No. 9100190

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Asgrow Seed Company

Whereas, THERE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE

Secretary of Agriculture

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED NOVEL VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF eighteen YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS GRANT, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEES AND PERIODIC REPLENISHMENT OF VIABLE BASIC SEED OF THE VARIETY IN A PUBLIC REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE RIGHT TO EXCLUDE OTHERS FROM SELLING THE VARIETY, OR OFFERING IT FOR SALE, OR REPRODUCING IT, OR IMPORTING IT, OR EXPORTING IT, OR USING IT IN PRODUCING A HYBRID OR DIFFERENT VARIETY THEREFROM, TO THE EXTENT PROVIDED BY THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION ACT (84 STAT. 1542, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. 2321 ET SEQ.)

SOYBEAN

'A6961'

In Testimony Whereof, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the* Plant Variety Protection Office *to be affixed at the City of* Washington, D.C. *this* 31st *day of* August *in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and* ninety-two.

Attest:

Kenneth A. [illegible]

Commissioner
Plant Variety Protection Office
Agricultural Marketing Service

Edward Madigan

Secretary of Agriculture

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Office, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, D.C. 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB #0581-0055), Washington, 20250. FORM APPROVED: OMB 0581-0055, Expires 1/31/91

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

APPLICATION FOR PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION CERTIFICATE

(Instructions on reverse)

Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). Information is held confidential until certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426).

1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) *(as it is to appear on the Certificate)*: Asgrow Seed Company

2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OR EXPERIMENTAL NO.: XP6961

3. VARIETY NAME: A6961

4. ADDRESS *(street and no. or R.F.D. no., city, state, and ZIP)*:
9646-190-20
7000 Portage Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

5. PHONE *(include area code)*: 616-385-6649

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PVPO NUMBER: 9100190

FILING — Date: May 17, 1991 — Time: ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M.

FEES RECEIVED — Filing and Examination Fee: $ 2150.00 — Date: May 13, 1991 — Certificate Fee: $ 250.00 — Date: Aug 10, 1992

6. GENUS AND SPECIES NAME: Glycine max

7. FAMILY NAME *(Botanical)*: Leguminosae

8. CROP KIND NAME *(Common Name)*: Soybean

9. DATE OF DETERMINATION: November 1988

10. IF THE APPLICANT NAMED IS NOT A "PERSON," GIVE FORM OF ORGANIZATION *(Corporation, partnership, association, etc.)*: Corporation

11. IF INCORPORATED, GIVE STATE OF INCORPORATION: Delaware

12. DATE OF INCORPORATION:

13. NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVE(S), IF ANY, TO SERVE IN THIS APPLICATION AND RECEIVE ALL PAPERS
Mr. Gary E. Starwalt
9646-190-20
Asgrow Seed Company
7000 Portage Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
PHONE *(include area code)*: 616-385-6649

14. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX FOR EACH ATTACHMENT SUBMITTED *(Follow INSTRUCTIONS on reverse)*

a. [X] Exhibit A, Origin and Breeding History of the Variety.
b. [X] Exhibit B, Novelty Statement.
c. [X] Exhibit C, Objective Description of Variety.
d. [X] Exhibit D, Additional Description of Variety.
e. [X] Exhibit E, Statement of the Basis of Applicant's Ownership.
f. [X] Seed Sample (2,500 viable untreated seeds). Date Seed Sample mailed to Plant Variety Protection Office _____.
g. [X] Filing and Examination Fee ($2,150) made payable to "Treasurer of the United States."

15. DOES THE APPLICANT(S) SPECIFY THAT SEED OF THIS VARIETY BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED? *(See section 83(a) of the Plant Variety Protection Act.)*
☐ YES *(If "YES," answer items 16 and 17 below)* ☒ NO *(If "NO," skip to item 18 below)*

16. DOES THE APPLICANT(S) SPECIFY THAT THIS VARIETY BE LIMITED AS TO NUMBER OF GENERATIONS?
☐ YES ☐ NO

17. IF "YES" TO ITEM 16, WHICH CLASSES OF PRODUCTION BEYOND BREEDER SEED?
☐ FOUNDATION ☐ REGISTERED ☐ CERTIFIED

18. DID THE APPLICANT(S) PREVIOUSLY FILE FOR PROTECTION OF THE VARIETY IN THE U.S.?
☐ YES *(If "YES," through* ☐ Plant Variety Protection Act ☐ Patent Act. Give date: _____.)
☒ NO

19. HAS THE VARIETY BEEN RELEASED, USED, OFFERED FOR SALE, OR MARKETED IN THE U.S. OR OTHER COUNTRIES?
☐ YES (If "YES," give names of countries and dates)
☐ NO

20. The applicant(s) declare(s) that a viable sample of basic seeds of this variety will be furnished with the application and will be replenished upon request in accordance with such regulations as may be applicable.

