

Peanut Prices and Budgets

Derek Washburn
Agricultural and Resource Economics
North Carolina State University

David Jordan
Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

919-810-6611
david_jordan@ncsu.edu

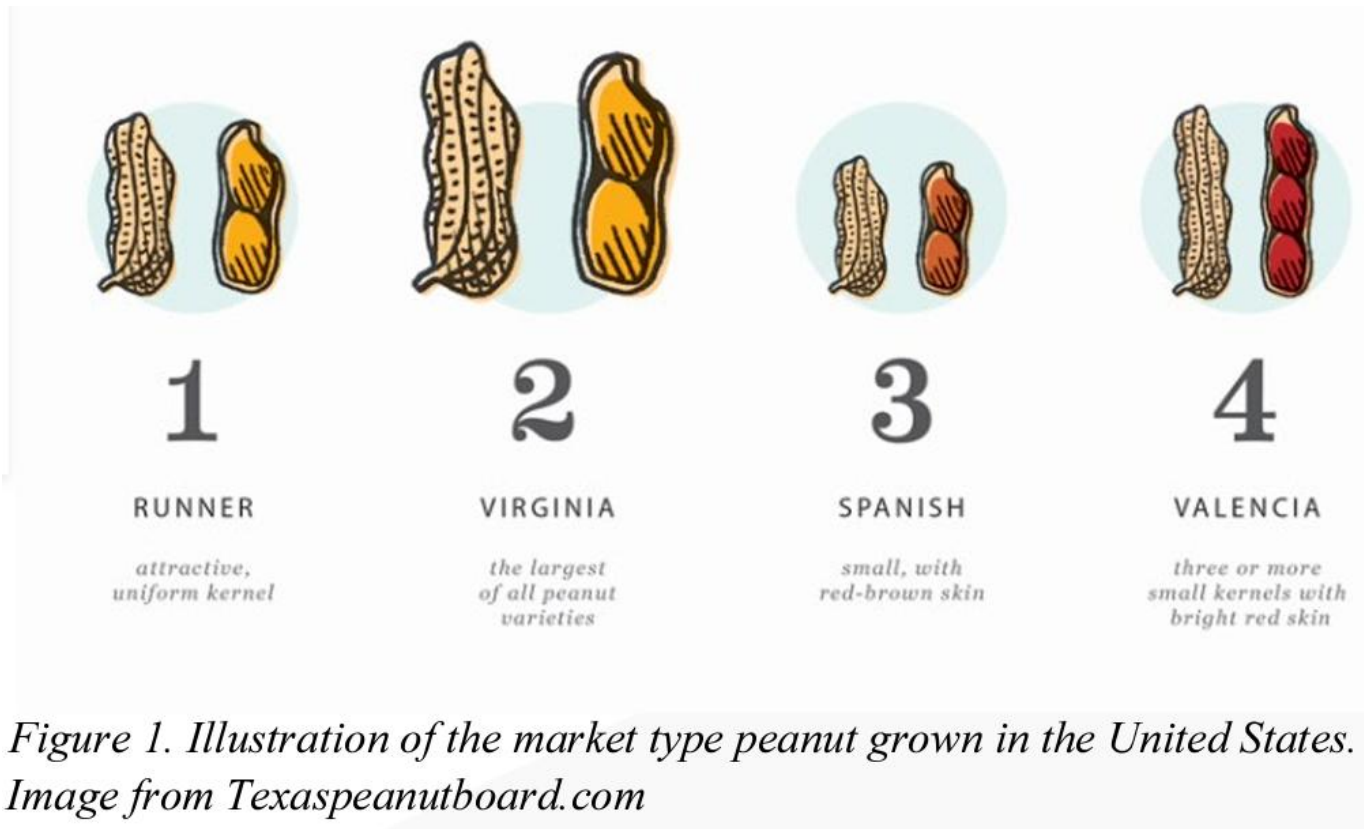


Figure 1. Illustration of the market type peanut grown in the United States. Image from Texaspeanutboard.com

Figure caption: example sketches of pods for the four peanut market types

The market price comparison of the grades of milled Virginia market type peanut

Jumbo VA In Shell	No Runner comparable grade
Fancy VA In Shell	No Runner comparable grade
Extra Large VA kernels	No Runner comparable grade
Medium VA Shelled kernels	Compares to Runner Jumbo grade
No. 1 VA Shelled kernels	Compares to Runner No. 1 grade
No. 2 VA Shelled kernels	Compares to Runner Splits grade
Oil Stock VA Shelled kernels	Compares to Runner Oil Stock grade

