

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORP
Form 10-Q
May 11, 2005

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND
EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

☒ **Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2005**

or

☐ **Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission File Number 0-31499**

Eden Bioscience Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation
or organization)

91-1649604

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

3830 Monte Villa Parkway, Suite 100

Bothell, Washington 98021-7266

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(425) 806-7300

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the past 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). Yes ☐ No ☒

State the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common equity, as of the latest practicable date:

Class
Common Stock, \$.0025 Par Value

Outstanding as of May 12, 2005
24,395,870

Eden Bioscience Corporation

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Signatures

31.1 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification (Chief Executive Officer).

31.2 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification (Chief Financial Officer).

32.1 Section 1350 Certification (Chief Executive Officer).

32.2 Section 1350 Certification (Chief Financial Officer).

PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Item 1. Unaudited Financial Statements****EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS****(Unaudited)****ASSETS**

	March 31, 2005	December 31, 2004
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,934,817	\$ 11,860,385
Accounts receivable, net of sales allowances	732,301	39,946
Inventory	3,733,963	3,487,586
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	585,900	498,670
Total current assets	14,986,981	15,886,587
Property and equipment, net	13,070,147	13,887,573
Other assets	1,568,674	1,561,902
Total assets	\$ 29,625,802	\$ 31,336,062

LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 354,040	\$ 190,648
Accrued liabilities	1,135,364	1,206,411
Current portion of accrued loss on facility subleases	511,329	507,748
Current portion of capital lease obligations	8,409	11,572
Total current liabilities	2,009,142	1,916,379
Accrued loss on facility subleases, net of current portion	1,908,407	2,037,613
Capital lease obligations, net of current portion		761
Other long-term liabilities	791,307	771,934
Total liabilities	4,708,856	4,726,687

Commitments and contingencies**Shareholders' equity:**

Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004		
Common stock, \$.0025 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized; 24,381,870 issued and outstanding shares at March 31, 2005 and December 31, 2004	60,955	60,955
Additional paid-in capital	132,535,982	132,535,982
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(43,276)	(37,675)
Accumulated deficit	(107,636,715)	(105,949,887)

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Total shareholders' equity	24,916,946	26,609,375
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 29,625,802	\$ 31,336,062

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2005	2004
Product sales, net of sales allowances	\$ 1,154,486	\$ 213,401
Operating expenses:		
Cost of goods sold	528,317	657,997
Research and development	926,317	676,309
Selling, general and administrative	1,454,704	1,276,698
Total operating expenses	2,909,338	2,611,004
Loss from operations	(1,754,852)	(2,397,603)
Other income (expense):		
Interest income	68,305	51,923
Interest expense	(281)	(719)
Total other income	68,024	51,204
Loss before income taxes	(1,686,828)	(2,346,399)
Income taxes		
Net loss	\$ (1,686,828)	\$ (2,346,399)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.10)
Weighted average shares outstanding used to compute net loss per share	24,381,870	24,361,990

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2005	2004
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$ (1,686,828)	\$ (2,346,399)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	610,444	528,818
Gain on sale of equipment	(16,410)	
Accretion expense	6,734	5,977
Deferred rent payable	12,639	12,639
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(693,173)	(104,620)
Inventory	(81,759)	(55,649)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(94,741)	37,619
Accounts payable	163,514	160,188
Accrued liabilities	(60,842)	(200,767)
Accrued loss on facility subleases	(125,625)	(128,709)
Net cash used in operating activities	(1,966,047)	(2,090,903)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Proceeds from sale of equipment	50,000	
Net cash provided by investing activities	50,000	
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Reduction in capital lease obligations	(3,924)	(6,070)
Net cash used in financing activities	(3,924)	(6,070)
Effect of foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents .	(5,597)	128
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(1,925,568)	(2,096,845)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	11,860,385	19,823,339
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 9,934,817	\$ 17,726,494
Supplemental disclosures:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ 281	\$ 719

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Organization and Business

Eden Bioscience Corporation (Eden Bioscience or the Company) was incorporated in the State of Washington on July 18, 1994. Eden Bioscience is a plant health technology company focused on developing, manufacturing and marketing innovative natural-based protein products for agriculture.

The Company is subject to a number of risks including, among others: dependence on a limited number of products and the development and commercialization of those products, which may not be successful; the need to develop adequate sales and marketing capabilities to commercialize the Company's products; reliance on independent distributors and retailers to sell the Company's products; competition from other companies with greater financial, technical and marketing resources; and other risks associated with commercializing a new technology.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and pursuant to the instructions to Form 10-Q. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. The balance sheet at December 31, 2004 has been derived from the audited financial statements at that date but does not include all of the information and notes required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. These financial statements and notes should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004 included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 25, 2005.

In the opinion of management, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary to state fairly the financial information set forth therein. Results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2005 are not necessarily indicative of the results expected for the full fiscal year or for any future period.

Liquidity

The Company's operating expenditures have been significant since its inception. The Company currently anticipates that its operating expenses will significantly exceed net product sales and that net losses and working capital requirements will consume a material amount of its cash resources. If net product sales do not significantly increase in the near term, the Company will have to further reduce its operating expenses. The Company's future capital requirements will depend on the success of its operations. Management of the Company believes that the balance of its cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2005 will be sufficient to meet its anticipated cash needs for net losses, working capital and capital expenditures for more than the next 12 months, although there can be no assurance in that regard. After the next 12 months, if net product sales do not significantly increase, the Company will have to further reduce operating expenses or secure additional financing. The Company may be unable to obtain adequate or favorable financing at that time or at all and may cease operations. The sale of additional equity securities could result in dilution to the Company's shareholders.

Estimates Used in Financial Statement Preparation

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Examples include depreciable lives of property and equipment; expense accruals; provisions for sales allowances, warranty claims and inventory valuation; cash flow projections used in evaluating whether asset impairment loss is recorded; losses on facility subleases and bad debts. Such estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience, where applicable, management's plans and other assumptions. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and the effects of revisions are reflected in the consolidated financial statements prospectively when they are determined to be necessary. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable balances are reported net of customer-specific related sales allowances of \$286,000 at March 31, 2005 and \$11,000 at December 31, 2004. In determining the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts, the Company considers a number of factors, including the aging of the accounts receivable portfolio, customer payment trends, the financial condition of its customers, historical bad debts and current economic trends. Based upon an analysis of outstanding net accounts receivable, no allowance for doubtful accounts was recorded at March 31, 2005 or December 31, 2004.

Property and Equipment

Equipment and leasehold improvements are stated at historical cost. Improvements and replacements are capitalized. Maintenance and repairs are expensed when incurred. The provision for depreciation and amortization is determined using straight-line, units-of-production and accelerated methods, which allocate costs over their estimated useful lives of two to 20 years. Equipment leased under capital leases is depreciated over the shorter of its estimated useful life or lease term, which is five years. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or lease term, which range between two to ten years.

