Frequently Asked Questions

- **Where do I enroll for Sustainable U.S Peanuts?**
  https://sustainableuspeanuts.org/

- **What is the purpose of the SUSP?**
  Peanut growers have a great sustainability story to tell, and Sustainable U.S. Peanuts is helping them tell it. The SUSP supports America's peanut industry with metrics on the most efficient use of production resources, as well as encourages farm operation sustainability practices that will help meet customer expectations, lead to increased demand for peanuts and set the stage for long-term economic viability.

- **What is the benefit of participating to growers?**
  For peanut growers to be productive and profitable, the industry will need to increase demand for peanuts, and in our current market one of the biggest drivers for demand is quickly becoming sustainability. Because consumers are demanding sustainable food production practices, manufacturers, retailers and our international trading partners have the same expectations. To be competitive, both domestically and internationally, the industry will need to prove and document peanut sustainability, which is the goal of the SUSP. Further, growers gain insights on their practices, with the confidence that data is aggregated and anonymized for industry reporting.

- **How long does it take to enroll/reenroll?**
  Growers enroll by completing an annual self-assessment (10-20 minutes) and field-level survey (20-30 minutes). Subsequent years' enrollment times are much faster after a grower's initial enrollment, as the self-assessment only needs reviewing.

- **How often will I need to re-enroll?**
  Growers will need to reenroll their crop annually.

- **What information/documents/tools will I need to enroll?**
  - Computer or phone with internet access
  - Email address (that the enrollee has access to) for account confirmation email

- o Ability to digitally locate and map 10% of peanut acreage for current enrollment year
- o Irrigation amount, depth of well and pressure at pump (if applicable) on mapped peanut acres
- o Fertilizer type (manure, lime, N-P-K), amount and timing on mapped peanut acres (if applicable)
- o Pesticide spray trips and number of products in each trip on mapped peanut acres (if applicable)
- o Average yield for each field mapped

- **How do I connect my cotton and peanut accounts?**
  Growers who are enrolled in the Cotton Trust Protocol can connect their account with Sustainable U.S. Peanuts to streamline their enrollment, and vice versa. After logging in, the top of the dashboard screen will show the option to visit the other platform to connect accounts or import enrollment data from the other platform.

- **Is there a financial incentive to participate in the SUSP?**
  Sustainable U.S. Peanuts is currently funded by industry participants to maintain a credible process, platform and knowledgeable oversight. Enrolling in the program is free. There is no financial incentive to participate. Depending on a grower's marketing agreement with a sheller or buying point, there may be opportunities available independent of the American Peanut Council.

- **Who gets the data from the platform and how is it presented?**
  Individual information is never shared and can only be viewed by the program administrator, which is the American Peanut Council's director of sustainability. Program data is nationally aggregated annually to give a complete look at sustainability metrics in overall U.S. peanut production.

- **Will shellers or the government ever have access to growers' individual information?**
  No. Growers' individual information will never be shared by APC with any individual, business or government entity. Growers do have the option to share their individual enrollment information with a Trusted Representative if one is selected, but that is at the discretion of the grower and not a requirement for enrollment. All individual information is strictly confidential.

- **Is there an audit/third party verification?**
  A grower may be randomly selected to undergo an on-farm verification by an outside contractor, limited to once every three years at a maximum. This step provides an

additional level of assurance to the program. If selected for an audit, a review of farm records related to the platform responses would be requested.

- **Is there a chance a grower can be penalized or told to change their management practices due to any of the information shared in enrollment?**
  No, a grower will not be penalized or told to change their management practices. SUSP is a voluntary initiative collecting data on sustainability metrics of U.S. peanut production as a whole.

- **Do growers need a separate account for each entity farmed?**
  No, a grower will only need to set up one account. During enrollment there will be an opportunity to list multiple entities, if applicable.

- **If family members farm both together and separately, would they need individual accounts or can they make one account?**
  There is flexibility in the SUSP platform for enrolling a grower's individual/family business arrangement. Contact APC Director of Sustainability Allie Randell for assistance on this.

- **Do you have to meet certain requirements to be eligible to enroll (acreage, irrigation, pesticide/fertilizer use, etc.)?**
  No. All U.S. peanut growers are eligible—and encouraged—to enroll in the initiative.

- **How is Sustainable U.S. Peanuts funded?**
  The SUSP is supported and funded by the peanut industry, including growers, shellers, manufacturers and allied partners. Visit https://sustainableuspeanuts.org to see our founding sponsors and to learn more about supporting our mission.

- **Who do I contact for additional information or help with enrollment?**
  Contact Allie Randell, director of sustainability at the American Peanut Council, at arandell@peanutsusa.com or 386-209-2951.