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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents

101661940

1. Name of conveying party(ies):

John D. Hicks

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.

Internal Address:

MAR 20 2001

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

3. Nature of conveyance:

3-26-01

Assignment

Merger

Security Agreement

Change of Name

Other

Street Address: 7100 NW 62nd Avenue, P.O. Box 1000

City: Johnston, State: Iowa, Zip: 50131

Execution Date: December 19, 2000

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:

A. Patent Application No.(s) 09/747,590

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Heidi S. Nebel

Internal Address:

Street Address: 801 Grand, Suite 3200

City: Des Moines, State: IA, Zip: 50309-2721

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ 40.00

Enclosed [Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 26-0084]

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To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Heidi S. Nebel

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PATENT  
REEL: 011659 FRAME: 0492

# ASSIGNMENT

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, each undersigned inventor has sold and assigned, and by these presents hereby sells and assigns, unto:

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.,  
7100 NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
P.O. Box 1000  
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1000

its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest so far as concerns the United States and the Territories and Possessions thereof and all foreign countries in and to the invention entitled SOYBEAN VARIETY 96B51 as set forth in his United States Patent Application

\_\_\_\_\_ executed concurrently herewith  
\_\_\_\_\_ executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed \_\_\_\_\_

said application for United States Letters Patent, including all divisional, renewal, substitute, continuation and Convention applications based in whole or in part upon said inventions or upon said applications, and any and all Letters Patent and reissues and extensions of Letters Patent granted for said inventions or upon said applications and every priority right that is or may be predicated upon or arise from said inventions, said applications, and said Letters Patent; said Assignee being hereby authorized to file patent applications in any or all countries on any or all said inventions in the name of the undersigned or in the name of said Assignee or otherwise as Assignee may deem advisable, under the International Convention or otherwise; the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States of America being hereby authorized to issue or transfer all said Letters Patent to said Assignee in accordance herewith; this assignment being under covenant, not only that full power to make the same is had by the undersigned, but also that such assigned right is not encumbered by any grant, license, or other right

theretofore given, and that the undersigned will do all acts reasonably serving to ensure that the said inventions, patent applications and Letters Patent shall be held and enjoyed by said Assignee as fully and entirely as the same could have been held and enjoyed by the undersigned if this assignment had not been made, and particularly to execute and deliver to said Assignee all lawful documents including petitions, specifications, oaths, assignments, invention disclaimers, and lawful affidavits in form and substance which may be requested by said Assignee, to furnish said Assignee with all facts relating to said inventions or the history thereof and any and all documents, photographs, models, samples or other physical exhibits which may be of said invention, and to testify in any proceedings relating to said inventions, patent applications, Letters Patent.

The undersigned hereby grant an authorized representative of Assignee the power to insert in this Assignment any further identification which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the rules of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for recordation of this Assignment.

NAMES AND SIGNATURES OF INVENTORS		
Name: John D. Hicks	Signature: <i>John D. Hicks</i>	Date: 12/19/2000
Name:	Signature:	Date:
Name:	Signature:	Date:
Name:	Signature:	Date:
NAMES AND SIGNATURES OF WITNESSES		
Name: <i>Dorenda Stanley</i>	Signature: <i>Dorenda Stanley</i>	Date: 12/19/2000
Name:	Signature:	Date:

Note: Prima facie evidence of execution may optionally be obtained by execution of this document before a U.S. Consul or before a local officer authorized to administer oaths whose authority is proved by a certificate from a U.S. Consul.