In October 2004, the Company began marketing lab and office space it currently occupies and estimates it will sublease substantially all of this space by the end of 2005. Based on the current sublease market, the Company believes that a portion of the leasehold improvements and certain equipment related to the lab space will not be recovered from the receipt of future sublease payments. Therefore, the estimated useful life of a portion of leasehold improvements and certain equipment related to this lab space has been reduced from January 2011, the end of the lease term, to December 31, 2005. In the first quarter of 2005, amortization and depreciation of \$355,000 was included in research and development expense in the condensed consolidated statements of operations and amortization and depreciation of \$1.1 million is expected to be recorded over the remainder of 2005.

Revenues

The Company recognizes revenue from product sales, net of sales allowances, when product is delivered to its distributors and all significant obligations of the Company have been satisfied, unless acceptance provisions or other contingencies or arrangements exist, including whether collection is reasonably assured. If acceptance provisions or contingencies exist, revenue is deferred and recognized later if such provisions or contingencies are satisfied. As part of the analysis of whether all significant obligations of the Company have been satisfied or situations where acceptance provisions or other contingencies or arrangements exist, the Company considers the following elements, among others: sales terms and arrangements, historical experience and current incentive programs. Distributors do not have price protection or product-return rights. The Company provides an allowance for warranty claims based on historical experience and expectations. Shipping and handling costs related to product sales that are paid by the Company are included in cost of goods sold.

In February 2004, the Company received approval to sell Messenger in Spain. The Company initiated marketing activities in March 2005, but the approval was not received in time to pre-position product in the trade channel to meet initial sales activity. In order to ensure that an adequate supply of Messenger was quickly disbursed in the new distribution channel and to limit the amount of working capital required by new distributors at this early stage of introduction, the Company granted flexible and/or extended payment terms to distributors in this new market. Because of this combination of factors, revenues from these product deliveries are deferred and recognized when payment is received. The Company recognized net revenue of \$259,000 from these deliveries when payment was received in the quarter ended March 31, 2005 and zero in the quarter ended March 31, 2004. Gross revenues of \$435,000 and cost of goods sold of \$117,000 were deferred at March 31, 2005 and will be recognized when payment is received.

Sales allowances represent allowances granted to independent distributors for sales and marketing support, product warehousing and delivery and information exchange and are estimated based on the terms of the distribution arrangements currently in place. Sales allowances are accrued when the related product sales are recognized and are paid in accordance with the terms of the then-current distributor program arrangement. Distributor program arrangements expire annually, generally on December 31.

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Gross product sales and sales allowances are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2005	2004
Gross product sales	\$ 1,365,217	\$ 132,158
Sales allowances	(302,102)	(13,994)
Reduction of previously recorded sales allowance liabilities	91,371	95,237
Product sales, net of sales allowances	\$ 1,154,486	\$ 213,401

Net product sales by geographical region were:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2005	2004
United States	\$ 895,362	\$ 213,401
Spain	210,074	
Other regions	49,050	
Product sales, net of sales allowances	\$ 1,154,486	\$ 213,401

Incentives

The Company sometimes offers sales incentives, often in the form of free product, to distributors and other customers. Costs associated with such incentives are recognized as costs of sales in the later of the period in which (a) the associated revenue is recognized by the Company or (b) the sales incentive is offered to the customer.

In September 2003, with the cooperation of its distributors, the Company instituted a buy one, get one free promotion at the grower level that ran through the end of 2003. Near the end of 2003, the Company announced a reduction of approximately 50% in the price of Messenger and introduced Messenger STS, an improved formulation in January 2004 at this lower price point. At the same time, the Company announced to distributors that it planned to send them additional products at no charge in order to reduce the average cost of their existing inventories of Messenger. In the first quarter of 2004, the Company delivered approximately 202,000 ounces of Messenger products at no charge to distributors.

Stock Compensation

The Company has elected to apply the disclosure-only provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, as amended by SFAS No. 148, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure, an Amendment of SFAS No. 123. Accordingly, the Company accounts for stock-based compensation using the intrinsic value method prescribed in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations. The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per share as if the Company had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 to stock-based compensation.

Three Months Ended March 31,

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	2005	2004
Net loss, as reported	\$ (1,686,828)	\$ (2,346,399)
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense under fair value based method	(173,528)	(154,337)
Pro forma net loss	\$ (1,860,356)	\$ (2,500,736)
Loss per share:		
Basic and diluted - as reported	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.10)
Basic and diluted - pro forma	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.10)

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EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

Net Loss per Share

Basic net loss per share is the net loss divided by the average number of shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net loss per share is the net loss divided by the sum of the average number of shares outstanding during the period plus the additional shares that would have been issued had all dilutive warrants and options been exercised, less shares that would be repurchased with the proceeds from such exercise using the treasury stock method. The effect of including outstanding options and warrants is antidilutive for all periods presented. Therefore, options and warrants have been excluded from the calculation of diluted net loss per share. Shares issuable pursuant to stock options and warrants that have not been included in the above calculations because they are antidilutive totaled 2,754,499 and 2,756,091 as of March 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

2. Stock Options and Warrants

The following table summarizes stock option activity since December 31, 2004:

	Number of Options
Balance at December 31, 2004	2,620,578
Options granted	10,000
Options cancelled	(76,079)
Balance at March 31, 2005	2,554,499

As of March 31, 2005, the Company had warrants outstanding to purchase 200,000 shares of its common stock at \$15.00 per share. The warrants are currently exercisable and expire in August 2005. No warrants to purchase shares of the Company's common stock were issued during the three-month period ended March 31, 2005.

3. Inventory

Inventory, at average cost, consists of the following:

	March 31, 2005	December 31, 2004
Raw materials	\$ 565,903	\$ 579,385
Bulk inventory and work in progress	2,089,911	1,906,681
Finished goods	1,078,149	1,001,520
Total inventory	\$ 3,733,963	\$ 3,487,586

4. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment, at cost, consists of the following:

	March 31, 2005	December 31, 2004
Equipment	\$ 12,359,408	\$ 12,460,206
Equipment under capital leases	66,646	66,646
Leasehold improvements	10,817,391	10,817,391

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Total property and equipment	23,243,445	23,344,243
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(10,173,298)	(9,456,670)
Net property and equipment	\$ 13,070,147	\$ 13,887,573

The Company recorded depreciation and amortization of \$610,444 and \$528,818 for the three months ended March 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

EDEN BIOSCIENCE CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

5. Accrued Liabilities

Accrued liabilities consist of the following:

	March 31, 2005	December 31, 2004
Compensation and benefits	\$ 315,108	\$ 307,313
Research and development field trial expenses	201,054	256,873
Facility costs	235,179	232,097
Promotions	69,362	95,415
Sales allowances	14,853	84,769
Warranty	75,000	75,000
Other	224,808	154,944
Total accrued liabilities	\$ 1,135,364	\$ 1,206,411

6. Warranty Liability

The warranty accrual percentage, which has ranged between zero and five percent, is reviewed periodically and adjusted as necessary, based on historical experience, the results of product quality testing and future expectations. There were no changes to the Company's warranty liability during the three months ended March 31, 2005.

