

International Collaboration Leverages Peanut Research and Crop Improvement.

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Peanut is the epitome of a global crop. Originating in South America, it has spread around the world and is now a key source of protein for the families of subsistence farmers especially in Africa and Asia. At the same time, via international trade, it provides an important source of income for exporting countries, and an affordable source of high-quality nutrition far from where it is grown. It's very fitting then that many of the greatest advances in peanut research and gains in peanut production have come about through international collaboration - from the botanical collections and exchanges that established germplasm resources for global crop improvement, to the genome project that provided essentially complete catalogues of genes and uniform frameworks of reference for research. For peanut, time and again, international collaboration forms the critical mass for advances in research and production.