The undersigned applicant(s) is (are) the owner(s) of this sexually reproduced novel plant variety, and believe(s) that the variety is distinct, uniform, and stable as required in section 41, and is entitled to protection under the provisions of section 42 of the Plant Variety Protection Act.

Applicant(s) is (are) informed that false representation herein can jeopardize protection and result in penalties.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT *(Owner(s))*	CAPACITY OR TITLE	DATE
Gary E. Starwalt	Agronomic Business Developement, Director	May 6, 1991
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT *(Owner(s))*	CAPACITY OR TITLE	DATE

Soybean A6961
US Plant Variety Protection Applicant
Asgrow Seed Company

EXHIBIT A
ORIGIN AND BREEDING HISTORY

Summer 1983	Original cross made at Marion, Ar Cross number M83581 Parentage = 84V741-04*A5980 84V741-07 = YOUNG*BRAXTON
Winter 1983-84	F1 plants grown near Isabela, PR in lighted hills.
Winter 1984-85	F2 advanced to F4 by modified single-seed descent near Isabela, PR.
Summer 1985	F4 bulk population of M83581 grown at Marion, AR. Over 200 Single plants selected.
Summer 1986	F5 progeny rows of M83581 grown at Marion, AR. Row M86-8961 was selected and composited.
Summer 1987	M86-8961 was yield tested at two locations, two replications each. Screened to soybean cyst nematode (race 14) and found to be resistant. Tested as entry 38 in 7MP659.
Summer 1988	M86-8961 tested for yield in nine environments as entry 13 in 8MV650. Forty-eight F7 single plants selected to begin breeder seed purification.
Summer 1989	M86-8961 tested for yield in eight environments as entry 9 in 9MV750. Breeder seed increase of uniform single plants grown at Marion, AR with 40 pounds harvested. Entry 9 named XP6961.
Winter 1989-90	Forty pounds of XP6961 increased to 1800 pounds near Isabela, PR.
Summer 1990	XP6961 tested for yield in 12 environments as entry 7 in 0MV750. Breeder seed increased to 950 units of Basic I at Matthews, MO. XP6961 advanced to stage 4 designation, A6961.

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Exhibit A (Continued)

Summer 1991	A6961 was yield tested as entry 1 in V650 test at four locations.
	Commercial seed of A6961 was produced and processed at the Mathews, Missouri production plant.
	A6961 is uniform and stable within commercially acceptable limits based on trial observations since 48 F_7 single plants were selected in November of 1988. As with other soybean varieties, variants can occur for almost any characteristic during the course of repeated sexual reproduction.

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Soybean A6961
US Plant Variety Protection Applicant
Asgrow Seed Company

EXHIBIT B
NOVELTY STATEMENT

To our knowledge A6961 most nearly resembles YOUNG and A7986. Differences include, but are not necessarily restricted to the following:

A6961 has white flowers and buff hila whereas A7986 has purple flowers and imperfect black hila.

A6961 averages 4 days later in maturity compared to YOUNG and 6 days earlier in maturity compared to A7986.

A6961 is resistant to races 3 and 14 of soybean cyst nematode (Heterodera glycines) whereas YOUNG and A7986 are sysceptible.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK, MEAT, GRAIN & SEED DIVISION
PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE
BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705

EXHIBIT C
(Soybean)

OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY
SOYBEAN (Glycine max L.*)*

NAME OF APPLICANT(S)	TEMPORARY DESIGNATION	VARIETY NAME
Asgrow Seed Company	XP6961	A6961

ADDRESS *(Street and No., or R.F.D. No., City, State, and Zip Code)*

9638-190-23
Kalamazoo, MI 49001 616-384-2353

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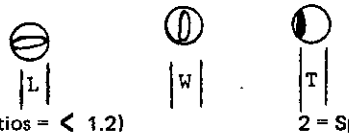
PVPO NUMBER 9100190

Choose the appropriate response which characterizes the variety in the features described below. When the number of significant digits in your answer is fewer than the number of boxes provided, place a zero in the first box when number is 9 or less (e.g., [0][9]).

