Comparisons of NC2 with the leading commercial varieties of Virginia type peanuts (1966-1968) indicated that NC2 yielded 10% less than NC17 and Florigiant. The total value of NC2 was found to be approximately 10 and 20% less than Florigiant and NC17, respectively. Unintentional selection for reduced seed and fruit size is believed to have altered the market grades of NC2 since its release.

NC2 is lax bunch-type in growth habit. The leaves tend to turn yellow as the plant approaches maturity. NC2 does not mature fruit as early as NC17 or Florigiant but it is considerably earlier in maturing than NC5 in North Carolina.

The market quality of NC2 seed is above average. The testa color is pink and the flavor of this variety has been rated higher than other commercial varieties of Virginia type peanuts.

One of the greatest disadvantages of NC2 has been the tendency of the fruit to produce growth cracks, especially in dry seasons. The fruit also has a thin hull. This feature has been particularly troublesome as mechanization of the peanut industry has increased. The reduced size of NC2 fruit has frequently caused it to be classified as a runner under the market support system.

NC2 was released by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station in 1952. Breeder seed are maintained by the same institution.

REGISTRATION OF NC5 PEANUTS
(Reg. No. 6)
D. A. Emery and W. C. Gregory

'NC5 (Arachis hypogaea L.) is a Virginia type peanut selected in the eighth generation following a cross between 'NC1' ('NC4' × 'Improved Spanish 2-B') and C12 (PT 121067 × 'NC Bunch') made by W. C. Gregory. It was known as NC333 during development.

NC5 has been evaluated extensively since 1957. Between 1957 and its release in 1964, NC5 was compared with 'NC2' in 14 tests over three locations in North Carolina and Virginia. In 11 of the 14 tests NC5 returned from $57 to $200 more per hectare than did NC2. The increased value resulted from higher yields and sizes of fruit and seed than NC2. The shelling percentages of NC5 averaged 1 to 2% below that of NC2. NC5 was released primarily because of its large fruit (average 78 percent fancy size) and its attractive elongate seed.

NC5 has complemented 'Florigiant' in the North Carolina-Virginia peanut belt because its late maturity (approximately 160 days) has tended to produce good yields in years when Florigiant (an early maturing variety) was at a seasonal disadvantage. Thus over a long range study the two varieties are nearly equal in value per hectare with Florigiant given a slight edge in yield and NC5 a slight edge in percent of extra large kernels.

The fruit of NC5 is generally attractive but tend to become detached in the harvesting operation because of a weak peg-pod attachment. The testa is light pink in color, elongate in shape and smooth in appearance.

The plant type is intermediate; sometimes classified as a runner-bunch type. The leaves are easily recognized by their narrow area in the center of the row. This fruiting habit eases problems with cultivation. The ratio also improves harvesting and curing operations.

The most critical period for NC5 is at digging. It is the earliest maturing commercial variety of Virginia type peanuts (approximately 140 days in North Carolina) of the fruit will shed if digging is delayed a few days.

Seed of NC5 are generally less attractive than those of 'Florigiant' but comparable to 'NC2' seed in milling characteristics to other commercial varieties. The flavor of the seed is believed to be more bland.

NC5 was released in 1964 by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station. Other information on NC5 is given by A. J. Norden of the Florida Experiment Station. NC5 was chosen from ten advanced selections as being the most suitable variety for the North Carolina-Virginia peanut belt. The cross was a selection from F998 in the Florida breeding program and known as NC15717 during the study in North Carolina.

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The strict bunch habit of NC5 causes the seed produced in a narrow area in the center of the row. This fruiting habit eases problems with cultivation. The ratio also improves harvesting and curing operations.

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