

## **Economic Feasibility of Peanut Based Biodiesel Production**

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**Abstract:** There has been increased emphasis on alternate energy sources in recent years. This interest stems from diminishing supplies of fossil fuels combined with an ever-increasing global demand for energy. Biodiesel constitutes one such source of alternate energy. It is a renewable diesel fuel substitute that can be manufactured from a variety of naturally occurring oils and fats. Several methods of production have been tried and successfully implemented to develop biodiesel as a viable energy source. Peanuts constitute the principal source of biodiesel in most of these methods. Georgia is the most productive state in the country for producing peanuts, it accounting for approximately 45 percent of the crop's national acreage and production. Last year Georgia farmers harvested 755,000 acres of peanuts, for a yield of 2.2 billion pounds (EPA, 2010). Southern Georgia is the most productive region due to its coastal plain region, which runs from Columbus through Macon to Augusta. This paper examines the economic feasibility of biodiesel production in southeast Georgia

*Keywords:* Economic Feasibility, Biodiesel, Yield