1. SEED SHAPE:

[2]



1 = Spherical (L/W, L/T, and T/W ratios = < 1.2)
2 = Spherical Flattened (L/W ratio > 1.2; L/T ratio = < 1.2)
3 = Elongate (L/T ratio > 1.2; T/W = < 1.2)
4 = Elongate Flattened (L/T ratio > 1.2; T/W > 1.2)

2. SEED COAT COLOR: (Mature Seed)

[1] 1 = Yellow 2 = Green 3 = Brown 4 = Black 5 = Other *(Specify)* _____

3. SEED COAT LUSTER: (Mature Hand Shelled Seed)

[2] 1 = Dull ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton') 2 = Shiny ('Nebsoy'; 'Gasoy 17')

4. SEED SIZE: (Mature Seed)

[1][5] Grams per 100 seeds

5. HILUM COLOR: (Mature Seed)

[1] 1 = Buff 2 = Yellow 3 = Brown 4 = Gray 5 = Imperfect Black 6 = Black 7 = Other *(Specify)* _____

6. COTYLEDON COLOR: (Mature Seed)

[1] 1 = Yellow 2 = Green

7. SEED PROTEIN PEROXIDASE ACTIVITY:

[2] 1 = Low 2 = High

8. SEED PROTEIN ELECTROPHORETIC BAND:

[ ] 1 = Type A ($SP1^a$) 2 = Type B ($SP1^b$)

9. HYPOCOTYL COLOR:

[1] 1 = Green only ('Evans'; 'Davis') 2 = Green with bronze band below cotyledons ('Woodworth'; 'Tracy')
3 = Light Purple below cotyledons ('Beeson'; 'Pickett 71')
4 = Dark Purple extending to unifoliate leaves ('Hodgson'; 'Coker Hampton 266A')

10. LEAFLET SHAPE:

[3] 1 = Lanceolate 2 = Oval 3 = Ovate 4 = Other *(Specify)* _____

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11. LEAFLET SIZE:

[2] 1 = Small ('Amsoy 71'; 'A5312') 2 = Medium ('Corsoy 79'; 'Gasoy 17') 3 = Large ('Crawford'; 'Tracy')

12. LEAF COLOR:

[2] 1 = Light Green ('Weber'; 'York') 2 = Medium Green ('Corsoy 79'; 'Braxton') 3 = Dark Green ('Gnome'; 'Tracy')

13. FLOWER COLOR:

[1] 1 = White 2 = Purple 3 = White with purple throat

14. POD COLOR:

[1] 1 = Tan 2 = Brown 3 = Black

15. PLANT PUBESCENCE COLOR:

[1] 1 = Gray 2 = Brown (Tawny)

16. PLANT TYPES:

[2] 1 = Slender ('Essex'; 'Amsoy 71') 2 = Intermediate ('Amcor'; 'Braxton') 3 = Bushy ('Gnome'; 'Govan')

17. PLANT HABIT:

[1] 1 = Determinate ('Gnome'; 'Braxton') 2 = Semi-Determinate ('Will') 3 = Indeterminate ('Nebsoy'; 'Improved Pelican')

18. MATURITY GROUP:

[0 9] 1 = 000 2 = 00 3 = 0 4 = I 5 = II 6 = III 7 = IV 8 = V 9 = VI 10 = VII 11 = VIII 12 = IX 13 = X

19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

BACTERIAL DISEASES:

[2] Bacterial Pustule *(Xanthomonas phaseoli* var. *sojensis)*

[0] Bacterial Blight *(Pseudomonas glycinea)*

[0] Wildfire *(Pseudomonas tabaci)*

FUNGAL DISEASES:

[0] Brown Spot *(Septoria glycines)*

Frogeye Leaf Spot *(Cercospora sojina)*

[0] Race 1 [ ] Race 2 [ ] Race 3 [ ] Race 4 [ ] Race 5 [ ] Other *(Specify)* _____

[0] Target Spot *(Corynespora cassiicola)*

[0] Downy Mildew *(Peronospora trifoliorum* var. *manshurica)*

[0] Powdery Mildew *(Microsphaera diffusa)*

[0] Brown Stem Rot *(Cephalosporium gregatum)*

[2] Stem Canker *(Diaporthe phaseolorum* var. *caulivora)*

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19. DISEASE REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant) (Continued)

FUNGAL DISEASES: (Continued)

