THE J.M. SMUCKER Co

NEWS RELEASE

J. M. Smucker Declares Dividend

1/17/2000

ORRVILLE, Ohio, Jan. 17 /**PRNewswire**/ -- On January 17, 2000, the Board of Directors of The J. M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM.A and SJM.B), Orrville, Ohio, declared a 15 cents per share dividend on the Common Shares of the Company, both Class A and Class B, to be paid on March 1, 2000, to shareholders of record at the close of business on February 16, 2000.

SOURCE J.M. Smucker Company

CONTACT: Steven J. Ellcessor, Vice President - Finance and Administration, Secretary-Treasurer, and General Counsel of The J.M. Smucker Company, 330-682-3000/