UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Research Service
Washington, DC 20250

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SNAP BEAN BREEDING LINE G2868

The Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, announces the release of the snap bean breeding line G2868. It is an advanced, white-seeded breeding line that combines high yield and adaptation to the southeastern U.S. with resistance to *Rhizoctonia* root rot. G2868 was developed at the U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, Charleston, South Carolina, by J.R. Bohac, Research Geneticist, J.E. Wyatt, former Research Geneticist, and P.D. Dukes, Research Plant Pathologist.

G2868 is a gamma ray induced mutant derived from the breeding line B4173. B4173 is a purple seeded breeding line, resistant to endemic strains of *Rhizoctonia* root rot. B4173 originated from a cross made in 1973 between the breeding lines B4116 and B4124. B4116 has a complex pedigree including the cultivars Cascade, Bush Blue Lake 231, and Abunda. B4124 has a complex pedigree including the cultivars Cascade, Provider, Abunda, and Wade.

G2868 has an upright bush habit and a plant height of about 16 inches. The plant bears numerous white flowers, which set a high percentage of pods. Pods are scattered throughout the plant and are held well above the soil surface. Pod set is concentrated enough for once-over harvest. Pods are medium green, pubescent, about 6 inches long, and are slightly oval in cross-section. Pod shape varies from straight to curved and most are smooth.

G2868 was tested for two consecutive years in greenhouse trials for resistance against local strains of *Rhizoctonia* root rot. It was also tested throughout the southern United States for two years in the Southern Cooperative Vegetable Trials, and was one of the highest yielding entries, receiving an excellent overall rating. It is a white-seeded fresh market type with good flavor, exhibits moderate levels of root rot resistance, and is well adapted to the Southeast. Because it is difficult to find *Rhizoctonia* root rot resistance in white seeded lines, G2868 has significant potential for use as a parental line in snap bean breeding programs.

A limited quantity of breeder's seed is available for distribution to bean breeders, research personnel, and seed producers. Address all requests for seed to Dr. J. R. Bohac, U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, 2875 Savannah Highway, Charleston, South Carolina 29414-5334. When this germplasm contributes to a new breeding line or cultivar, it is requested that appropriate recognition be given to its source.

Robert R. Oltjen
for Administrator
Agricultural Research Service

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Date