7. Major Customers

Net product sales to the following distributors accounted for more than ten percent of net revenues for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2005	2004
Customer A	\$ 213,000	\$
Customer B	167,000	
Customer C	117,000	
Customer D	**	43,000
Customer E	**	29,000
Customer F	**	13,000

** Less than ten percent.

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes thereto included in this report and with our 2004 audited financial statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 25, 2005.

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, such as statements of our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions. We use words such as anticipate, believe, expect, future and intend, the negative of these terms and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. However, these words are not the exclusive means of identifying such statements. In addition, any statements that refer to expectations, projections or other characterizations of future events or circumstances are forward-looking statements. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements for many reasons, including the factors described below and under the caption Factors That May Affect Our Business, Future Operating Results and Financial Condition set forth at the end of this Item 2. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this report. The cautionary statements made in this report apply to all forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this report. We undertake no obligation to publicly release any revisions to these forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Overview

We are a plant health technology company focused on developing, manufacturing and marketing innovative products for agriculture using our natural-based protein harpin technology. We have a fundamentally new, patented and proprietary technology that we believe enhances plant health and improves overall crop production and quality. We believe our technology provides growers with valuable benefits by increasing crop yields, quality and shelf-life; by improving the plant's ability to suppress certain diseases and other environmental stresses; and by enhancing the uptake of nutrients.

We have incurred significant operating losses since inception. At March 31, 2005, we had an accumulated deficit of \$107.6 million. We incurred net losses of \$1.7 million and \$2.3 million for the quarters ended March 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, and annual losses of \$8.9 million in 2004, \$11.2 million in 2003 and \$23.5 million in 2002. We expect to incur significant additional net losses as we proceed with the commercialization of our current products and the development of new products and technologies.

Results of Operations*Three Months Ended March 31, 2005 and 2004**Revenues*

We generated our first product sales revenue in August 2000. Product sales revenue to date has resulted primarily from sales of Messenger, our initial product, and Messenger STS, an improved formulation of Messenger introduced in January 2004, as well as N-Hibit, ProAct, MightyPlant and other related products (hereafter referred to collectively as Harp-N-Tek products) primarily to distributors in the United States and Spain. Revenues from product sales are recognized when (a) the product is delivered to independent distributors, (b) we have satisfied all of our significant obligations and (c) any acceptance provisions or other contingencies or arrangements have been satisfied, including whether collection is reasonably assured. As part of the analysis of whether all of our significant obligations have been satisfied or situations where acceptance provisions or other contingencies or arrangements exist, we consider the following elements, among others: sales terms and arrangements, historical experience and current incentive programs. Our distributor arrangements provide no price protection or product-return rights. Product sales revenue is reported net of applicable sales allowances, as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2005	2004
Gross product sales	\$ 1,365,217	\$ 132,158
Sales allowances	(302,102)	(13,994)
Reduction of previously recorded sales allowance liabilities	91,371	95,237

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Product sales, net of sales allowances	\$	1,154,486	\$	213,401
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Gross product sales revenue for the first quarter of 2005 was \$1,365,000, an increase of \$1,233,000 from \$132,000 in the same quarter of 2004. The increase is a result of sales of Messenger in foreign markets, sales growth in the home and garden market and sales of our new Harp-N-Tek products N-Hibit, ProAct and MightyPlant. Sales of new products produced over 50% of total revenue in the quarter ended March 31, 2005. Sales in the quarters ended March 31, 2004 were negatively impacted by high levels of inventory in the channel and free product provided under the price reduction program. Sales in the first quarter of 2005 were made primarily to 30 distributors, three of which accounted for an aggregate of 43% of net product sales revenue. Sales in the first quarter of 2004 were made primarily to 13 distributors, three of which accounted for an aggregate of 40% of net product sales revenue. We expect sales in the second quarter of 2005 to exceed sales in the first quarter of 2005.

Net product sales to foreign customers totaled \$259,000 and zero in the three months ended March 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively, and were made primarily to distributors in Europe. In February 2004, we received approval to sell Messenger in Spain. We initiated marketing activities in March 2005, but the approval was not received in time to meet initial sales activity. In order to ensure that an adequate supply of Messenger was quickly disbursed in the new distribution channel and to limit the amount of working capital required by our new distributors at this early stage of introduction, we granted flexible and/or extended payment terms to distributors in this new market. Because of this combination of factors, revenue from these product deliveries was deferred and will be recognized when payment is received. We recognized net revenue of \$259,000 from these deliveries when payment was received in the quarter ended March 31, 2005 and zero in the quarter ended March 31, 2004. Gross revenues of \$435,000 and cost of goods sold of \$117,000 were deferred at March 31, 2005 and will be recognized when payment is received.

Net sales of Messenger to consumers in the home and garden market in the United States totaled \$183,000 and \$82,000 in the three months ended March 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively. We expect sales of our home and garden products to continue to increase in the second quarter of 2005.

In December 2003, we announced a reduction of approximately 50% in the price of Messenger and determined that Messenger STS would sell for approximately the same price as Messenger. We also announced to distributors that we planned to send them approximately 550,000 ounces of Messenger STS at no charge in order to reduce the average cost of their existing inventories of Messenger. In the first quarter of 2004, we delivered approximately 202,000 ounces of free Messenger STS. This free product substantially increased channel inventory and negatively affected our Messenger STS sales to distributors. We do not expect distributors that hold significant inventories of Messenger STS to place additional orders until their current inventories are reduced.

Due to the growing seasons of our targeted crops and our current portfolio of Harp-N-Tek products, we expect grower usage of Harp-N-Tek products to be highly seasonal. Based on the recommended application timing in our targeted crops and information received from our distributors, we expect the second quarter to be the most significant period of use. Our product sales to distributors are also expected to be seasonal. However, actual timing of orders received from distributors will depend on many factors, including the amount of Harp-N-Tek products in distributors' inventories.

Sales Allowances

Sales allowances represent allowances granted to independent distributors for sales and marketing support, product warehousing and delivery and information exchange and are estimated based on the terms of the distribution arrangements. Sales allowances are accrued when the related product sales revenue is recognized and are paid in accordance with the terms of the then-current distributor program arrangement. Distributor program arrangements expire annually, generally on December 31.

Sales allowances for the quarters ended March 31, 2005 and 2004 include the reduction by \$91,000 and \$95,000, respectively, of sales allowance recognized in prior quarters that will not be paid because actual amounts earned by distributors were less than amounts previously estimated. Excluding these sales allowance reductions, sales allowances during the quarter ended March 31, 2005 totaled \$302,000 (22% of gross product sales) compared to \$14,000 (11% of gross product sales) in the comparable quarter of 2004. We expect 2005 sales allowances to average approximately 15-20% of total gross product sales based on current product specific distributor programs.