Prices for Virginia Market Types

Prior to 2003 - \$610/ton on quota, dividend on remaining stocks

2003 to present: \$355/ton without contract (loan rate) and target price of \$495/ton

2003, \$500/ton on all production

2004, \$475/ton with seed premium (\$25/ton)

2005, \$450/ton, seed premium, contracts limited

2006, \$425/ton, seed premium, portion of 2005 contract

2007, \$490/ton, seed premium

2008, \$600/ton, seed premium

2009, \$480/ton, seed premium

2010, \$525/ton, seed premium

2011, \$675/ton, seed premium

2012, \$700/ton, seed premium

2013, \$540/ton, seed premium

2014, \$550/ton, seed premium

2015, \$525/ton, seed premium

2016, \$475/ton, seed premium

2017, \$525/ton, seed premium

2018, \$450/ton, seed premium

2019 and 2020, \$475/ton, seed premium

2021, 2022, and 2023, \$550/ton, seed premium

2024, 2025, \$540/ton, seed premium

Agricultural and Resource Economics

Enterprise Budgets

- Beef Budgets
- Cotton Budgets
- Dairy Budget
- Forage Budgets
- Grain Budgets
- Irrigation Budgets
- Organic Grains
- Outdoor Hogs
- Peanut Budgets
- Poultry Budgets

Enterprise Budgets

This page supplies the tools and resources required to help North Carolina farmers make informed planting decisions.

The 2025 [crop comparison tool](#) can be used to make planting decisions based on current input prices.

ENTERPRISE BUDGETS

Beef →

Cotton →

Dairy →

Forage →

Peanut →

Poultry →

Blackberry →

Strawberry →



Derek Washburn

Extension Associate, Farm Management,
Agricultural and Resource Economics →

Figure caption: entry page for crop enterprise budgets

Peanut Budgets

- Seed
- Inoculant
- Fertilizer (N-P-K)
- Lime
- Gypsum
- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Fungicides
- Scouting
- Hauling, Drying, Cleaning
- State and National check offs
- Tractor/machinery
- Interest on operating capital
- Other costs (rent, etc.)

2026 Peanut Information

Table 1-4. Estimated Costs and Returns per Acre of VIRGINIA CONVENTIONAL-TILL Peanuts, 2026—4,200-lb Yield, 4-Row Equipment

Category	Item	Quantity and Unit	Price or Cost per Unit (\$)	Total per Acre (\$)	Your Farm
1. GROSS RECEIPTS	Peanuts	4,200 lb	0.275	1,155.00	
	Total Receipts			1,155.00	
2. VARIABLE COSTS	Seed	130.00 lb	0.93	120.90	
	Inoculant	0.25 acre	1.10	0.28	
	Fertilizer, nitrogen*	0.00 lb	0.14	0.00	
	Fertilizer, phosphate*	30.00 lb	0.36	10.80	
	Fertilizer, potash*	90.00 lb	0.24	21.60	
	Fertilizer, manganese*	3.00 lb	0.60	1.80	
	Fertilizer, boron*	3.00 lb	1.50	4.50	
	Lime (prorated)	0.50 ton	82.00	41.00	
	Gypsum (spread)	0.60 ton	35.00	21.00	
	Herbicides**	1.00 acre	47.94	47.94	
	Insecticides**	1.00 acre	73.01	73.01	
	Fungicides**	1.00 acre	68.82	68.82	
	Prohexadione Calcium**	1.00 acre	22.65	22.65	
	Consulting Services	1.00 acre	20.00	20.00	

	Consulting Services	1.00 acre	20.00	20.00	
	Hauling	2.10 ton	12.00	25.15	
	Drying and Cleaning	2.10 ton	45.00	94.31	
	State Check-Off Fee	2.10 ton	3.00	6.29	
	National Assessment	\$1,155.00	0.95%	10.97	
	Crop Insurance	1.00 acre	30.00	30.00	
	Tractor/Machinery	1.00 acre	92.78	92.78	
	Labor	2.35 hours	16.16	37.98	
	Interest on Operating Capital	\$282.53	7.250%	20.48	
	Total Variable Costs			772.26	
3.	INCOME ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS			382.74	
4. FIXED COSTS	Machinery/Overhead	1.00 acre	279.36	279.36	
	Total Fixed Costs			279.36	
5.	TOTAL COSTS			1,051.62	
6.	NET RETURNS TO LAND, RISK, and MANAGEMENT***			103.38	

*Fertilizer is listed as cost per lb of fertilizer.

