**Planting**  
Peanut seeds from the previous year’s crop are planted after the last frost in April or May when the soil temperature is 65-70 degrees. Specialists at the SCDA seed lab test seeds for germination to make sure farmers are getting the highest quality seeds.

**Applying Land Plaster**  
Peanuts need more calcium than soil alone can supply, so farmers apply additional sources to meet the high requirements of the crop.

**Mid Season**  
Farmers scout for mid-season peanut diseases to identify any potential threats to the plant and determine if it’s necessary to apply fungicide.

**Combining**  
Once the peanuts are dry, they are collected using a combine. The combine removes the peanuts in their hulls, deposits them into the hopper or wagon and returns the vines to the ground where they will help improve soil nutrition through addition of organic matter.

**Winnowing**  
The exposed rows of peanuts are left in the field for a few days following digging to dry.

**Digging**  
In October, farmers dig their peanuts using an attachment on their tractor. The peanut plants are uprooted, exposing the peanuts to the sun.

**Loading to Buying Point**  
Farmers transport their peanuts to the buying point where the peanuts will be purchased by retailers and wholesalers, or will go for further processing into peanut butter or other products.

**Sampling**  
SCDA certified peanut inspectors grade peanuts for quality, and oversee all aspects of the sampling process including the sale of the peanuts, the workers at the buying point and how the seeds are stored.

**Enjoy!**  
Peanuts are sold in the shell or are made into other foods like peanut butter or peanut oil, a premium cooking oil. Enjoy this naturally cholesterol free, protein-packed powerhouse!