Cost of Goods Sold

Cost of goods sold consists primarily of the cost of products sold to distributors, idle capacity charges and the cost of products used for promotional purposes. Cost of goods sold was \$528,000 in the first quarter of 2005, compared to \$658,000 in the first quarter of 2004. An increase in cost of products sold related to higher sales

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volumes in 2005 was offset by a reduction in idle capacity charges resulting from additional manufacturing activities in 2005 and the write-off in 2004 of Messenger labels that were not used due to the introduction of Messenger STS.

Research and Development Expenses

Research and development expenses consist primarily of personnel, field trial, laboratory, regulatory, patent and facility expenses. Research and development expenses increased \$250,000 (37%) from \$676,000 in the first quarter of 2004 to \$926,000 in the same quarter of this year. This increase was primarily due to an increase in depreciation and amortization expense that resulted from reducing the estimated useful life of leasehold improvements and certain equipment at our research facility. We are pursuing additional tenants to sublease lab and office space at our research and administrative building and we expect to complete this by December 2005.

Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses consist of payroll and related expenses for sales and marketing, executive and administrative personnel; advertising, marketing and professional fees; and other corporate expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$178,000 (14%) from \$1.3 million in the first quarter of 2004 to \$1.5 million in the same quarter of 2005. This increase resulted primarily from additional spending on advertising and marketing costs for the home and garden market and for the introduction of our new products.

Interest Income

Interest income consists of earnings on our cash and cash equivalents. Interest income increased \$16,000 from \$52,000 in the first quarter of 2004 to \$68,000 in the same quarter of this year. The change was due to higher interest rates in 2005 offset by significantly lower average cash balances available for investment in the quarter ended March 31, 2005 compared to the same quarter in 2004.

Income Taxes

We have generated a net loss from operations for each period since we began doing business. As of December 31, 2004, we had accumulated approximately \$101.5 million of net operating loss carryforwards for federal income tax purposes, which expire between 2009 and 2024, and approximately \$9.1 million in foreign tax net operating loss carryforwards, which expire between 2006 and 2009. We have provided a valuation allowance against our net deferred tax assets because of the significant uncertainty surrounding our ability to realize them. The annual use of these net operating loss carryforwards may be limited in the event of a cumulative change in ownership of more than 50%.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our operating expenditures have been significant since our inception. We currently anticipate that our operating expenses will significantly exceed net product sales and that net losses and working capital requirements will consume a material amount of our cash resources. If net product sales do not significantly increase in the near term, we will have to further reduce our operating expenses. Our future capital requirements will depend on the success of our operations. We believe that the balance of our cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2005 will be sufficient to meet our anticipated cash needs for net losses, working capital and capital expenditures for more than the next 12 months, although there can be no assurance in that regard. After the next 12 months, if net product sales do not significantly increase, we will have to further reduce operating expenses or secure additional financing. We may be unable to obtain adequate or favorable financing at that time or at all and may be required to cease operations. In this regard, in April 2005, we received a delisting warning letter from the Nasdaq Stock Market notifying us that the closing price per share for our common stock was below the \$1.00 minimum bid price for 30 consecutive trading days and that, as a result, we no longer meet Nasdaq's continued listing criteria. Nasdaq provided us with 180 calendar days, or until October 3, 2005, to regain compliance. To regain compliance with the minimum bid price requirement, the closing bid price of our common stock must remain above \$1.00 for a minimum of ten consecutive trading days. If we do not regain compliance by October 3, 2005, which, as of the date of this report, we have been unable to do, and are not eligible to transfer our common stock to The Nasdaq SmallCap Market and qualify for an additional 180-day compliance period, our common stock will be delisted from The Nasdaq National Market. Nasdaq delisting could make it more difficult for us to raise capital. The sale of additional equity securities could result in dilution to our shareholders.

At March 31, 2005, our cash and cash equivalents totaled \$9.9 million, a decrease of \$2.0 million from the balance of \$11.9 million at December 31, 2004. Prior to October 2000, we financed our operations primarily through the private sale of our equity securities, resulting in net proceeds of approximately \$36.5 million through September 30, 2000. In October 2000, we received approximately \$91.5 million in net proceeds from the initial public offering of 6,670,000 shares of our common stock. To a lesser extent, we have financed our equipment purchases through lease financings.

Net cash used in operations decreased \$125,000 from \$2.1 million in the first three months of 2004 to just under \$2 million in the same period of 2005. Net cash used in operations in the first three months of 2005 resulted primarily from a net loss of \$1.7 million, which includes depreciation and amortization expense of \$610,000, and fluctuations in various asset and liability balances totaling \$893,000. We expect that net cash used in operations will continue to be significant.

We conduct our operations in two primary functional currencies: the U.S. dollar and the euro. Historically, neither fluctuations in foreign exchange rates nor changes in foreign economic conditions have had a significant impact on our financial condition or results of operations. We currently do not hedge our foreign currency exposures and are, therefore, subject to the risk of exchange rate fluctuations. We may invoice our international customers in U.S. dollars and euros, as the case may be. We are exposed to foreign exchange rate fluctuations as the financial results of foreign subsidiaries are translated into U.S. dollars in consolidation. Foreign exchange rate fluctuations did not have a material impact on our financial statements in the three months ended March 31, 2005 or 2004.

Critical Accounting Policies, Estimates and Judgments

Our critical accounting policies are more fully described in Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements included in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 25, 2005. Certain of our accounting policies require the application of significant judgment by management in selecting the appropriate assumptions for calculating financial estimates. By their nature, these judgments are subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty. These judgments are based on historical experience, terms of existing contracts, commonly accepted industry practices, information provided by our customers and other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. Our estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and the effects of revisions are reflected in the consolidated financial statements in the period in which they are determined to be necessary. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. Our critical accounting policies and estimates include:

Revenue Recognition

We sell the majority of our products to independent, third-party distributors. Our arrangements with those distributors provide no price protection or product-return rights. We recognize revenue from product sales, net of sales allowances, when product is delivered to our distributors and all of our significant obligations have been satisfied, unless acceptance provisions or other contingencies or arrangements exist, including whether collection is reasonably assured. If acceptance provisions or contingencies exist, revenue is recognized after such provisions or contingencies have been satisfied. As part of the analysis of whether all of our significant obligations have been satisfied or situations where acceptance provisions or other contingencies or arrangements exist, we consider the following elements, among others: sales terms and arrangements, including customer payment terms, historical experience and current incentive programs.

Sales allowances represent allowances granted to independent distributors for sales and marketing support, product warehousing and delivery and information exchange and are based on the terms of the distribution agreements or other arrangements. Sales allowances are estimated and accrued when the related product sales are recognized or when services are provided and are paid in accordance with the terms of the then-current distributor program agreements or other arrangements.

We also record, at the time revenue is recognized, a liability for warranty claims based on a percentage of sales. The warranty accrual percentage, which has ranged between zero and five percent, and warranty liability are reviewed periodically and adjusted as necessary, based on historical experience, the results of product quality testing and future expectations. Changes in our estimate of the warranty liability are recorded in cost of goods sold.

