

**BURCON GRANTED EUROPEAN PATENT
OVER PRODUCTION OF FLAX PROTEIN ISOLATES
INITIATES REGISTRATION IN TWENTY COUNTRIES**

Vancouver, British Columbia, August 17, 2006 – Burcon NutraScience Corporation (TSX-V: BU) announces today that it has been granted a patent by the European Patent Office: European Patent No. 1434493 - “Flax Protein Isolate and Production” – which covers a novel protein isolate derived from any flax oil seed, including the low linolenic acid variety Linola™ oil seed, and the production thereof.

Linola is the trademark name of solin varieties, strains of flax, now being developed by Canada’s Agricore United through a joint venture with CSIRO – the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization of Australia which developed the original strain in the early 1990’s.

The patent application, which is the subject of this announcement, was originally filed in November 2002. At that time, Burcon also filed applications, which are currently being reviewed, with the United States Patent and Trademark Office as well as internationally under the Patent Cooperation Treaty of the World Intellectual Property Organization.

Burcon has committed to register this patent in some twenty European countries.

As previously announced, Burcon already holds four U.S. patents over canola protein processing technology and canola protein isolate product uses. A number of Burcon’s patent applications, including one which has already granted, are applicable to oilseeds and oilseed meals other than canola; including sunflower, soybean and even hemp seed. This is the first exclusively non-canola based technology over which Burcon has obtained patent protection.

“Flax is an important oil seed crop which has seen strong growth in consumer awareness for its health benefits including omega 3 fatty acids, lignans and fibre,” stated Johann F. Tergesen, Burcon’s President & COO who added, “Burcon will continue to devote some of its resources to exploring opportunities beyond its core canola protein isolate technology.”

About Burcon NutraScience

Burcon is a research and development company developing a portfolio of composition, application, and process patents around its plant protein extraction and purification technology. The goal of Burcon’s research is to develop its patented process to utilize inexpensive oilseed meals for the production of purified plant proteins that exhibit valuable nutritional, functional or nutraceutical profiles. Burcon, in conjunction with Archer Daniels Midland, is currently focusing its efforts on developing the world's first commercial canola proteins, Puratein® and Supertein™. Canola, recognized for its nutritional qualities, is the second-largest oilseed crop in the world after soybeans.

Burcon's goal is to develop Puratein and Supertein to participate with soy, dairy, and egg proteins in the expanding multi-billion-dollar protein ingredient market, with potential uses in prepared foods, nutritional supplements, and personal care products.

###

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

“Johann F. Tergesen”

Johann F. Tergesen

President & Chief Operating Officer

The TSX Venture Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy of the content of the information contained herein. This press release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements relate to, among other things, plans and timing for the introduction or enhancement of our products, statements about future market conditions, supply and demand conditions, and other expectations, intentions and plans contained in this press release that are not historical fact. Our expectations regarding the prospect for future success depend upon our ability to develop and sell products, which we do not produce today and cannot be sold without further research and development. When used in this press release, the words “goal,” “intend,” “believes” and “potential” and similar expressions, generally identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current expectations. They are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. In light of the many risks and uncertainties surrounding the development of a source of protein from canola meal, you should understand that we cannot assure you that the forward looking statements contained in this press release will be realized.

For more information, please contact:

Jade Cheng, Chief Financial Officer
Burcon NutraScience Corporation
(604) 733-0896 / (888) 408-7960 toll-free
jcheng@burcon.ca www.burcon.ca

AXINO AG

Sven Olsson, Investor Relations Europe
Silberburgstraße 112, D-70176 Stuttgart, Germany
Tel. +49-711-25 35 92-30 / Fax +49-711-25 35 92-33
olsson@axino.de www.burcon.net