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Agricultural Resource Management Study *Press Release*

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STUDY FOR PEANUTS TO BE CONDUCTED

(ATHENS, GA, September 15, 2004) –What pesticides are needed to control weeds, insects, and diseases? How are changes in farm programs affecting agricultural productivity? What land conservation practices are agricultural producers using? To gather reliable, objective information about U.S. agriculture, the Georgia Agricultural Statistics Service will conduct the Agricultural Resource Management Study on production practices for peanuts.

This survey will gather information on peanut production practices, chemical applications, and pest management practices. In addition, cost of production data will be obtained. Some 200 producers in Georgia will be included in the study.

This study gives participants an opportunity to set the record straight about issues that affect them, such as use of fertilizers and pesticides on peanuts. Results from this survey will be used to develop agricultural production practices that improve productivity for farm operators and ensure a safer, cleaner working environment for producers, their families, and communities.

Georgia farm operators selected to participate in this year's survey will soon be notified by letter, and interviewers will visit them personally to collect their reports at the operator's convenience. USDA will publish national information on agricultural chemical usage and analyze commodity production costs and returns in a series of reports in 2005.

"We safeguard the confidentiality of all survey responses," said Dave Abbe, Director, Georgia Agricultural Statistics Service. "Data about individual operations are used only in conjunction with information from other producers."

All agricultural statistics published by NASS are available at www.usda.gov/nass/. For more information, call 1-800-253-4419.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: GEORGIA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE TELEPHONE: 1-800-253-4419

Find agricultural statistics for your county, State, and the Nation at www.usda.gov/nass/.