NEWS RELEASE

J. M. Smucker Declares Dividend; Announces Second Quarter Earnings Conference Call

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ORRVILLE, Ohio, Oct. 29 /**PRNewswire-FirstCall**/ -- The board of directors of The J. M. Smucker Company (NYSE: SJM) declared a $.20 per share dividend on the common shares of the Company to be paid on December 2, 2002, to shareholders of record at the close of business on November 18, 2002.

The Company will conduct a second quarter earnings conference call and webcast on Friday, November 15, 2002 at 8:30 a.m. E.T. Earnings will be released earlier that morning. The webcast can be accessed from the Company's website at www.smuckers.com. For those unable to listen to the webcast, an audio replay will be available following the call and can be accessed by calling 800-428-6051 in the United States or 973-709-2089 internationally and entering replay passcode 266786. The audio replay will be available until Monday, November 18, 2002 at 11:59 p.m. E.T.