

pounds in 1900 to 2,500,000 in 1920.

During the years 1910 through 1925, various real estate organizations and promoters in the southeast planted thousands of acres in pecans. One company sold 25,000 acres of such orchards in five and 10 acre units in Dougherty and Mitchell Counties.

While some of these agencies were trustworthy and worked to help the struggling new pecan industry, other promoters took advantage of the situation. They made extravagant claims for getting rich from pecans with little or no effort or additional costs.

For example, one promoter claimed, "A pecan grove of five acres nets \$2500 yearly with no worry, no loss of crop and little cost of upkeep. The papershell pecan begins bearing in

two years, produces fifty to two hundred and fifty pounds at ten years, with yearly increases thereafter . . . five acres will keep the average family in comfort." Of course, no purchaser ever realized as much as promised by some development companies; many lost their investment in pecan groves while others combined small acreages with larger and some ventures were successful.

By 1925, Georgia's pecan orchards consisted of more than two million trees. From 1940 to 1948 pecan production almost doubled from 23,000,000 pounds to 40,000,000 pounds. By the 1950's Georgia's pecan was well established and the state led the nation in pecan production.