Executive Summary of the
Sustainable U.S. Peanuts Initiative
2022 Year-One Impact Report

In 2021, the U.S. peanut industry came together to fund an effort to document, track, and communicate the sustainability of U.S. peanut production, starting at the field level with farmers themselves. The Sustainable U.S. Peanuts Initiative, managed by the American Peanut Council, serves as the coordinating point for sustainability-related efforts. The goals of the Sustainable U.S. Peanuts Initiative are to:

- Create a platform that helps growers document and measure their environmental footprint on a journey toward improvement.

- Produce tools to help the industry tell the positive story about the sustainability of peanuts to their customers, government, trading partners, and other stakeholders.

- Address the interest of consumers in sustainably produced products.

The report details the aggregated inputs from grower participants, demonstrating the efficiency of peanut production, along with outputs such as GHG Emissions per ton of peanuts and how peanut production supports biodiversity.

The peanut industry has taken a significant and proactive step to increase the transparency of peanut production, address buyers' interest in sustainability, and help growers understand their environmental footprint and ways to improve over time.

The initiative's pilot year demonstrates that growers are willing to participate. We encourage the entire peanut supply chain to come together to support growers in this initiative.

The report includes a glimpse of the wealth of information we can produce on behalf of the peanut industry. It represents the beginning of what we hope will be a long-term effort to be a leading global agricultural commodity with consistent transparency about our footprint and the steps we are taking toward continuous improvement.

Key Accomplishments of Year One

1. APC launched the Sustainable U.S. Peanuts grower platform and, with help from across the industry, recruited 69 growers for a pilot program. The participant growers enrolled nearly 40,500 peanut acres, an estimated 2.5% of the total U.S. peanut acreage for 2021.

2. APC established partnerships and collaborations with multiple organizations in peanuts and other commodities, such as soybean, corn, and sorghum.

3. APC became a major partner in a Climate-Smart proposal from Clemson University titled "Building Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities in South Carolina," which received a funding ceiling of $70 million from USDA. South Carolina peanut growers will receive funds for conservation practices and other improvements, and the project will use our grower platform for their data needs. Two other proposals (one from Yale and the other from Auburn University) also included the American Peanut Council as a major partner, with USDA's second round of funding announcement still pending.

4. Worked directly with one of the leading organizations in commodity sustainability, The Sustainability Consortium (TSC), to harmonize our program with their data requirements. TSC is the developer of the THESIS KPIs surveys, a significant framework for tracking sustainability commitments from manufacturers. Our platform can provide 80% of the answers to relevant questions from THESIS, which increases the transparency of peanut production and meets the sustainability interests of manufacturers and retailers.

5. The publication of the impact report on the pilot year enrollments.

AMERICAN PEANUT COUNCIL