

Southeast Missouri Peanut Planning Budget

Using this planning budget, peanut producers may estimate their costs and returns for 2026. Table 1 presents estimates for GMO furrow-irrigated peanut production in southeast Missouri. Assumptions were based on price forecasts as of October 2025. Detailed prices and practices are summarized in Tables 2 and 3. The production practices used to develop these cost estimates are common for southeast Missouri farms. Use the “Your estimate” column to plan your operation’s costs and returns for 2026.

Table 1. Southeast Missouri peanut (furrow-irrigated) planning budget for 2026.

	Dollars per acre	Your estimate
Income		
Peanut sales	1,385.10	
Government payments	48.00	
Less hauling, cleaning and drying	-57.00	
Total income	1,376.10	
Operating costs		
Seed	121.88	
Fertilizer and soil amendments	122.45	
Crop protection chemicals	148.00	
Irrigation ¹	35.85	
Crop supplies, storage and marketing	8.50	
Crop consulting and insurance	36.00	
Custom hire and rental	19.97	
Operator labor and management	63.95	
Machinery fuel	25.99	
Machinery repairs and maintenance	46.78	
Operating interest	21.52	
Total operating costs²	650.89	
Ownership costs		
Farm business overhead	27.52	
Machinery ownership	157.34	
Real estate charge	225.00	
Total ownership costs³	409.86	
Total costs⁴	1,060.75	
Income over operating costs	725.21	
Income over total costs	315.35	
Return to land and management	581.63	

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

1. Irrigation costs are explained in detail on Page 2.

2. Operating costs per pound = \$0.11

3. Ownership costs per pound = \$0.07

4. Total costs per pound = \$0.19

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Irrigation costs in Table 1 include fuel, labor and any leveling, ditching or leveeing required for irrigation; and ownership costs for the pumping engine and aboveground irrigation systems.

Table 2 shows input assumptions for the peanut budget. Price estimates reflect harvest time prices. Costs or returns from storage or other marketing methods are not included. Farm business overhead includes liability insurance, utilities, accounting, etc. Real estate charge is an estimated rental rate for above average land.

Table 3 details the field activities assumed in this budget and their machinery costs. Machinery costs were estimated using typical life (years), use (hours) and performance (fuel and labor) factors for each power unit and implement used.

Table 2. Input assumptions used in southeast Missouri peanut (furrow-irrigated) planning budget for 2026.

Selected input quantities	Per acre	Selected input prices	Dollars per unit
Peanut yield, pounds	5,700	Peanut market price, per pound	0.24
Seeding rate, pounds	150	Seed, per 2,000 pound bag	1,625.00
Phosphorus rate, pounds P ₂ O ₅	65	Phosphorus, per pound P ₂ O ₅	0.73
Potassium rate, pounds K ₂ O	100	Potassium, per pound K ₂ O	0.42
Lime rate, tons	0.5	Lime, per ton	35.00
Skilled operator labor, hours	1.01	Skilled operator labor, dollars per hour	22.50
Irrigation water, acre-inches applied	15	Irrigation water applied, cost per acre-inch	2.39
Operating interest, annual percentage	7.25	Farm diesel, per gallon	2.90

Table 3. Machinery assumptions used in southeast Missouri peanut (furrow-irrigated) planning budget for 2026, on a per acre basis.

Machine activity (not custom fieldwork)	Passes per acre	Fuel (gallons)	Labor (hours)	Operating costs ¹ (dollars)	Ownership costs ² (dollars)	Total costs (dollars)
Bed hipper (36 feet), 280 HP MFWD	1	0.55	0.04	4.28	5.04	9.32
Bed leveler (36 feet), 340 HP MFWD	1	0.50	0.03	3.59	3.98	7.57
Row crop planter (30 feet), 280 HP MFWD	1	0.82	0.07	10.94	16.02	26.96
Self-propelled boom sprayer (120 feet), 275 HP	5	0.63	0.05	14.06	8.00	22.06
Peanut digger (24 feet), 200 HP MFWD	1	1.12	0.13	10.55	12.32	22.87
Peanut combine (18 feet), 280 HP MFWD	1	2.82	0.23	25.82	51.02	76.84
Peanut dump cart (30 feet), 200 HP MFWD		1.76	0.21	14.15	18.47	32.62
Pickup (1 ton), 4WD		0.75	0.25	12.05	4.96	17.01
Dry fertilizer application, custom charge	1					7.37
Aerially apply chemicals, custom charge	1					12.60
Total		8.96	1.01	95.45	119.81	235.23

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Abbreviations: 4WD = 4-wheel drive; HP = horsepower; MFWD = mechanical front-wheel drive tractor.

1. Machinery operating cost is the sum of fuel, repairs, maintenance and the value of labor.
2. Machinery ownership cost is the sum of machinery overhead and depreciation.

Producers can customize this budget using the [Southeast Missouri Crop Budgets workbook \(XLSX\)](https://extension.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pro/AgBusinessPolicyExtension/Docs/crop-budgets-semo.xlsx) (extension.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pro/AgBusinessPolicyExtension/Docs/crop-budgets-semo.xlsx).

Each crop budget has an accompanying sensitivity analysis so producers can see how their financial return to land and management varies with different crop yields and crop prices.



Check out the complete collection of Missouri crop and livestock enterprise budgets at muext.us/MissouriAgBudgets