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#### Key Points:

- Mouseoff® and Mouseoff Econobait production stopped for one week while waiting for airfreight deliveries of additional, Zinc Phosphide (ZP).
- Production has recommenced with arrival of airfreight.
- The first sea freight load, secured in January, is almost at Melbourne Port, others in transit.
- We will update customers via email the status of your order
- CV19 issues overseas are serious. Global freight is badly disrupted. We are planning well ahead with good cooperation from all suppliers.

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#### Current situation:

Mouse problems continue in NSW with a major threat to autumn plantings and ongoing damage to stored hay and feed. Please be assured that ACTA is doing all within our powers to fast-track bait supplies for the autumn plantings.

The delays were first due to the need to scale-up grain sterilization. Using sterilized grain in baits is critical to preventing weed propagation in the years after baiting. Sterilisation is now working to capacity and we have stockpiled sterilized grain while shortages of chemicals have limited our production temporarily.

Sea freight schedules and capacity are also being seriously disrupted by CV19 and the indirect impacts of the ship blocking the Suez Canal. Freight movements are now taking 2 to 3 times normal and schedules are erratic.

We have initiated four air freight consignments to fill the gap due to sea freight delays. Airfreight of ZP requires complete repacking of the product to small tins and special cargo planes, difficult at the best of times but even harder with airlines hit so hard by Covid-19.

As in 2011, we have absorbed the additional freight cost on the basis of no customers cancelling advance orders. We requested the Federal Government for freight assistance. They recognized the importance of maintaining supply and offered assistance through their IFAM program, however the complexity of the supply chain meant we could not leverage this support.



Third of four air freight consignment of zinc phosphide to continue mouse bait supplies at ACTA plant yesterday.

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#### **What now?**

We will process orders in order of receipt as much as possible.

We will email customers this week with an estimate for dispatch of your order.

Larger individual orders may receive split deliveries over a few days. This is a judgement call by agreement and the main driver is to supply as much as possible in order of date received so we service those who have waited longest as the first priority.

We expect to sustain full production into May or early June, apart from 2-3 days in April.

All pack sizes 500kg bulk bags, 125kg drums and 15kg pails are in production.

***We plan for all current orders to be dispatched by the third week of May but commencing deliveries today. Lead times will reduce, depending on incoming order demand, by late May we expect to be back to normal lead times.***

*Your patience with our production and logistics teams has been of enormous assistance and we would like to thank everyone for staying calm while we concentrated on solving the severe and unexpected freight disruptions.*

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#### **Looking**

#### **forward:**

While new demand has slowed it has not stopped as the mice still persist. The need for mouse control to expand as seeds are taken at planting, as newly planted and emerging canola crops see damage and as cereals reach tillering. We see little evidence yet of natural declines in mouse numbers due to food exhaustion. Vigilance is the key as problems vary greatly between regions and even between paddocks.

Refer to our Mouseoff booklet and guides for how best to monitor mouse activity. Hit this link to obtain a copy [Mouseoff Brochure](#) or download a pdf from our web site [www.animalcontrol.com.au](http://www.animalcontrol.com.au).

Dr Linton Staples  
Managing Director  
Animal Control Technologies

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#### **Contact us!**

For more information on MOUSEOFF and a full technical booklet, please refer to our product pages at [www.animalcontrol.com.au](http://www.animalcontrol.com.au), or contact our technical team.

Melbourne Office | 03 9308 9688

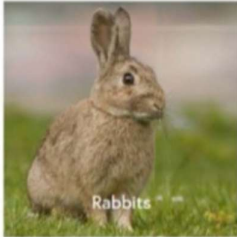
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