Accounts Receivable and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Accounts receivable balances are reported net of customer-specific related sales allowances. In determining the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts, we consider a number of factors, including the age of outstanding invoices, customer payment trends, the financial condition of our customers, historical bad debts and current economic trends. Based upon our analysis of outstanding net accounts receivable at March 31, 2005, no allowance for doubtful accounts was recorded. Changes in the factors above or other factors could result in a significant charge.

Inventory

Our inventory is valued at the lower of cost or market on an average cost basis. We regularly review inventory balances to determine whether a write-down is necessary. We consider various factors in making this determination, including recent sales history and predicted trends, industry market conditions, general economic conditions, the age of our inventory and recent quality control data. Changes in the factors above or other factors could result in significant additional inventory cost reductions and write-offs.

Valuation of Property and Equipment

We periodically review the carrying values of our property and equipment to determine whether such assets have been impaired. An impairment loss must be recorded pursuant to SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, when the undiscounted net cash flows to be realized from the use of such assets are less than their carrying value. The determination of undiscounted net cash flows expected requires us to make many estimates, projections and assumptions, including the lives of the assets, future sales and expense levels, additional capital investments or expenditures necessary to maintain the assets, industry market trends and general and industry economic conditions.

In October 2004, the Company began marketing lab and office space it currently occupies and estimates it will sublease substantially all of this space by the end of 2005. Based on the current sublease market, the Company believes that a portion of the leasehold improvements and certain equipment related to the lab space will not be recovered from the receipt of future sublease payments. Therefore, the estimated useful life of a portion of leasehold improvements and certain equipment related to this lab space has been reduced from January 2011, the end of the lease term, to December 31, 2005. In the first quarter of 2005, amortization and depreciation of \$355,000 was included in research and development expense in the condensed consolidated statements of operations and amortization and depreciation of \$1.1 million is expected to be recorded over the remainder of 2005.

Based upon our most recently completed analysis of net cash flows expected to be realized from our remaining investments in property and equipment, no additional impairment loss was recorded. The critical estimates in the analysis are our ability to significantly increase sales over the next five years while controlling operating expenses at about current levels over the next four years. If net product sales do not significantly increase in the near term or if expenses significantly increase over the current level, a significant impairment loss may need to be recorded. Another critical assumption is that we will continue our current facility leases. If we do not continue our leases, we may incur a significant impairment loss on leasehold improvements and equipment at these facilities and other significant losses. Changes in the factors above or other factors could result in significantly different cash flow estimates and a significant impairment charge.

Loss on Facility Subleases

As of March 31, 2005, we subleased approximately 34,300 square feet of laboratory and office space to other companies. One subtenant vacated approximately 7,300 square feet of office space in October 2004. As a result, the Company recorded an additional loss of \$202,000 in 2004. In determining the loss on these facility subleases, we considered a number of factors, including the financial condition of the subtenants, subtenants' investments in improvements, amounts of security deposits, estimated time needed to sublease space and estimated rents to be collected. Based on our analysis, we estimate that rents will be collected and that one subtenant will exercise a three-year extension option. Changes in the factors above or other factors could result in a significant increase in the loss.

Factors That May Affect Our Business, Future Operating Results and Financial Condition

You should carefully consider the risks described below, together with all of the other information included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing our

company. If any of the following risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition or operating results could be harmed.

We have a history of losses since inception, we expect to continue to incur losses and we may not achieve or sustain profitability.

We have incurred operating losses in each quarter since inception and we expect to continue to incur further operating losses for the foreseeable future. From our inception in July 1994 to March 31, 2005, we have accumulated a deficit of \$107.6 million. For the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000, we had net losses of \$8.9 million, \$11.2 million, \$23.5 million, \$23.7 million and \$15.7 million, respectively. To date, our revenues have been limited. For example, there were no sales in the fourth quarter of 2001 and annual net sales decreased from \$3.5 million in 2001 to \$1.9 million in 2002, \$1.8 million in 2003 and \$1 million in 2004. We expect our future revenues to come primarily from the sale of Messenger STS, employ, MightyPlant, ProAct, N-Hibit and other products and these sales are highly uncertain.

We expect to continue to devote substantial resources to funding sales and marketing activities in the United States and foreign countries, maintaining and operating our manufacturing facility and funding our research and development activities. As a result, we will need to generate significant revenues to achieve and maintain profitability. We may never generate profits, and if we do become profitable, we may be unable to sustain or increase profitability on a quarterly or annual basis.

We currently anticipate that our operating expenses will significantly exceed net product sales and that net losses and working capital requirements will consume a material amount of our cash resources. If net product sales do not significantly increase in the near term, we will have to further reduce our operating expenses. We believe that the balance of our cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2005 will be sufficient to meet our anticipated cash needs for net losses, working capital and capital expenditures for more than the next 12 months, although there can be no assurance in that regard.

We may have to reduce or cease operations if we are unable to meet our funding requirements.

We will require substantial additional funding to continue our sales and marketing and research and development activities in the United States and foreign countries and to maintain and operate our manufacturing facilities. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow from operations, or obtain funds through additional financing, we may have to delay, curtail or eliminate some or all of our research and development, field-testing, marketing or manufacturing programs or cease all operations. For example, we reduced our workforce by 34% in May 2003 and by 23% in May 2002, significantly curtailing certain research and development activities and our European and Mexican operations. Our future capital requirements will depend on the success of our operations.

If our capital requirements vary from our current plans, we may require additional financing sooner than we anticipate. Financing may be unavailable to us when needed or on acceptable terms.

As of the date of this report, we do not meet the \$1.00 minimum bid requirement for continued listing on The Nasdaq National Market and, as a result, our common stock may be delisted from The Nasdaq National Market, which could further depress our stock price and make it more difficult for us to raise capital.

Our common stock is currently listed on The Nasdaq National Market. To maintain this listing, we must satisfy ongoing listing requirements, including consistently maintaining a minimum bid price for our common stock of \$1.00 per share or more. In April 2005, we received a delisting warning letter from the Nasdaq Stock Market notifying us that the closing price per share for our common stock was below the \$1.00 minimum bid price for 30 consecutive trading days and that, as a result, we no longer meet Nasdaq's continued listing criteria. Nasdaq provided us with 180 calendar days, or until October 3, 2005, to regain compliance. To regain compliance with the minimum bid price requirement, the closing bid price of our common stock must remain above \$1.00 for a minimum of ten consecutive trading days. If we do not regain compliance by October 3, 2005, which, as of the date of this report, we have been unable to do, and are not eligible to transfer our common stock to The Nasdaq SmallCap Market and qualify for an additional 180-day compliance period, our common stock will be delisted from The Nasdaq National Market. Nasdaq also notes in the delisting warning letter that the 180-day period relates exclusively to the bid price deficiency and that we may be delisted during the 180-day period for failure to maintain compliance during this period with any other listing requirements. If we were to lose our Nasdaq National Market status, we would likely seek listing of our common stock in the over-the-counter market, which is viewed by many investors as a less liquid marketplace. Among other things, our common stock may then constitute penny stock, which would

place increased regulatory burden upon brokers, making them less likely to make a market in our stock. Loss of our Nasdaq National Market status could also make it more difficult for us to raise capital or complete acquisitions and would also complicate compliance with state blue sky laws.

