systems play an ecological role. Backyard feeders can function as micro energy stations, especially during:

- Winter cold stress
- Long migratory stopovers
- Breeding and molting seasons



Species such as woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches, and jays are particularly attracted to peanut feed because of its high caloric efficiency.

The B omechan cs of Fl ght

Bird flight is one of nature's most energy-intensive forms of movement. During migration, some species increase their metabolic rate to nearly 8–10 times their resting level.

The physics behind this energy demand is linked to aerodynamic lift and muscle activity:

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 S C_L$$

Where:

- L = lift force
- ρ = air density
- v = flight velocity
- S = wing area
- C_L = lift coefficient

To sustain lift during long-distance flight, birds rapidly oxidize stored fats because fats release more energy per gram than carbohydrates or proteins.

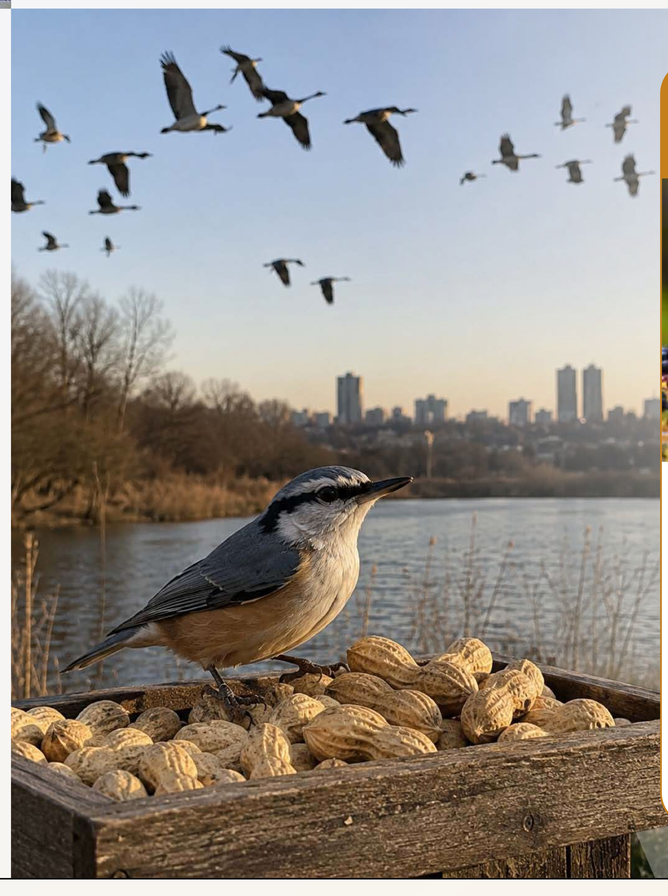
Why Peanuts Are an Ideal M grat on Fuel

Peanuts contain approximately:

- 49% healthy fats
- 26% protein
- Nearly 567 kcal per 100 g

This makes peanuts one of the most energy-dense natural bird feeds available.





More Than Just B rd Feed



Peanuts demonstrate how nutritional science intersects with ecology and physics. For migratory birds, energy is not merely about survival — it determines flight endurance, feather insulation, and reproductive success.

In a world where ecosystems are rapidly changing, a simple peanut may represent something much larger: a concentrated source of biological energy helping sustain one of nature's greatest phenomena — migration.

Peanut Science



Securing the Perfect Peanut: A High-Tech Shield against Crop Loss

Peanuts face massive threats from pests, changing weather, and aggressive fungal diseases, which prevent up to 30% of the global crop from ever making it from pod to plate. For a snacking leader like Mars, which purchases over 300 million pounds annually, this supply pressure is a critical challenge, especially since their quality standards are so rigorous that only 1 in 100 peanuts is good enough to become a Peanut M&M'S.

To tackle food security and stabilize supply chains, Mars has invested $10 million to date on breakthrough crop breeding, alongside a new $5 million, five-year commitment under its "Protect the Peanut Plan."

THE NUMBERS THAT MATTER

30%
of global peanut crop lost before reaching consumers

300+
million pounds purchased annually by Mars

1 in 100
peanuts meets the strict quality standard for Peanut M&M'S

$15 Million
invested by Mars ($10M + $5M commitment)

The Power of Wild Genetics: 'IAC Sempre Verde'

In standard peanut farming, defending fields against destructive diseases like late leaf spot (LLS) and rust requires intense chemical intervention, often demanding seven to eight fungicide sprayings per season. LLS alone can trigger devastating yield losses of up to 70%.

To eliminate this dependence on agrochemicals, Mars funded a long-term research effort. Scientists at the Instituto Agronômico de Campinas (IAC) and the University of Georgia looked to nature, successfully bridging the ploidy barrier of wild peanut relatives. They introgressed natural disease resistance from Arachis cardenasii—a resilient wild species—into a locally adapted variety. The result is 'IAC Sempre Verde' ("Always Green"), a medium-seeded runner-type peanut built with a natural genetic shield against foliar diseases.



Unlocking a Sustainable, Organic Future

The real-world significance of this cultivar lies in its economic and environmental performance. In extensive field trials conducted completely without fungicide application, 'IAC Sempre Verde' achieved an impressive average yield of 3,838.8 kg/ha. It consistently outpaced standard local cultivars, which collapsed under high disease pressure to yields as low as 1,346.2 kg/ha.

By eliminating the high cost of chemical inputs and fuel, 'IAC Sempre Verde' provides the world's first true opportunity for high-yielding, completely "Organic" peanut cultivation. Looking ahead, Mars's continued funding will advance open-source genomic mapping to cultivate further drought-resistant and climate-resilient varieties with global partners, moving agriculture away from guesswork and toward absolute genetic precision.

Reference:
Crop Breeding and Applied Biotechnology 22(3): e41252232, 2022.

WHY IT MATTERS

- No fungicide applications
- Lower cost of inputs & fuel
- World's first true high-yielding "Organic" peanut cultivation
- Better for farmers & the planet





PEANUT BLOG

nutco®
Just nuts

COPYRIGHT © 2026 AGROCROPS, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Pnutking