“Needlepoint” Perennial Peanut as a Groundcover

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‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

- Perennial peanut, *Arachis glabrata*, is being used in some places as a groundcover.
- There are two general types.

1. **Rhizomatous**: Horizontal subterranean plant stems.

2. **Stoloniferous**: Horizontal above ground plant stems sometime called runners.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

- The rhizomatous varieties are drought tolerant and nitrogen fixers.

- The Stoloniferous varieties are not as drought tolerant and do not fix nitrogen.

- ‘Needlepoint’ is rhizomatous and extends itself by underground rhizomes to eventually form an acceptable groundcover.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Abruptly pinnate leaves with four leaflets.

Papilionaceous or pea-like flowers.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

• The following pictures documents the establishment of ‘Needle-Point’ perennial peanuts at one location.

• The pictures were taken on Six Miles Cypress Parkway in Fort Myers, Florida, close to the Red sox spring training stadium.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Planted January, 2008

Facing west
28 March, 2007

Facing west
11 July, 2007
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Facing west
14 April, 2008

Facing west
2 July, 2008
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

In general, space 4” container plants 12” apart on center. One gallon container plants space 18” on centers.

Planted 18” on centers.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Since planting, this site has not been mowed.

2 July, 2008
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Facing south  28 March, 2007

Facing south  11 July, 2007
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Mow as high as possible usually May, July and August.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

**Weed Control:**
Hand pulling is recommended when feasible.

For broadleaf control, use Plateau or 2,4-DB. For grassy weeds control, including Bermudagrass, use Fusilade. Glyphosate can be carefully used as a spot treatment. Spot treatment is also recommended when using the other herbicides.
‘Needlepoint’ Perennial Peanut

Do’s:
• Plant in a well-drained soil
• Plant in a sunny location
• Irrigate to establish
• Supplemental irrigation in the dry season
• Have a weed control strategy