2021 Pecan Update

Lenny Wells

UGA Horticulture

How Do We Keep Pecans Profitable?

	2018	2019	2020
Stuart	$1.44	$1.55	$1.05-$1.30
Moneymaker	$0.8-$1.10	$1.00-1.10	$0.40-$0.70

- Manage Cost
- Fertility costs can be drastically reduced simply by using soil and leaf samples
  - As much as $80/acre
- Become More Efficient---Cut Costs Not Corners
  - More/Same volume for less money
- Varieties---Fungicides account for 12% of variable production cost

Soil Sample Results

	Desired Range (lbs/A)	Mean (lbs/A)	% Low	% High	Sample Range (lbs/A)
Soil P	30-60	98.3	0	90	48-183
Soil K	100-150	153	0	34	94-361
Soil Ca	400-900	988	3	48	192-2241
Soil Mg	90-100	184	7	90	35-436
Soil S	10-50	26.6	3	0	4-41
Soil Fe	12-25	22.6	3	24	8-76
Soil Zn	15-20	25	28	55	3.9-55.3
Soil B	0.5-1.0	0.99	41	14	0.22-6.0
Soil Cu	0.5-1.5	1.1	14	10	0.2-7.2
Soil Mn	15-40	31.9	28	7	13-45
Soil Ni[1]	?	1.26	N/A	N/A	1-7
pH	6.0-6.5	5.96	41	12	5.3-7.0

Cutting Costs and Not Corners

- Lime:
  - **Once soil pH is between 6.0-6.5, lime should be applied to mature orchards only every 3rd year at most on SE Coastal Plain soils or only when soil pH falls below 6.0.**
  - This will save about $27 per acre.

Cutting Costs and Not Corners

- **Phosphorus:**
  - If soil P is less than 30 lbs per acre, broadcast P (usually at a rate of 40 lbs P/acre).
  - If soil P is more than 30 lbs/acre and leaf P<0.12, make a narrow band application of P over the drip emitters or in the wet zone of your irrigation.
  - Otherwise you don't need to make an application of P.
- This will save approximately $18/acre

Cutting Costs and Not Corners

- **Potassium**
  - If soil K drops below 100 lbs/acre: broadcast K. Otherwise you don't need to make a broadcast application of K.
  - If soil K is more than 100 lbs/acre and leaf K is less than 1.1, band K as described for P above.
  - If soil K is more than 100 lbs N and leaf K is 1.1 or more, no K is needed.

- This will save approximately $19/acre

Cutting Costs and Not Corners

- Broadcast Zn to orchard soil at 5-10 lbs/acre during years 1-4
- IN MATURE ORCHARDS: Broadcast Zinc Sulfate ONLY when soil Zn is <15 lbs/acre in mature orchards.
- Can save $15/acre
- If your soil levels are 15 lbs per acre or more but you see visible symptoms of Zinc deficiency or leaf Zn concentrations are below 50 ppm, inject Zn EDTA through the irrigation system.

Nitrogen Form

- No difference in pecan response to AN, AS, and Urea
- AN= expensive and hard to find
- AS = $63.09/acre @ 100 lbs N/A
- Urea = $34.56/acre @100 lbs N/A

Split N applications (75% in April)

On year = additional in June/late August

Herbicides: USE PRE-EMERGE

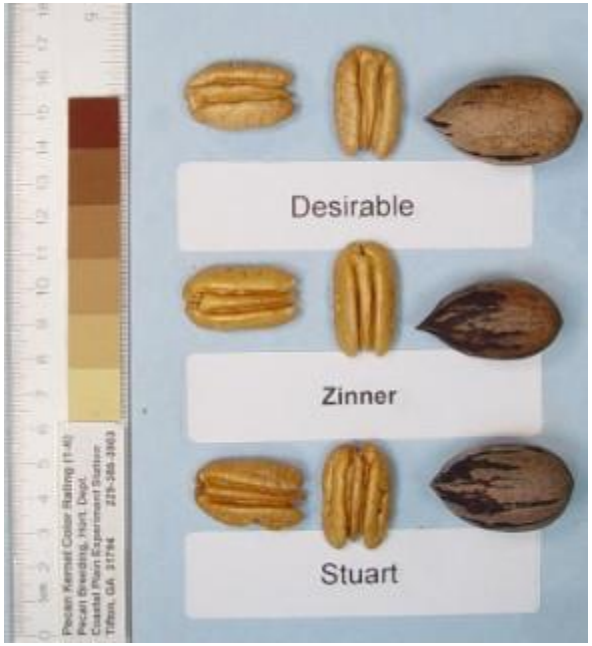
Month	Program	Cost	Program	Cost	Program	Cost
April	Glufosinate 48 oz	12.38	Glufos+Glyph Alion—5 oz	78.32	Glufos+Glyph Tuscany—6 oz	41.32
May	Glufosinate 48 oz	12.38				
June	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94			Glufos+Glyph	23.32
June	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94				
July	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94	Glufos+Glyph Alion---5 oz	78.32		
July	Glysphosate 3 qts	10.94			Glyph Tuscany—6 oz	28.94
August	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94				
September	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94	Glyph+Glufos	23.32	Glufos+Glyph	23.32
Chem Fuel TOTAL		90.40 17.60 $108		179.96 6.60 $186.56		116.90 8.80 $125.70

