NOTICE OF RELEASE OF 'GRANGER' AUSTRIAN WINTER PEA

The Agricultural Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Washington Agricultural Research Center, the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station and the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station announce the release and naming of an Austrian winter pea cultivar, 'Granger.' Granger was developed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Grain Legume Genetics and Physiology Research Unit at Pullman, Washington, in cooperation with the College of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Center of Washington State University. Granger, selection D258-1-2, originated as a F₁ selection from the cross Fenn*2/New Season (af)/3/Mich89-1/L-36/4/Glacier made by D. Auld at the University of Idaho in 1985.

Granger (D258-1-2) was yield tested from 1989 to 1994 at locations in eastern Washington and northern Idaho. In those tests, Granger outyielded Common and Melrose by over 400 kilograms per hectare and outyielded Fenn by over 500 kilograms per hectare. Yields of Granger were similar to that of Glacier; however, the latter cultivar has a dwarf type vine that is undesirable for green-manuring. The longer vine habit of Granger is more suitable for use as a green-manure crop. Also, because of the tall plant habit, Granger competes well with weeds and is more easily harvested. Granger has an indeterminant flowering habit and flowers about the same time as other Austrian winter pea cultivars, but matures 3-4 days earlier. It is a semi-leafless (afila) type - a trait that imparts a strongly upright and intertwined canopy. Stipules are dark green and slightly marbled. Seeds of Granger are round, smooth and have yellow cotyledons. Seedcoats are
mottled and pigmented. Seeds of Granger are somewhat larger than currently used varieties. The hard seed percentage is similar to Melrose and Fenn.

Granger is resistant to race 1 of Fusarium wilt, but similar to other Austrian winter pea cultivars for reaction to root rot (caused by Fusarium solani f. sp. pisi, Pythium ultimum and Aphanomyces eutiches), powdery mildew (caused by Ersiphe polygoni DC), and Ascochyta blight (caused by Phoma medicaginis). The semi-leafless trait and upright habit may enable the variety to reduce the severity of foliar diseases such as sclerotinia white mold (caused by Sclerotinia sclerotiorum) and Ascochyta blight (caused by Phoma medicaginis and Mycosphaerella pinodes).

Granger was named after the Grangeville, Idaho region which is the predominant Austrian winter pea production area in the Pacific Northwest. Breeder seed of Granger will be maintained by the Washington State Crop Improvement Association. Foundation seed will be available from the Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Washington State University, Pullman, Washington 99164.

Release date for publicity purposes shall be effective on the date of final signature of the release notice.

Genetic material of this release will be deposited in the National Plant Germplasm System where it will be available for research purposes, including development and commercialization of new (varieties/cultivars).

It is requested that appropriate recognition be made if this germplasm contributes to the development of a new breeding line or cultivar.