

02/06/03

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DATE: Jan. 30, 2003**

**HEADLINE:**

**New oat variety available next year**

**Ponchatoula, La.: A new livestock feed will be available in 2003 as a result of the LSU AgCenter's release of a new oat variety for commercial production.**

**The new variety , LA9339, will be marketed under the PlotSpike brand name by Ragan & Massey, Inc. of Ponchatoula, La. said Steve Harrison, an LSU Ag Center small grains breeder who developed the new variety.**

**It is the first new oat variety from the AG Center since 1998, and the AgCenter and Ragan & Massey, Inc. will file for plant variety protection, a patentlike right.**

**Ragan & Massey, Inc. has contracted production in Louisiana and Alabama and expects commercial quantities to be available to cattlemen and wildlife plot managers in the Fall of 2003.**

**For more information on PlotSpike products visit [www.plotspike.com](http://www.plotspike.com).**