

Economic Feasibility Analysis of Transitioning to Organically Grown Peanuts

David A. Keiser¹, N.B. Smith², W.C. Johnson³, R.S. Tubbs⁴

¹Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics, The University of Georgia, keiser@uga.edu; ²Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics, The University of Georgia, nathans@uga.edu; ³Crop Protection and Management Research, United States Department of Agriculture, Carroll.Johnson@ars.usda.gov; ⁴Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, The University of Georgia, tubs@uga.edu

Summary: Several hurdles still exist in transitioning to an organic peanut production process in the Southeast. In particular, there is little research or information to help peanut growers economically manage the required 3-year transition period from the last application of a non-approved substance to the first organically certified crop. Two different growers are currently transitioning to organic peanut production. An economic analysis based on the first year of data, 2007, is performed to determine the returns on investment. Production costs and yields are collected from grower records and economic returns are analyzed for 2007.