We currently depend on products that are based on the same new technology, and our development and commercialization of those products may not be successful.

For the immediately foreseeable future we will be dependent on the successful development and commercialization of six products in our Harp-N-Tek product portfolio (Messenger, Messenger STS, ProAct, N-Hibit, employ and MightyPlant) which are based on the same new technology. We have had only limited sales of Messenger since its introduction in August 2000 and we began marketing employ in November 2003, Messenger STS in January 2004, MightyPlant in April 2004 and N-Hibit and ProAct in early 2005. These six products may not be commercially successful. Our products may not prove effective or economically viable for all crops or markets. In addition, because our products have not been put to widespread commercial use over significant periods of time, no assurance can be given that adverse consequences might not result from their use, such as soil or other environmental degradation, the development of negative effects on animals or plants or reduced benefits in terms of crop yield or protection.

The markets for our products and other harpin-based products we may develop are unproven. Messenger, Messenger STS, employ and MightyPlant have not gained, and may not gain, commercial acceptance or success. N-Hibit and ProAct may not gain commercial acceptance or success. If we are unable to successfully achieve broad market acceptance of our products, we may not be able to generate enough product revenues in the future to achieve profitability. A variety of factors will determine the success of our market development and commercialization efforts and the rate and extent of market acceptance of our products, including our ability to implement and maintain an appropriate pricing policy and general economic conditions in agricultural markets, including commodity prices, climatic conditions and the extent that growers, regulatory authorities and the public accept new agricultural practices and products developed through biotechnology.

We have experienced limited grower usage of Messenger and Messenger STS, and independent distributors hold significant inventories of Messenger STS.

Based on information received from distributors, we estimate that distributors sold 66,000 ounces of Messenger in 2000, 596,000 ounces in 2001, 684,000 ounces in 2002, 734,000 ounces in 2003 and 800,000 ounces in 2004. During the first three months of 2005, we estimate that distributors sold 214,000 ounces to growers, compared to 172,000 ounces in the same period of 2004. We estimate that Messenger and Messenger STS inventory held by distributors at March 31, 2005 was approximately 418,000 ounces. We sent distributors approximately 470,000 ounces of additional Messenger STS for free in 2004 as part of an effort to lower the average cost of their year-end Messenger inventories by approximately 50%. This free product significantly increased channel inventory and negatively affected our sales to distributors. We do not expect distributors that hold significant inventories of Messenger or Messenger STS to place additional orders for our products until their current inventories are reduced, which will adversely affect our sales and results of operations.

Inability to develop adequate sales and marketing capabilities could prevent us from successfully commercializing our current products and other products we may develop.

We currently have limited sales and marketing experience and capabilities. Our internal sales and marketing staff consist primarily of sales and marketing specialists who are trained to educate growers and independent distributors on the uses and benefits of our products. We will need to further develop our sales and marketing capabilities in order to enhance our commercialization efforts, which will involve substantial costs. These specialists require a high level of technical expertise and knowledge regarding our products capabilities and other plant protection and yield enhancement products and techniques. We cannot assure you that our specialists and other members of our sales and marketing team will successfully compete against the sales and marketing operations of our current and future competitors that may have more established relationships with distributors, retailers and growers. Failure to recruit, train and retain important sales and marketing personnel, such as our sales and marketing specialists, or the inability of new sales and marketing personnel to effectively market and sell our current products and other products we may develop, could impair our ability to gain market acceptance of our products and cause our sales to suffer.

We may be unable to establish or maintain successful relationships with independent distributors and retailers, which could adversely affect our sales.

We intend to rely on independent distributors and retailers of agri-chemicals to distribute and assist with the marketing and sale of our current products and any other products we may develop. We have engaged several independent distributors and retailers for the distribution and sale of our products. Our future revenue growth will depend in large part on our success in establishing and maintaining these sales and distribution channels. We are continuing to develop our distribution network and we may be unable to establish or maintain these relationships in a timely or cost-effective manner. Moreover, we cannot assure you that the distributors and retailers on which we rely will focus adequate resources on selling these products or will be successful in selling them. Many of our potential distributors and retailers are in the business of distributing and sometimes manufacturing other, possibly competing, plant protection and yield enhancement products and may perceive our products as a threat to various product lines currently being manufactured or distributed by them. In addition, the distributors and retailer may earn higher margins by selling competing products or combinations of competing products. If we are unable to establish or maintain successful relationships with independent distributors and retailers, we will need to further develop our own distribution and sales and marketing capabilities, which would be expensive and time-consuming and the success of which would be uncertain.

Three distributors accounted for an aggregate of 43% of net product sales revenue in first three months of 2005 and three different distributors accounted for an aggregate of 40% of our net sales revenue in the same period of 2004. If any distributor that purchases a significant amount of our products were to discontinue purchasing our products at any time, our sales would be adversely affected. In addition, the failure of any of these distributors, or of any other distributor to which we extend a significant amount of credit, to pay its account, now or in the future, may harm our operating results.

If our ongoing or future field trials are unsuccessful, we may be unable to achieve market acceptance or obtain regulatory approval of our current products or any other products we may develop.

The successful completion of multiple field trials in domestic and foreign locations on a wide variety of crops is critical to the success of our product development and marketing efforts. If our ongoing or future field trials are unsuccessful or produce inconsistent results or adverse side effects, or if we are unable to collect reliable data, regulatory approval of our current products or any other products we may develop could be delayed or withheld or we may be unable to achieve market acceptance of these products. Although we have conducted successful field trials on a broad range of crops, we cannot be certain that additional field trials conducted on a greater number of acres, or on crops for which we have not yet conducted field trials, will be successful. Moreover, the results of our ongoing and future field trials are subject to a number of conditions beyond our control, including weather-related events such as droughts and floods, severe heat and frost, hail, tornadoes and hurricanes. Generally, we pay third parties, such as consultants and universities, to conduct our field trials for us. Incompatible crop treatment practices or misapplication of the product by third parties could interfere with the success of our field trials.

We are largely in the development stage and are subject to the risks of a new enterprise and the commercialization of a new technology.

We began our operations in 1994 and began the marketing and sale of our first product, Messenger, in the third quarter of 2000. Our stage of development, our novel technology and the uncertain nature of the market in which we compete make it difficult to assess our prospects or predict our future operating results. We are subject to risks and uncertainties frequently encountered in the establishment of a new business enterprise, particularly in the rapidly changing market for plant protection and yield enhancement products. These risks include our inability to develop a company capable of supporting commercial activities, including manufacturing, quality control and assurance, regulatory approval and compliance, marketing, sales, distribution and customer service. Our inability to adequately address these risks could cause us to be unprofitable or to cease operations.

International expansion will subject us to risks associated with international operations, which could adversely affect both our domestic and international operations.