[0] Pod and Stem Blight *(Diaporthe phaseolorum* var; *sojae)*

[0] Purple Seed Stain *(Cercospora kikuchii)*

[0] Rhizoctonia Root Rot *(Rhizoctonia solani)*

Phytophthora Rot *(Phytophthora megasperma* var. *sojae)*

[1] Race 1 [0] Race 2 [1] Race 3 [ ] Race 4 [ ] Race 5 [ ] Race 6 [ ] Race 7

[ ] Race 8 [ ] Race 9 [ ] Other *(Specify)* _____

VIRAL DISEASES:

[0] Bud Blight (Tobacco Ringspot Virus)

[0] Yellow Mosaic (Bean Yellow Mosaic Virus)

[0] Cowpea Mosaic (Cowpea Chlorotic Virus)

[0] Pod Mottle (Bean Pod Mottle Virus)

[0] Seed Mottle (Soybean Mosaic Virus)

NEMATODE DISEASES:

Soybean Cyst Nematode *(Heterodera glycines)*

[0] Race 1 [0] Race 2 [2] Race 3 [0] Race 4 [2] Other *(Specify)* Race 14

[0] Lance Nematode *(Hoplolaimus Colombus)*

[1] Southern Root Knot Nematode *(Meloidogyne incognita)*

[0] Northern Root Knot Nematode *(Meloidogyne Hapla)*

[1] Peanut Root Knot Nematode *(Meloidogyne arenaria)*

[0] Reniform Nematode *(Rotylenchulus reniformis)*

[2] OTHER DISEASE NOT ON FORM *(Specify)*: Aerial web blight (Rhizoctonia Solani)

20. PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

[0] Iron Chlorosis on Calcareous Soil

[ ] Other *(Specify)* _____

21. INSECT REACTION: (Enter 0 = Not Tested; 1 = Susceptible; 2 = Resistant)

[0] Mexican Bean Beetle *(Epilachna varivestis)*

[0] Potato Leaf Hopper *(Empoasca fabae)*

[ ] Other *(Specify)* _____

22. INDICATE WHICH VARIETY MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLES THAT SUBMITTED.

CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY	CHARACTER	NAME OF VARIETY
Plant Shape	YOUNG	Seed Coat Luster	YOUNG
Leaf Shape	YOUNG	Seed Size	YOUNG
Leaf Color	YOUNG	Seed Shape	YOUNG
Leaf Size	YOUNG	Seedling Pigmentation	YOUNG
	YOUNG		YOUNG

23. GIVE DATA FOR SUBMITTED AND SIMILAR STANDARD VARIETY: Paired Comparison Data

VARIETY	NO. OF DAYS MATURITY	PLANT LODGING SCORE	CM PLANT HEIGHT	LEAFLET SIZE		SEED CONTENT		SEED SIZE G/100 SEEDS	NO. SEEDS/ POD
				CM Width	CM Length	% Protein	% Oil		
Submitted A6961	149	2.5	87						
Name of Similar Variety YOUNG	144	2.4	88						

PUBLICATIONS USEFUL AS REFERENCE AIDS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:

1. Caldwell, B.E., ed. 1973. Soybeans: Improvement, Production, and Uses. Amer. Soc. Agron. Monograph No. 16.
2. Buttery, B.R. and R.I. Buzzell. 1968. Peroxidase activity in seeds of soybean varieties. Crop Sci., 8: 722-725.
3. Hymowitz, T. 1973. Electrophoretic analysis of SBTI-A_2 in the USDA soybean germplasm collection. Crop Sci., 13: 420-421.
4. Payne, R.C. and L.F. Morris. 1976. Differentiation of soybean cultivars by seedling pigmentation patterns. J. Seed Technol. 1: 1-19.

Soybean A6961
US Plant Variety Protection Applicant
Asgrow Seed Company

EXHIBIT D
ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIETY

A6961 is a late Group VI line that has excellent emergence with resistance to soybean cyst nematodes, stem canker, and aerial web blight. Yield potential is high on both sandy and clay soils.

Soybean A6961
US Plant Variety Protection Applicant
Asgrow Seed Company

EXHIBIT E
STATEMENT OF THE BASIS OF APPLICANT'S OWNERSHIP

A6961 was originated and developed by James G. Shannon, PhD, an Asgrow plant breeder. By agreement between employee and Asgrow Seed Company, all rights to any invention, discovery, or development made by an employee are assigned to the Company. No rights to such invention, discovery, or development are retained by the employee.