Herbicides: USE PRE-EMERGE

Month	Program	Cost	Program	Cost	Program	Cost
April	Glufosinate 48 oz	12.38			Glufos+Glyph Tuscany—6 oz	41.32
May	Glufosinate 48 oz	12.38	**Glufos+Glyph Alion—3.5 oz**	**61.82**		
June	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94			Glufos+Glyph	23.32
June	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94				
July	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94				
July	Glysphosate 3 qts	10.94			Glyph Tuscany—6 oz	28.94
August	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94	**Glufos+Glyph Alion---3.5 oz**	**61.82**		
September	Glyphosate 3 qts	10.94			Glufos+Glyph	23.32
Chem Fuel TOTAL		90.40 17.60 $108		**123.64** **4.40** **$128.04**		116.90 8.80 $125.70

What to Plant?

- Avalon
- Zinner
- Caddo
- Creek
- Pawnee
- Lakota
- McMillan
- Excel



2020 Low-Input Test Yields

	Yield	Count	% kernel	Cost/A	Price ($)	Gross ($)	Net ($)
Desirable	1434	46	52	1448.90	1.70	2249.10	800.20
Pawnee*	898	46	57	1424.90	2.35	2110.30	685.40
Lakota	**4296**	**63**	**54**	**1124.08**	**1.35**	**$5799.60**	**$4675.52**
Excel	2993	56	46	1124.08	1.15	$3441.95	$2317.87
McMillan*	1523	63	54	1124.08	1.35	$2056	$931.92

Low Input Test
3-Year Average

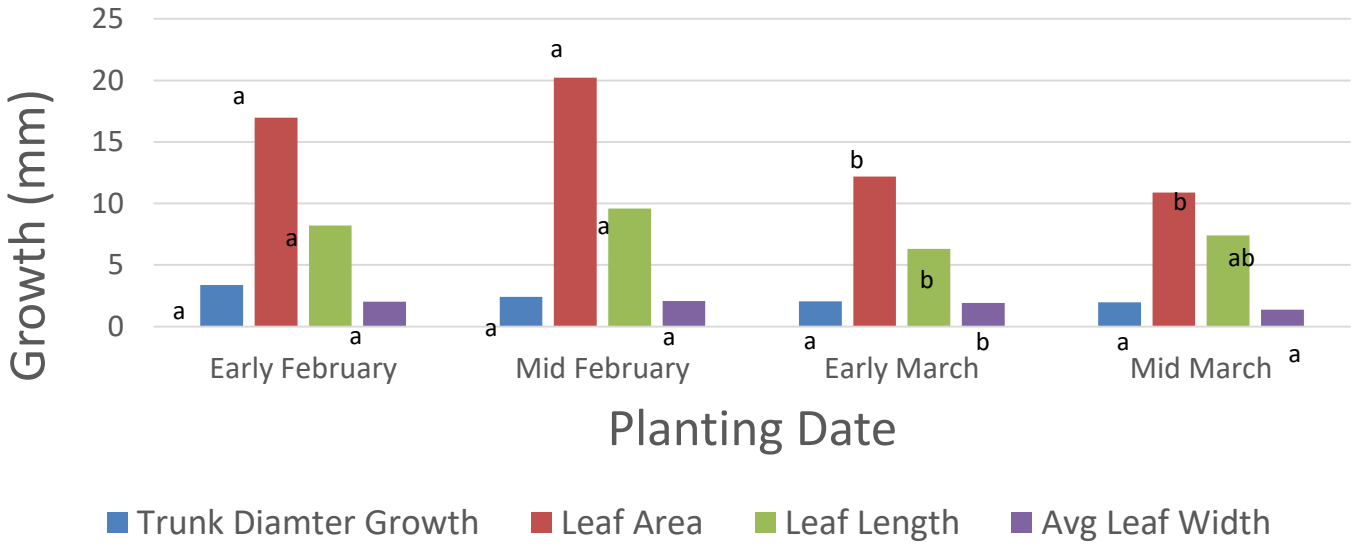
	Yield	Count	% kernel	Cost/A	Price ($)	Gross ($)	Net ($)
Desirable	1490	43	53	1467.98	2.03	3024.70	1556.72
Pawnee*	1068	46	57	1439.98	2.55	2723.4	1283.42
Lakota	**2249**	**48**	**57**	**1154.19**	**1.86**	**4183.14**	**3028.95**
Excel	2260	46	49	1154.19	1.76	3941.60	2787.41
McMillan*	1162	56	53	1154.19	1.77	2056.74	902.55

---Lakota has to be fruit thinned for consistent yields

*Pawnee numbers from commercial orchard
*McMillan trees approx. 1-2 yrs younger than Excel & Lakota

Lakota Issues

Planting Date Study



Thank You

- Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Pecans
- Georgia Pecan Growers Association