Our success depends in part on our ability to expand internationally as we obtain regulatory approvals to market and sell our current products, and any other products we may develop, in other countries. We recently began selling our products in Spain. We have been conducting field trials in several international locations and we have personnel in Europe to develop operations in that region. International expansion of our operations could impose substantial burdens on our resources, divert management's attention from domestic operations or otherwise adversely affect our

business. Furthermore, international operations are subject to several inherent risks, such as different regulatory requirements and reduced protection of intellectual property rights, which could adversely affect our ability to compete in international markets and could have a negative effect on our operating results.

The high level of competition in our market may result in price reductions, reduced margins or the inability of our products to achieve market acceptance.

The market for plant protection and yield enhancement products is intensely competitive, rapidly changing and undergoing consolidation. We may be unable to compete successfully against our current or future competitors, which may result in price reductions, reduced margins or the inability to achieve market acceptance of our current products or any other products we may develop. For example, from September to December 2003 we offered growers a "buy one, get one free" promotion and in January 2004 we introduced Messenger STS at a price that is approximately 50% of the 2003 price of Messenger.

Many companies are engaged in developing plant protection and yield enhancement products. Our competitors include major international agri-chemical companies, specialized biotechnology companies and research and academic institutions. Many of these organizations have significantly more capital, research and development, regulatory, manufacturing, distribution, sales, marketing, human and other resources than we do. As a result, they may be able to devote greater resources to the development, manufacture, promotion or sale of their products, receive greater resources and support from independent distributors, initiate or withstand substantial price competition or take advantage of acquisition or other opportunities more readily. Furthermore, these large agri-chemical companies have a more diversified product offering than we do, which may give them an advantage in meeting customer needs by enabling them to offer integrated solutions to plant protection and yield enhancement.

Age and actual storage conditions of our products may cause them to degrade, which could adversely affect market acceptance of our products or our results of operations.

Our products are currently being stored in large quantities under various conditions by us and by distributors. Most of this material was manufactured in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2004. We have conducted laboratory studies that indicate Messenger is stable for at least two years under our recommended storage conditions and the results of recently completed re-testing of Messenger manufactured in 2000 indicate that it is stable for more than four years. No assurance can be given, however, that actual storage conditions will not cause our products' quality to degrade over a shorter time period.

The inventory of Messenger held by us and by distributors is aging and may not meet our quality standards, which could adversely affect market acceptance of our products and our results of operations.

Our inventory at March 31, 2005 includes approximately 2.9 million ounces of Messenger and Messenger STS that was manufactured in 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2004. In addition, we estimate that distributors own approximately 418,000 ounces of Messenger and Messenger STS that was manufactured between 2000 and 2004. Due to the age of this inventory, we conducted limited re-testing of Messenger samples produced in 2000 and 2001. In 2003, we voluntarily recalled and replaced approximately 10,000 ounces of Messenger owned by distributors that our limited re-testing indicated had degraded below our quality control standards.

Although results of our limited re-testing indicate that a portion of inventory manufactured in 2000, 2001 and 2002 continues to meet our quality standards, no assurance can be given that this material will continue to meet our quality standards, nor can we predict if or when this material might fail to meet our quality standards. If our limited re-testing program indicates that additional material has degraded below our quality standards, we may have to record additional inventory write-downs and may choose to replace any such product owned by distributors or growers, which could adversely affect the market acceptance of our products or our results of operations.

Inability to obtain regulatory approvals, or to comply with ongoing and changing regulatory requirements, could delay or prevent sales of our current products or any other products we may develop.

The field testing, manufacture, sale and use of plant health products, including Messenger, Messenger STS, ProAct, N-Hibit, employ, MightyPlant and other products we may develop, are extensively regulated by the EPA and/or state, local and foreign governmental authorities. These regulations substantially increase the cost and time associated with bringing our current products and any other products we may develop to market. If we do not receive the necessary governmental approvals to test, manufacture and market these products, or if the regulatory

authorities revoke our approvals or grant them subject to restrictions on their use, we may be unable to sell these products and our business may fail.

We are required to obtain regulatory approval from certain state and foreign regulatory authorities before we market our products in those jurisdictions. Some of these jurisdictions may apply different criteria than the EPA in connection with their approval processes. Although we are authorized to sell Messenger and Messenger STS in 48 states for use on virtually all crops for crop production and disease management, and to sell Messenger and Messenger STS in California for use on citrus for yield enhancement and on strawberries, citrus, grapes and fruiting vegetables, such as tomatoes and peppers, for disease management, we have not received approval of Messenger, Messenger STS or N-Hibit for use on other crops in California. In Colorado, Messenger is approved for use on virtually all crops for home and garden use. ProAct has been approved for use in 37 states, including Colorado, and is pending approval in all other states except California. We have also received authorization to sell Messenger, or are exempt from formal authorization requirements, in at least 26 foreign countries, including Spain, Germany, Mexico, China and six Central American countries. Our registration in China is temporary and limited to the sale of Messenger for use on tomatoes, peppers, tobacco, and rapeseed. Our registration in Spain is limited to the sale of Messenger for use on tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, melons, strawberries, lettuce, citrus and olives. The EPA has approved the use of Messenger STS and we are currently in the process of obtaining foreign registrations for this product, but there can be no assurance that such registrations will be obtained on acceptable terms.

Neither employ nor MightyPlant are pesticides and they are not regulated by the EPA. However, several states and foreign governments regulate both products. Many states regulate employ as a plant amendment or soil conditioner and some of these states and foreign regulatory authorities require the submission and review of performance data and other information prior to granting their approval. We are authorized to sell employ in 33 states and no foreign countries. MightyPlant is classified by most states as a fertilizer and we are now in the process of obtaining state approvals for its sale. We are authorized to sell MightyPlant in 46 states and no foreign countries. However, there can be no assurance that we will obtain approval to sell employ or MightyPlant in other states or foreign countries.

If we significantly modify our current products' designs as a result of our ongoing research and development projects, additional EPA and other regulatory approvals may be required. Moreover, we cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain approval for marketing additional harpin-based products or product extensions that we may develop. For example, while the EPA has in place a registration procedure for products such as Messenger that is streamlined in comparison to the registration procedure for chemical pesticides, there can be no assurance that all of our products or product extensions will be eligible for the streamlined procedure or that the EPA will not impose additional requirements that could make the procedure more time-consuming and costly for any future products we may develop.

Even if we obtain all necessary regulatory approvals to market and sell our current products and any other products we may develop, these products will be subject to continuing review and extensive regulatory requirements. The EPA, as well as state and foreign governmental authorities, could withdraw a previously approved product from the market upon discovery of new information, including an inability to comply with regulatory requirements or the occurrence of unanticipated problems with the product, or for other reasons. In addition, federal, state and foreign regulations relating to crop production and protection products developed through biotechnology are subject to public concerns and political circumstances and, as a result, regulations have changed and may change substantially in the future. These changes may result in limitations on the manufacturing, marketing or use of our current products or any other products we may develop and commercialize.

Our product development efforts, which are based on an innovative technology that is commercially unproven, may not be successful.

