



Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative

83550 County Road 21, Renville, Minnesota 56284

November 29, 2018

Dear SMBSC Shareholder,

SMBSC conducted four Official Variety Trials within the Cooperative growing area in 2018. These trials were located near Renville, Hector, Lake Lillian, and Murdock. All four of the sites were harvested, but the data from Hector, Lake Lillian, and Murdock locations were combined and used in the variety approval process for the 2019 crop. The Renville OVT was too variable and water-affected to utilize in the Seed Approval Process. In addition to the yield data from these sites, varieties were also evaluated for Aphanomyces root rot, Cercospora leafspot, and Rhizoctonia root rot at various disease nurseries. The 2018 data was combined with the 2017 and 2016 Official Trial data and is summarized in the enclosed packet.

There are three varieties that make Full Approval Status for 2019. Three varieties achieve Test Market Status for 2019. Test market status allows a variety to be planted on up to 10% of the Cooperative's acreage. Test market status is designed to give shareholders a look at new varieties that have potential to make Full Approval or Specialty Approval Status for the 2020 or 2021 crop. Four varieties were approved as Rhizoctonia Specialty Varieties. Seven varieties were approved as Cercospora Specialty Varieties. Two varieties were approved as Aphanomyces Specialty Varieties for 2019. Three varieties were approved for Conventional Test Market for 2019.

In addition to this letter, the following documents found on the SMBSC website will provide information regarding the varieties approved for planting at SMBSC in 2019. The variety approval information can be found on www.smbc.com under the **Agronomic Sustainability** tab and then the **Variety Information** link on the drop-down menu that appears, near the bottom of the list.

1. List of approved varieties for the 2019 crop.
2. Table 1. Comparison of 2019 Fully Approved varieties to Test Market and Specialty based on three year data (2016-2018).
3. Table 2. Comparison of 2019 Fully Approved varieties to Test Market and Specialty based on two year data (2017-2018).
4. Table 3. Comparison of 2019 Fully Approved varieties to Test Market and Specialty based on one year data (2018).
5. Data from the Aphanomyces root rot, Cercospora leafspot, and Rhizoctonia root rot nurseries from 2016-2018.
6. Results of 2018 SMBSC Agricultural Staff Variety Strip Trials.

Your agriculturist is an excellent source of information regarding variety placement in your 2019 fields. Be sure to use this resource when placing your 2019 sugar beet seed order. Seed ordering information and pricing will be available in early December.

Sincerely,

Cody Groen
Production Agronomist

Mark Bloomquist
Research Director

SMBSC APPROVED VARIETIES 2019

FULLY APPROVED UNLIMITED SALES VARIETIES

**Beta 9475 (Cercospora)
Crystal M380 (Aph)
Crystal M579**

APHANOMYCES SPECIALTY APPROVED VARIETIES

**Beta 92RR30
Crystal M380**

TEST MARKET VARIETIES

(Sales shall not exceed 10% of total sales per variety)

**Beta 9780 (Cercospora)
Hillehog 2219
Hillehog 2220**

CERCOSPORA SPECIALTY APPROVED VARIETIES

**Beta 9475
Beta 9505
Beta 9780
Crystal M509
Hillehog 9739
SV RR862
SV RR863**

CONVENTIONAL TEST MARKET VARIETIES

(Sales shall not exceed 10% of total sales per variety)

**Hillehog 3035RZ
SV 48793
SV 48894**

RHIZOCTONIA SPECIALTY APPROVED VARIETES

**Beta 9606
Crystal RR018
Crystal M623
Maribo MA109RR**