**Adjuvant costs are distributed evenly across pesticide applications.

***Consulting services include soil sampling with analysis and scouting in season.

To see yield and price tables for break-even analysis, visit go.ncsu.edu/enterprise-budgets.

Misc Memo	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE		Submitted Sample
	Federal-State Inspection Service Peanut Inspection Notesheet		V260203
Applicant States			
Farm Producer: 00-000-0000000 Dave Jordan - NCSU Crop Scienc NC	Buying Point: 1 Williamston Main Office Williamston, NC	Type of Peanut: Virginia Crop Year: 2025 Weight Ticket: FRI1A Wgt Inc. Conveyance: 0	
Lot #: FRI1A Load #: FRI1A	Applicant: 150 NCSU Crop Science Raleigh, NC		1 Bags

Completed: 12:32 PM P.P.No: N/A Conveyance ID: FRI1A
A.FLAVUS NOT FOUND Segregation: 1

887.0 gr		Foreign Material Sample
2.5 gr	0 %	Foreign Material
4.3 gr	0 %	LSK
	6 %	Moisture (6.2)
503.0 gr		Cleaned Sample
333.8 gr	66 %	Fancy
261.6 gr		Kernels Riding ELK Screen
1.0 gr		Total ELK Damage
260.6 gr	52 %	Net ELK
87.9 gr		Kernels Riding Prescribed Screen
349.5 gr		Total KRS
2.5 gr		Damage KRS
347.0 gr	69 %	SMKRS
22.8 gr	5 %	Sound Splits
	74 %	Total SMK
10.6 gr	2 %	Other Kernels
1.2 gr		Damage Splits
3.7 gr	1 %	Total Damage
	77 %	Total Kernels
117.1 gr	23 %	Hulls
	100 %	Total Kernels & Hulls
0.0 gr	0 %	Freeze Damage
0.0 gr	0 %	Concealed RMD
0.0 gr	0 %	Worm Damage

Remarks: 00.00% cracked and broken shells based on 101.7g sample reported at appl request. FRI1A.

Figure caption: screen shot of market grades for a peanut sample

The screenshot displays an Excel spreadsheet with the following structure:

- Columns:** Labeled G through AJ. Columns G through M are highlighted in green, representing market grade factors. Columns N through Y are highlighted in gray, representing various market grade factors. Columns Z through AJ are highlighted in blue, representing financial return calculations.
- Row 12 (Header):**
 - Columns G-M: poundsac, LSK, FM, Moisture, TotalELK, SS, OK, DK, SMK, TotalKern, TSMK
 - Columns N-Y: NetFMlbs, NetEMlbs, NetSKlbs, NetTons, TSMKValu, OKValue, ELKValue, TotalKern, DamageD, FMDiscou, SSDiscou, NetLoanR, ValueWOI, LSKValue, ReceiptLo, LoanValu, Target535, base, haul
- Data Rows (13-48):** Each row contains numerical values corresponding to the headers above. The values for the green columns (G-M) are consistently 1.00, 2.00, 6.0, 49, 12.0, 2.0, 0.0, 61.0, 74.0, 73.0, 33.3, 0.0, 33.30, 1.6317, 359.598, 1.4, 16.45, 377.448, 0, 0, 2, 375, 611.966, 2.331, 614.297, 614.3, 927.593, 723, 9.657.

Figure caption: screen shot from excel file using peanut yield (green column on left) and various market grade factors (central columns in gray) to calculate financial return at loan rate (\$355/ton) and target price (\$535/ton) (blue column on right)

Table 1-5. Return to Land, Overhead, and Management at Various Yields and Costs of Production for Peanuts

Peanut Yield (lb/acre)	Net Return (\$/acre) at \$600/ton					
	Total Cost of Production (\$/acre)					
	850	900	950	1,000	1,050	1,100
	Net Return (\$/acre)					
3,000 (1.5 tons)	50	0	-50	-100	-150	-200
3,500 (1.75 tons)	200	150	100	50	0	-50
4,000 (2 tons)	350	300	250	200	150	100
4,500 (2.25 tons)	500	450	400	350	300	250
5,000 (2.5 tons)	650	600	550	500	450	400

Peanut Yield (lb/acre)	Net Return (\$/acre) at \$535/ton					
	Total Cost of Production (\$/acre)					
	850	900	950	1,000	1,050	1,100
	Net Return (\$/acre)					
3,000 (1.5 tons)	-48	-98	-148	-198	-248	-298
3,500 (1.75 tons)	86	36	-14	-64	-114	-164
4,000 (2 tons)	220	170	120	70	20	-30
4,500 (2.25 tons)	354	304	254	204	154	104
5,000 (2.5 tons)	488	438	388	338	288	238