Our harpin and harpin-related technology is new and commercially unproven. It may take years and significant capital investment to develop viable enhancements of our current products or any new products we may develop based on our harpin and harpin-related technology. Risks inherent in the development of products based on innovative technologies include the possibility that:

- new products or product enhancements will be uneconomical to market or will be difficult to produce on a large scale;

- proprietary rights of third parties will prevent us from marketing products; and
- third parties will market superior or equivalent products or will market their products first.

Our operating results are likely to fluctuate, resulting in an unpredictable level of sales and earnings and a decrease in our stock price.

Our operating results for a particular quarter or year are likely to fluctuate, which could result in uncertainty surrounding our level of sales and earnings and possibly result in a decrease in our stock price. For example, there were no sales of Messenger in the fourth quarter of 2001 and annual net product sales decreased 70% from 2001 to 2004. Numerous other factors will contribute to the unpredictability of our operating results. In particular, our sales are expected to be highly seasonal. Sales of plant protection and yield enhancement products depend on planting and growing seasons, climatic conditions and economic and other variables, which we expect to result in substantial fluctuations in our quarterly sales and earnings. For example, weather-related events such as droughts and floods, severe heat and frost, hail, tornadoes and hurricanes could decrease demand for our products and any future products we may develop, and have an adverse impact on our operating results from quarter to quarter. In addition, most of our expenses, such as employee compensation and lease payments for facilities and equipment, are relatively fixed. Our expense levels are based, in part, on our expectations regarding future sales. As a result, any shortfall in sales relative to our expectations could cause significant changes in our operating results from quarter to quarter. Other factors may also contribute to the unpredictability of our operating results, including the amount of our products carried in inventory by independent distributors and retailers, the amount of free product to be given to retailers, the size and timing of significant customer transactions, the delay or deferral of customer use of our products and the fiscal or quarterly budget cycles of our customers. For example, customers may purchase large quantities of our products under a promotion such as buy one, get one free in a particular quarter to store and use over long periods of time, or time their purchases to coincide with the availability of capital, either of which may cause significant fluctuations in our operating results for a particular quarter or year.

Inability to protect our patents and proprietary rights in the United States and foreign countries could limit our ability to compete effectively since our competitors may take advantage of our patents or proprietary rights.

Our success depends on our ability to obtain and maintain patent and other proprietary-right protection for our technology and products in the United States and other countries. If we are unable to obtain or maintain these protections, we may not be able to prevent third parties from using our proprietary rights. We also rely on trade secrets, proprietary know-how and continuing technological innovation to remain competitive. We have taken measures to protect our trade secrets and know-how, including the use of confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants and advisors. It is possible that these agreements may be breached and that any remedies for breach will not make us whole. We generally control and limit access to, and the distribution of, our product documentation and other proprietary information. Despite our efforts to protect these proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may copy aspects of our products or obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. We also cannot guarantee that other parties will not independently develop our know-how or otherwise obtain access to our technology.

The laws of some foreign countries do not protect proprietary rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States, and many companies have encountered significant problems and incurred significant costs in protecting their proprietary rights in these foreign countries.

Patent law is still evolving with respect to the scope and enforceability of claims in the fields in which we operate. We are like many biotechnology companies in that our patent protection is highly uncertain and involves complex legal and technical questions for which legal principles are not firmly established. Our patents and those patents for which we have license rights may be challenged, narrowed, invalidated or circumvented. In addition, our issued patents may not contain claims sufficiently broad to protect us against third parties with similar technologies or products, or provide us with any competitive advantage. We are not certain that our pending patent applications will be issued. Moreover, our competitors could challenge or circumvent our patents or pending patent applications.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the courts have not established a consistent policy regarding the breadth of claims allowed in biotechnology patents. The allowance of broader claims may increase the incidence and cost of patent interference proceedings and the risk of infringement litigation. On the other hand, the allowance of narrower claims may limit the value of our proprietary rights.

Other companies may claim that we infringe their intellectual property or proprietary rights, which could cause us to incur significant expenses or be prevented from selling our current products or any other products we may develop in the future.

Our success depends on our ability to operate without infringing the patents and proprietary rights of third parties. Product development is inherently uncertain in a rapidly evolving technological environment in which there may be numerous patent applications pending, many of which are confidential when filed, with regard to similar technologies. Future patents issued to third parties may contain claims that conflict with our patents. Although we believe that our current products do not infringe the proprietary rights of any third parties, third parties could assert infringement claims against us in the future. Any litigation or interference proceedings, regardless of their merit or outcome, would probably be costly and require significant time and attention of our key management and technical personnel. Litigation or interference proceedings could also force us to:

- stop or delay selling, manufacturing or using products that incorporate the challenged intellectual property;
- pay damages; or
- enter into licensing or royalty agreements that may be unavailable on acceptable terms.

If we do not adequately distinguish our products from genetically modified plants and products, public concerns over those products could negatively impact market acceptance of our products.

Claims that the output of genetically modified plants is unsafe for consumption or that these plants pose a danger to the environment have led to public concerns and negative attitudes about genetically modified crops, particularly in Europe. We intend to distinguish our products and other topically applied harpin technologies from genetically modified plants and products. Our products are topically applied and do not modify the plant's DNA. If the public or our customers perceive our products as products that genetically modify plants, market acceptance and registration of our products could be delayed, impaired or limited in countries with strong political resistance to genetically modified plants.

We may be exposed to product liability claims, which could adversely affect our operations.

We may be held liable or incur costs to settle product liability claims if our current products or any products we may develop, or any products that use or incorporate any of our technologies, cause injury or are found unsuitable during product testing, manufacturing, marketing, sale or use. These risks exist even with respect to any products that have received, or may in the future receive, regulatory approval, registration or clearance for commercial use. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to avoid product liability exposure.

We currently maintain product liability insurance at levels we believe are sufficient and consistent with industry standards for companies at our stage of development. We cannot guarantee that our product liability insurance is adequate, and, at any time, it is possible that such insurance coverage may not be available on commercially reasonable terms or at all. A product liability claim could result in liability to us greater than our assets and insurance coverage. Moreover, even if we have adequate insurance coverage, product liability claims or recalls could result in negative publicity or force us to devote significant time and attention to matters other than those that arise in the normal course of business.

Rapid changes in technology could render our current products or any other products we may develop unmarketable or obsolete.

We are engaged in an industry characterized by extensive research efforts and rapid technological development. Our competitors, many of which have substantially greater technological and financial resources than we do, may develop plant protection and yield enhancement technologies and products that are more effective than ours or that render our technology and products obsolete or uncompetitive. To be successful, we will need to continually enhance our current products and any other products we may develop and to design, develop and market new products that keep pace with new technological and industry developments.

Inability to comply with regulations applicable to our facilities and procedures could delay, limit or prevent our research and development or manufacturing activities.

Our research and development and manufacturing facilities and procedures are subject to continual review and periodic inspection. To comply with the regulations applicable to these facilities and procedures, we must spend

