

## NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF JAX<sup>®</sup> MICE

### *Update on Status of JAX<sup>®</sup> Mice Strain 129P3/J (Stock Number: 000690)*

As described in a [May 22, 2002 notification](#), we have temporarily suspended shipment of JAX<sup>®</sup> Mice strain 129P3/J mice (Stock Number: 000690). The reason for suspending shipment is that some of the mice in the distribution colony for 129P3/J mice were found to be ill with diarrhea during routine animal health surveillance. These sick mice were submitted to Laboratory Animal Health Services for evaluation. Most of the ill mice were necropsied and found to have gross lesions that were confined to the intestinal tract. Histopathologic evaluation of samples from these mice showed subacute inflammation of the cecum and colon, and several samples showed fibrinohemorrhagic inflammation of the tips of the villi in the proximal duodenum. Additionally, serum samples from most of the ill mice were tested and found to be negative for a panel of 20 infectious agents.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: There is no evidence that suggests infection with *Clostridium piliforme*, the causative agent of Tyzzer's Disease.**

While the cause(s) of the observed clinical signs and intestinal lesions still remains unknown, all gross and histopathological evidence suggests an unidentified, anaerobic bacterial agent(s) as the etiology. We are continuing our efforts to identify causative organism(s) using anaerobic culture methods and hope to have more information within the next few weeks.

In the meantime, we are expanding a new breeding colony for strain 129P3/J and anticipate having mice available for shipment by late summer 2002.

**Questions/Concerns:** Please contact Laboratory Animal Health Services at The Jackson Laboratory at 207-288-6205.