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A Message from Our President,

The Covid-19 Pandemic has changed our reality. The situation is changing daily and we at Stokes Seeds are doing everything in our power to keep our staff safe and move as much seed to as many people that can make a difference in securing our food supply for 2020.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our courageous staff for their dedication to Stokes Seeds. I would also like to thank the many commercial growers who are struggling with this crisis to plant a crop and the uncertainty in having the help necessary to care, harvest, grade and pack it.

The unprecedented demand by home gardeners for seed has exceeded our staff capabilities. We have a limited supply of trained staff at this late date in the season and our working space is limited given the adherence to the 6-foot social distancing that appears to be critical in stopping the spread of this virus. At present we have no worries about running out of vegetable seed. Certain varieties may have been exhausted but we typically can use another variety in its place with acceptable results.

The current increase in demand and our ability to safely process orders in meeting our goal of maximizing the food production for the population has led us to several decisions.

- We have shut our phone service down to new orders in order to treat all customers fairly and maximize the use of our trained order entry staff. This has allowed us to keep our website open.
- We will do our best to clearly communicate the expected order delay and post it on our website as it changes.
- We will substitute varieties that are not currently available on our shelves or have stocked out in order to keep all orders moving with minimum back orders and missing items.
- We have ceased distribution of garden accessories in order to focus on seed supply.
- We will give priority to commercial vegetable grower orders but continue to ship home gardeners as quickly as possible. We will continue to ship flower seed as long as it does not pose a problem.
- We have shut our warehouse store until further notice and satellite operations to public access to reduce the risk of infection to our staff. Our commercial sales staff are working from home and avoid on farm contacts wherever possible.
- Our US and Canadian managers have ceased travel between offices. Our truck drivers do not leave their truck while travelling or enter foreign facilities.
- We will limit our warehouse staff to a number that allows us to maintain the 6-foot social distance while working.
- We have stepped up our sanitary cleaning to help reduce the risk of community transmission within our building.

We thank you for your business and your patience. We hope that you and your loved ones stay safe during this crisis.

Wayne Gale

President, Stokes Seeds