

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
AND
INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'ARBROOK' RHIZOMA PEANUT

The United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida announce the release of 'Arbrook' rhizoma peanut (Arachis glabrata Benth.)

Rhizoma peanut is a perennial warm season legume native to Brazil, Paraguay and the surrounding areas. It is well adapted to the well-drained soils of peninsular Florida. The extended range reaches north inland to Americus, Georgia and along the coast from Mississippi to South Carolina. It reaches a height of 12-18 inches (30-45 centimeters) and has quadrifoliate leaves with leaflets 1-2 inches (3-5 centimeters) long and 1/4-3/4 inch (1-2 centimeters) wide. Arbrook produces some attractive, yellow to orange flowers, but only an occasional subterranean nut, so propagation and spread is by rhizomes.

Arbrook was introduced from Paraguay as PI-262817 in 1959 by the **Crops** Research Branch of the Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture. It was initially selected from an assembly of 106 Arachis accessions, 30 of which were positively identified as Arachis glabrata, at the Arcadia and later the Brooksville Plant Materials Centers of the Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture (hence the name Arbrook). Arbrook

was further evaluated with several other accessions at the Brooksville Plant Materials Center and the University of Florida for forage quantity and quality.

Arbrook was originally selected for its tall height and rapid regrowth in the spring, giving it more reliability as a hay crop before Florida's summer rainy season. The overall forage production of Arbrook is comparable (5 tons per acre) to the released cultivar Florigraze. Hay production of Arbrook in Florida's dry spring and in droughty years has been consistently greater (2-5 versus 1-4 tons per acre) than Florigraze. Survival of field plantings on droughty deep sands common to the range of adaptation has been equal to or better than Florigraze. Crude protein is lower than Florigraze (13-14% versus 16-17%) in years with normal precipitation, and comparable to Florigraze (14-19%) in droughty years and in the dry spring. Digestibility (IVOMD) is comparable to Florigraze (64-65%) in years with normal precipitation and often greater than Florigraze in droughty years and springs.

Arbrook has larger stems and rhizomes than Florigraze and shoots are taller (18 inches [$\sqrt{45}$ centimeters] versus 12 inches [$\sqrt{30}$ centimeters]) on a 60-day cutting cycle. Leaflets of Arbrook are both longer and wider than Florigraze.

Arbrook rhizome planting material will be distributed through the Florida Seed Producers Foundation. Breeders' stock of Arbrook will be maintained by Agronomy Department, University of Florida at Gainesville and the Plant Materials Center at Brooksville.

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9-30-85

Date

R. Johnson

ACTING

State Conservationist, U. S. Department of Agriculture,
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10-8-85

Date

John M. Saylor Jr.

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10/21/85

Date