

Evaluating Peanut Cultivars Using a Reduced Cost and a Premium Fungicide Program

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Sclerotium rolfsii and *Rhizoctonia solani* are soilborne pathogens that cause white mold and limb rot, major diseases in peanut production. The most effective control of these diseases has been with good crop rotation and fungicides. Fungicides cost Georgia's peanut farmers an estimated \$80 to \$100 per acre each year. Release of new varieties and promising fungicides could offer growers improved management options for white mold and limb rot. The objective of this research was to compare the economic return when either a reduced cost fungicide program or a premium fungicide program was applied to two different varieties (Georgia-06G and Georgia-12Y). The trial was established at the Vidalia Onion and Vegetable Research Center in Lyons, GA. The experimental design was randomized and replicated 6 times. Both programs included seven fungicide applications. The reduced cost treatment was developed around a 4-block tebuconazole (7.2 fl oz/A)/chlorothalonil (1.5 pt/A) program. The premium treatment was developed around a 4-block Fontelis (16 fl oz/A) program with a single application of tebuconazole/chlorothalonil as above. Peanuts were planted on June 1, and dug on November 2. Plots were rated for leaf spot, *Rhizoctonia* limb rot, and white mold.