February 6, 1995

TO: Experiment Station Directors, Department Heads and Soybean Breeders -- North Central Region

FROM: R.K. Crookston

SUBJECT: Release of Three Soybean Cultivars

The Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station will be releasing three new soybean varieties. The soybean line M87-731 will be named 'Glacier,' the soybean line M87-642 will be named 'Granite' and the soybean line M87-1621 will be named 'Freeborn.' The date of publicity for these varieties will be February 15, 1995.

Glacier is a maturity group 00 line between McCall and Agassiz in maturity. Glacier is about three days later than McCall and three days earlier than Agassiz. Glacier has excellent yield for its maturity. Glacier contains the Rps6 gene for resistance to phytophthora root rot. This gene provides producers with a source of resistance to additional new races of phytophthora. The pedigree of Glacier is McCall x Altona. Glacier has acceptable levels of protein and oil and other agronomic characteristics.

Granite is a maturity group I line between Parker and Sturdy in maturity. Granite is about three days later than Parker and two days earlier than Sturdy. Granite has very good yield for its maturity. The main advantage of Granite is its resistance to brown stem rot making it useful in situations where brown stem rot is a problem, particularly soybeans planted after soybeans. The pedigree of Granite is Sibley x BSR101. Granite carries the Rps1 gene for resistance to phytophthora. Protein and oil levels are similar to those of Parker. Granite has better lodging scores than Parker. Other agronomic characteristics are acceptable.

Freeborn is a maturity group I line with resistance to soybean cyst nematode (race 3), brown stem rot and phytophthora root rot (Rps1 gene). Freeborn has the PI388788 source of SCN resistance (the same as Alpha, different than Faribault). Freeborn is similar in maturity to Parker, Alpha and Faribault. Freeborn is more productive than Alpha and contains the Rps1 gene for phytophthora resistance (Alpha has no phytophthora resistance). The pedigree of Freeborn is Ozzie x Fayette. Other agronomic characteristics of Freeborn are acceptable. Based on excellent yield under SCN conditions, brown stem rot resistance and phytophthora resistance, Freeborn is being released.

Seed of Glacier, Granite and Freeborn for testing purposes can be obtained by writing Dr. G. Beil, Minnesota Crop Improvement Association, 1900 Hendon Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Please distribute this memo to the concerned individuals.

cc: Dr. C.E. Allen, Dr. M. Martin, Dr. G. Beil, Dr. J.H. Orf