

# State of Mississippi

## Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

# Agriculture Fact Sheet Pecans 2015



- Mississippi ranks #7 in the United States in pecan production, producing 1,300,000 pounds.
- In 2015, Mississippi had 570 pecan farms with 8,482 total acres in 2015.
- Orchards range in size from 25 to 500 acres.
- The pecan is a valuable source of protein and is rich in vitamins and minerals including iron, calcium, potassium, phosphorus and the B vitamins. Pecans also provide fiber that is important to the diet.
- Pecans are long lasting and, when properly stored, hold their freshness for up to two years. Store unshelled pecans in a cool, dry place.
- A survey among nationwide consumers showed that the majority preferred nuts with rich, full flavor. Pecans are ready to use in their natural state.
- The pecan has a higher nutritional value per edible pound than wheat flour without the excess starch and waste materials found in the latter.
- Standards for purchased pecans:
  - Purchase unshelled pecans that are uniform in color, shape and size.
  - Watch for cracks or insect holes as they denote an inferior nut.

Source: Mississippi State University

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