



**McCormick Reports Record Profits and 7% Sales Increase for Third Quarter**

September 16, 1999  
 SPANICE, Md., Sept. 16 (PRNewswire) - McCormick & Company, Incorporated (NYSE: MMC) today reported record sales and earnings per share for the third quarter of 1999 on a comparable basis with 1998. Earnings per share before the effect of previously announced special charges rose 30 cents for the quarter versus 29 cents for the prior year, an increase of 34%. For the first three quarters, the Company reported comparable earnings per share of 92 cents, an increase of 26% over earnings per share of 73 cents for the prior year. Including the special charges, earnings per share were 35 cents for the first quarter and 69 cents for the first nine months.

Net sales for the quarter were \$477 million, up 7% over the third quarter of 1998. Excluding the effects of foreign exchange and divested businesses, sales for the quarter increased 8%. Third quarter sales rose 9% for the Company's worldwide consumer food business and 6% for the industrial and food service businesses. Sales for the Company's packaging business rose 8%. For the first three quarters, McCormick's net sales were \$1.4 billion, an increase of 7% over 1998. In the quarter, gross margin increased to 34.4% from 32.8% in 1998. Selling expense, operating income rose 13%. Unconsolidated income from McCormick's joint ventures more than doubled to \$4.5 million for the quarter.

Commercial Baking, Lardolite, Cheddar, President's Choice, Tite are expanding our 1999 program for net sales growth, gross margin improvement and earnings per share increase. Sales growth initiatives and operations improvements contributed another successful quarter. Supply chain management, programs to improve manufacturing efficiencies, well-timed marketing strategies and working capital management are translating into improved financial performance in our consumer, industrial and packaging operations worldwide.

"Performance was consistently positive across all businesses this quarter. We have good momentum as we begin our important fourth quarter and are confident that 1999 will be an outstanding year for McCormick."

McCormick & Company, Incorporated Third Quarter Report Consolidated Income Statement (Unaudited) (In thousands, except per-share data)			
	Three Months Ended 8/31/99	Three Months Ended 8/31/98	New Months Ended 8/31/98
NET SALES	\$476,761	\$446,793	\$1,388,482
Cost of goods sold	312,532	296,518	899,179
Gross profit	164,229	146,275	497,303
Gross profit	34.4%	32.9%	33.7%
Selling, general & administrative expenses	120,280	107,206	355,042
Special charges	3,009	129	11,358
Operating income	40,910	38,851	\$4,957
Interest expense	8,231	6,636	24,519
Other (income) expenses, net	(1,072)	(1,140)	(3,903)
Income before income taxes	31,751	30,997	73,386
Income taxes	32,904	10,943	32,376
Net income from consolidated operations	20,847	19,454	41,010
Income from unconsolidated operations	4,514	1,994	8,217
NET INCOME	\$25,361	\$21,450	\$49,227
SHARES OUTSTANDING - BASIC	50.36	50.29	50.69
Average shares outstanding - basic	71,220	73,154	71,700
EARNINGS PER SHARE - BASIC	\$0.35	\$0.35	\$0.97
SHARES OUTSTANDING - DILUTED	50.35	50.29	50.68
Average shares outstanding - diluted	71,800	73,856	72,230

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet (Unaudited) (In thousands)			
	8/31/99	8/31/98	
Assets			
Receivables	\$382,294	\$179,847	
Inventories	27,407	27,822	
Prepaid expenses	125,623	162,592	
Property, plant and equipment, net	34,458	34,270	
Other assets	23,311	268,573	
Total assets	\$1,233,943	\$1,273,909	
Liabilities and shareholders' equity			
Shareholders' equity	\$213,020	\$254,083	
Other current liabilities	220,366	307,190	
Long-term debt	242,117	262,614	
Other liabilities	107,880	400,214	
Shareholders' equity	350,280	360,637	
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$1,233,943	\$1,273,909	

SOURCE: McCormick & Company, Incorporated