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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **MN STATE FAIR PROCLAIMS WHICH PICKLES TAKE THE PRIZE**

*Winners in 8 Categories of Pickles and Peppers Have Potential as Next Gedney State Fair Personality*

**Chaska, Minn – (August 21, 2008)** - M. A. Gedney Company, a proud 17-year featured sponsor of the Minnesota State Fair Canned and Preserved Foods Competition, and producer of Gedney's popular Minnesota State Fair Brand Pickles received the judges' picks for the 2008 recipe contests. Eighteen Minnesota picklers have been picked as prize winners from eight flavor categories.

M.A. Gedney Company congratulates the 2008 Minnesota State Fair Canning Contest winners:

### **Southwest Flavored Dill Cucumber Using Chipotle Peppers and/or Other Flavors**

First Place: Tracy Gorsegner (Ham Lake) Second Place: Kenneth Donovan (Farmington)

### **Cucumber Pickle Using Balsamic Vinegar**

First Place: Barb Schaller (Burnsville)

### **Cajun Style Dill Cucumber Pickle**

First Place: Mary Woell (Minneapolis) Second Place: Meg Nordlie (Bloomington)

Third Place: Kenneth Donovan (Farmington)

### **Kid's Recipe**

First Place: Christopher Petschen (Mendota Heights)

### **Canner's Choice**

First Place: Gwendolyn Swenson (North Branch) Second Place: Roy Berrum (Minneapolis)

### **International Flair**

First Place: Thomas Olson (Mora) Second Place: Germaine Mouyard (Woodbury)

Third Place: Roy Berrum (Minneapolis)

### **Reduced-Sodium Cucumber Pickle**

First Place: Roy Berrum (Minneapolis) Second Place: Roy Berrum (Minneapolis)

Third Place: Kenneth Donovan (Farmington)

### **Ethnically Flavored Product**

First Place: Jerry Petschen (Mendota Heights) Second Place: Roy Berrum (Minneapolis)

### **Unique Variety of Roasted Peppers**

First Place: Meg Nordlie (Bloomington)

As a main sponsor of the contests, the M.A. Gedney Company has the option to develop the recipes of the top three award entrants in each category into their unique State Fair Brand of pickled products. That means each of these winners, in addition to receiving a ribbon and \$100, \$50, and \$25 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place (respectively), has the potential of becoming the next **State Fair Pickle Personality**. If chosen, the winner will have his/her name, photo and story printed on the product jars. No decisions have been made about whether any 2008 winners will be featured in the line. Current State Fair Line varieties from past contest ribbon-winners include:

Grandma's Baby Dills – Kathy Earnest  
Norwegian Dills – Vicky Gjerde  
Sweet Garden Crunchers – Les Grant  
Jack & Jill's Baby Dills – Jon (Jack) & Jill Hagel  
Nita's Hot B&B Pickles – Nita Schemmel  
Nita's Sweet B&B Pickles – Nita Schemmel  
Spicy Spears – Ronald Vickery

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“This year, we challenged contestants to break out of the box – or the can, as it were – and create recipes that feature new and interesting flavors,” said Joe Pinto, vice president of marketing and sales for M.A. Gedney Company, sponsor of the contest. “We are eager to taste the winning pickles and peppers and look forward to the possibility of launching another quality recipe by real State Fair prize winners.”

Making appearances during the 2008 fair at the Gedney Booth in the Creative Activities Annex are the past award-winners whose products are part of the State Fair Line:

Thursday, August 21	Barb Schaller	Cherry Preserves
Saturday, August 23	Kathy Earnest	Grandma’s Baby Dills
Monday, August 25	Les Grant	Sweet Garden Crunchers
Tuesday, August 26	Grace Anderson	Red Raspberry Preserves
Saturday, August 30	Vicky Gjerde	Norwegian Dills

### About M.A. Gedney Company

For more than 125 years, M.A. Gedney Company has been making extraordinary pickles, condiments, dressings and preserves. M.A. Gedney Company makes and markets a variety of pickles, including the State Fair line, under the Gedney brand name throughout the Midwest and produces and markets Del Monte pickles and relish across the United States under license from Del Monte Foods. In the northeast corner of the U.S., Gedney makes and markets pickles under the Cains brand name. M.A. Gedney Company is headquartered in Chaska, Minn. For more information, visit [www.gedneypickle.com](http://www.gedneypickle.com). For more information about Del Monte Pickles, go to [www.delmontepickle.com](http://www.delmontepickle.com).

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**Media Note:** For interview opportunities, story ideas, product samples, high-resolution images of Gedney pickles or a copy of Picklicious: 125 Extraordinary Recipes, contact DaleAnn Murphy at 612.860.0982.