Mississippi ranks #12 in the U.S. in soybean production, producing 116.6 million bushels.

In 2018, Mississippi had 3,274 soybean farms.

The production value of soybeans in 2018 was $1.05 billion.

Soybeans are planted between April 25 and May 25 and harvested between August 15 and November 10.

One bushel of soybeans produces 10.7 pounds of soybean oil or 47.5 pounds of soybean meal.

Both soybean oil and soybean meal are used in a wide variety of food and industrial products ranging from barbecue sauce to candy bars and from paint to dog food.

The protein content of soybean meal ranges from 44 to 55 percent.

Soybean oil is used in 95 percent of all cooking/salad oils and 62 percent of all U.S. shortenings.

Protein in soybeans is nearly comparable to animal protein in quality.

Soybeans are rich in calcium, iron, phosphorus and some of the B vitamins.

Green soybeans are good sources of vitamin A and vitamin C.

Soy milk and full fat soy flour make high protein formulations for babies allergic to cow’s milk. Soy flour and grits are important ingredients in bakery and meat products.

Soybeans can be cooked like any other peas and beans. They have a nutty flavor, and the larger, light colored varieties are better for cooking.

Source: Mississippi State University