

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - KENT FOUNTAIN, SOUTHEASTERN GIN & PEANUT



Southeastern Gin & Peanut has been a GAC member since 1995, and Premium Peanut has been a member since 2017. Mr. Kent Fountain works with both companies; he is the President of Southeastern Gin & Peanut, the Chairman of Premium Peanut, and will also serve as the Chairman of the Georgia Ports Authority beginning July 1st, 2023, and the Treasurer of the Georgia Seed Development Commission.

Mr. Fountain began his career in agriculture with the opening of Southeastern Gin & Peanut in 1995. Over the past twenty-plus years, Mr. Fountain has experienced many changes in technology, laws, and the economy that have assisted with many of his accomplishments on the farm and in the ag industry. He says that efficiency is his biggest accomplishment, and he strives every year to be more efficient than the last. Mr. Fountain has been a leader in the ag industry, and his involvement with Premium Peanut shows his deep love for the industry. Premium Peanut is a grower-owned peanut sheller, oil, and seed company located in Douglas, GA. It handles more than 10% of the United States' peanut crop.

The agriculture industry is deep-rooted and family oriented according to Mr. Fountain. His father worked as a county agent in Wayne County and owes the start of his love for the agriculture industry to his father. After working for many years in the agriculture industry, Mr. Fountain says, "It's real; there are real people trying to get our food and fiber out of the earth while using technology to feed the world" when asked about the importance of the agriculture industry, he adds, "I don't think there's a better occupation out there."

Mr. Fountain has the unique ability to experience the agriculture industry from various viewpoints due to his involvement across Georgia. His hope for the future of agriculture in Georgia is to educate the masses on the importance of agriculture. Goals, like educating the masses on agriculture, keep the industry rich and flowing; people with like-minds coming together to support and grow the industry make these goals achievable.

