Seed from the individual plant selection were planted in a single row; all plants were harvested, and their seed bulked. Seed is being maintained by bulking in each succeeding generation. Virginia 81 Bunch was evaluated in area tests as VA 71-347.

Virginia 81 Bunch has resistance to *Sclerotinia minor* Jagger, causal agent of *Sclerotinia* blight, a major disease of peanuts in Virginia, where losses due to this disease in 1979 were estimated to exceed 13%. When planted in infested fields, Virginia 81 Bunch has 50% fewer *S. minor* infected plants and significantly higher yields and values per hectare compared to 'Florigiant', the predominant virginia-type peanut cultivar. Virginia 81 bunch is susceptible to most other major peanut disease and insect pests.

Virginia 81 Bunch is a high yielding cultivar adapted to the peanut production areas of the United States. Yields are significantly higher than *Florigiant* when grown in fields infested with *S. minor*, or in double-row high-population (215,000 plants/ha) planting patterns, but equal to *Florigiant* under other production environments. Compared to *Florigiant*, Virginia 81 Bunch matures up to 14 days earlier, has a bunch growth habit with fewer primary (7 vs. 10) and secondary (2 vs. 12) branches, has about 10% more extra large kernels, and has 5% less fancy sized pods. Seed are light pink in color. Pods are moderately constricted and have moderately pronounced veination and little pubescence and are mostly two-seeded. Quality and processing characteristics are similar to *Florigiant*, except for a less desirable blanchability and a more desirable flavor. Blanchability is equal to or better than 'NC 6' and 'NC 7'.

Foundation seed of Virginia 81 Bunch will be produced under the direction of the Virginia Crop Improvement Assoc. Foundation Seed Farm, Mt. Holly, VA, 23437. Breeder seed will be maintained by the Tidewater Research and Continuing Education Ctr., Suffolk, VA 23437.

**REGISTRATION OF SUNBELT RUNNER PEANUT**
(Reg. No. 26)

Aubrey C. Mixona

'Sunbelt Runner' peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.) is a runner market type cultivar developed cooperatively by the USDA-ARS and the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station from a cross between A4-4 (F392-12-B-28 × 'Va. Bunch 67') × 'Fluroner.' Breeding was by single-plant selection in the F2 through F4 generations, by compositing 2 to 4 select plant progenies in the F2, through F5 generations, and by bulk-row compositing in each generation since 1978. Sunbelt was evaluated as A7109.

Sunbelt Runner is a spreading-runner plant type producing up to 3 fruiting pegs per reproductive node within 8 to 12 cm of the mainstem. It is a high yielding, stable cultivar adapted to the peanut producing area of the southeastern United States. In 18 tests (1977-1980) using supplemental irrigation and/or natural rainfall at 5 locations in Georgia, Fla., and Alabama, pod yields equalled that of *Fluroner*. For 6 of the 18 tests without supplemental irrigation Sunbelt Runner averaged 5% greater yield than *Fluroner*. Sunbelt Runner matures earlier (6 to 13 days) with 20 and 11% larger pods and seed, respectively, than *Fluroner*. The jumbo seed size portion is 12 to 15% more than that of the *Fluroner*. It has slightly thicker shells and the seed are held more loosely in the shell than *Fluroner* resulting in about 3% lower turnout of sound-mature market size seed using farmer's stock market-grade standards. Mature seed testae are pink in color. The moderately constricted 2-seeded pods have little pubescence and moderate veination. Quality and processing characteristics are similar to *Fluroner*, except that commercial shellers may need to increase the slot size of their shelling grates for optimum shelling.

Breeder seed to be maintained by the Georgia Coastal Plain Exp. Stn., Tifton, GA 31793. Foundation seed to be produced by the Georgia Seed Development Commission, Athens, GA 30601.

**REGISTRATION OF LEAH RICE**
(Reg. No. 60)


LEAH rice (*Oryza sativa* L.), CI 9979, is an early-maturing, short-stature, long-grain cultivar developed cooperatively at the Louisiana State University Rice Experiment Station, Crowley, La., by the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station and the USDA-ARS. Leah was initially entered in the Cooperative Uniform Regional Nursery in 1979 as RU7902026. Reselection within headrows of RU7902026 that year was necessary, and the resultant selection was entered in 1980 under the designation of RU8002026.

Leah is a selection from the progeny of an apparently naturally outcrossed plant found in a row of CI 9902 in 1973. CI 9902 is a short-stature, lodging resistant, rice blast resistant, long-grain selection developed at Crowley, and has the pedigree 'Dawn'/245717/3/13-D/'Rexoro'/unknown red rice. Winter nursery facilities in Puerto Rico were used to advance selections during the off-season.

Leah has a short-stature plant type which has averaged 89 cm compared with 98 cm for 'Lebonnet' at Crowley. Leah is resistant to lodging because of its short and stiff straw. Minor lodging was observed only once in 5 years of extensive testing at Crowley. Leaf blades are glabrous, moderately wide, and tend to curve or droop genly. The flag leaf is typically short, wide, and erect giving a slightly blunt appearance. Flag leaf tips often truude a short distance above the panicle. Leaves generally retain much of their green coloring at maturity. The spikelets of Leah are straw-colored, glabrous, and awnless. Apiculus color at the heading is reddish-purple which later fades as the grain matures. Leah is early maturing and heads 2 to 5 days later than Lebonnet at Crowley.

Leah grains are distinctly larger than current southern U.S. commercial long-grain cultivars. Rough rice grain lengths and widths at Crowley averaged 10.2 and 2.7 mm for Leah, 9.7 and 2.6 mm for Lebonnet, 8.9 and 2.4 mm for 'Starbonnet', and 8.8 and 2.4 mm for 'Labelle'. Comparative average rough rice grain weights for Leah, Lebonnet, Starbonnet, and Labelle as measured in the 1981 Uniform Regional Nursery at Crowley were 28.8, 25.9, 22.9, and 21.4 mg/grain, respectively. The endosperm of Leah is nonglutinous and nonaromatic. Amylose content-

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2Formerly assistant professor, Louisiana State Univ. Rice Exp. Stn., Crowley, La.; collaborator, USDA-ARS and consulting professor, Louisiana State Univ. Rice Exp. Stn., Crowley, La.; research agronomist, USDA-ARS, Beaumont, Tex.; assistant professors, Louisiana State Univ. Rice Exp. Stn., Crowley, La.; respectively.