Peanut Yield (lb/acre)	Net Return (\$/acre) at \$535/ton					
	Total Cost of Production (\$/acre)					
	850	900	950	1,000	1,050	1,100
	Net Return (\$/acre)					
3,000 (1.5 tons)	-48	-98	-148	-198	-248	-298
3,500 (1.75 tons)	86	36	-14	-64	-114	-164
4,000 (2 tons)	220	170	120	70	20	-30
4,500 (2.25 tons)	354	304	254	204	154	104
5,000 (2.5 tons)	488	438	388	338	288	238

Peanut Yield (lb/acre)	Net Return (\$/acre) at \$470/ton					
	Total Cost of Production (\$/acre)					
	850	900	950	1,000	1,050	1,100
	Net Return (\$/acre)					
3,000 (1.5 tons)	-145	-195	-245	-295	-345	-395
3,500 (1.75 tons)	-28	-78	-128	-178	-228	-278
4,000 (2 tons)	90	40	-10	-60	-110	-160
4,500 (2.25 tons)	208	158	108	58	8	-43
5,000 (2.5 tons)	325	275	225	175	125	75

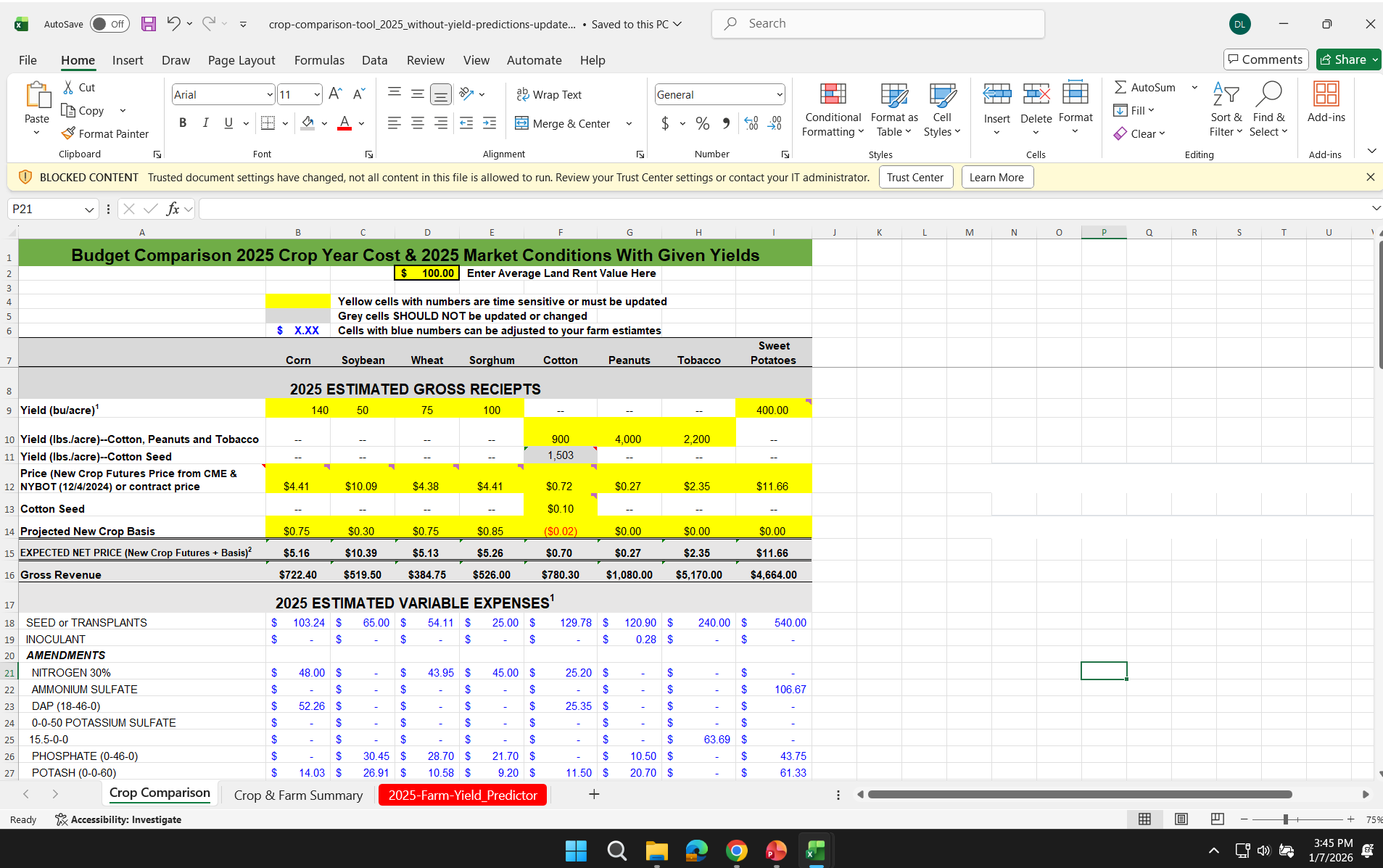


Figure caption: portion of crop budget comparison tool

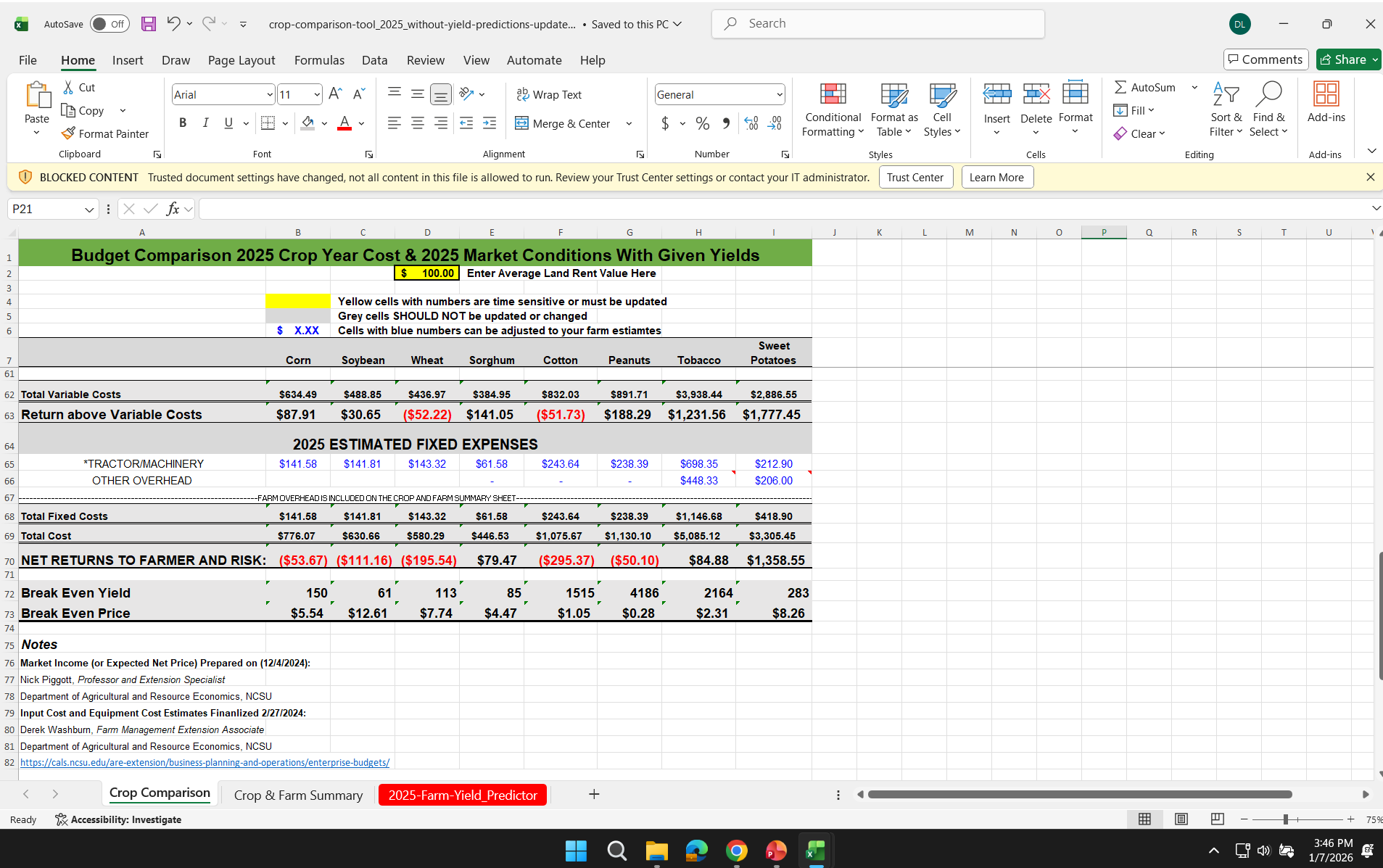


Figure caption: portion of crop budget comparison tool