

# A LOOK AT GEORGIA AGRICULTURE

## GEORGIA AG EXPERIENCE

A MOBILE CLASSROOM POWERED BY



GEORGIA  
FOUNDATION  
FOR AGRICULTURE



### Capital:

Atlanta

### Population:

10.8 million

### Founded:

January 2, 1788 (4th)

### State Bird:

Brown Thrasher

### State Tree:

Live Oak

### State Flower:

Cherokee Rose

### Number of

Counties: 159

### Largest City:

Atlanta - 496,461

### Nickname:

Peach State

### Number of Farms:

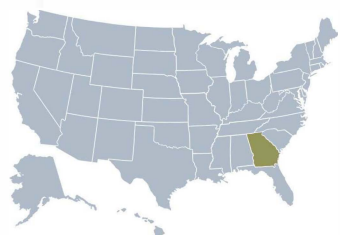
42,439

### Average Farm

Size: 235 acres

### Total Farmland:

9.95 billion acres



## Climate & Soil

· A humid subtropical climate with mild winters and hot moist summers is characteristic of most of Georgia. This, combined with a variety of soil types from the coast to the mountains, makes it an ideal place to produce a diverse variety of crops and livestock.

· Monthly average temperatures range from a high of 92.2°F to a low of 32.6°F.

· The average annual rainfall varies from 40" in central Georgia to more than 75" in northeast Georgia.

· Geographically, Georgia can be divided into eight soil provinces or major land resource areas. They are Southern Appalachian, Sand Mountain, Blue Ridge, Southern Coastal Plain, Black Lands, Southern Piedmont, Sand Hill, and Atlantic Coast Flatwoods.

· Georgia is the leading kaolin clay-producing state in the Country.

## Crops & Livestock

· Georgia peanut farmers grow almost half of all the peanuts in the United States. Peanuts are a \$2.2 billion industry in Georgia.

· Georgia was the first colony to produce cotton commercially, first planting it near Savannah in 1734. Georgia ranks second nationally in cotton production. Georgia farmers produce about \$1 billion worth of it every year!

· Although Georgia is called the Peach State, it actually ranks third in United States peach production behind California and South Carolina. The Georgia peach crop is valued at nearly \$85 million in 2021.

· In 1986, Georgia passed legislation giving Vidalia onions, known by many as the sweetest onion in the world, legal status and defining the 20-county production area. The Vidalia onion was named Georgia's official state vegetable in 1990.

· Fruit and Vegetable production has increased significantly in Georgia. Georgia's top four fruits are watermelon, peaches, cantaloupes, and blueberries.

· Gainesville, Georgia is known as the "Chicken Capital of the World. Georgia ranks as the top poultry production state in the nation. The overall annual economic impact to the state is more than \$28 billion.

· Beef cattle are raised in all of the counties in Georgia.

## General

· One out of seven Georgians works in agriculture, forestry or a related sector.

· Agriculture contributes more than \$76 billion annually to Georgia's \$1.07 trillion dollar economic output.

· More than 67% of Georgia is in forestland. Forestry has a \$36 billion revenue output in Georgia.

· Georgia's top ten commodities in order of their rank are broilers, eggs, cotton, beef, timber, peanuts, greenhouse, dairy, blueberries and corn.

· Georgia ranks first in the U.S. in the production of peanuts, pecans, broilers.

· Coca-Cola was invented in May 1886 by Dr. John S. Pemberton in Atlanta, Georgia.

· Plains is the home of Jimmy Carter, the 39th President and a Nobel Peace Prize Winner in 2002.

· Georgia was the first state to charter a state university, the University of Georgia. It was founded in 1785.

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