

NUTRACEA
Form POS AM
April 12, 2006

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 11, 2006

Registration No. 333-129839

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

**POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 1
to
Form SB-2**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE
SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

NUTRACEA
(Name of Small Business Issuer in Its Charter)

California
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

2040
(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code Number)

87-0673375
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1261 Hawk's Flight Court, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(916) 933-7000
(Address and Telephone Number of Principal Executive Offices)

1261 Hawk's Flight Court, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(Address of Principal Place of Business or Intended Principal Place of Business)

Bradley D. Edson
1261 Hawk's Flight Court, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(916) 933-7000
(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Agent For Service)

Copy to:

Christopher V. Chediak, Esq.
Weintraub Genshlea Chediak Law Corporation
400 Capitol Mall, 11th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 558-6000

Edgar Filing: NUTRACEA - Form POS AM

Approximate Date of Commencement of Proposed Sale to the Public: as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box.

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. _____

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. _____

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. _____

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box.

If, as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions, or by reason of changes in the conversion price of the preferred stock, the number of securities purported to be registered on this registration statement increases, the provisions of Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933 shall apply, and this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any such additional shares of common stock.

The Registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. The Selling Security Holders may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell securities, and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities, in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED APRIL 11, 2006.

PROSPECTUS

NutraCea

30,478,872 Shares of Common Stock

This prospectus relates to the disposition of up to 30,478,872 shares of NutraCea common stock or interests therein by the shareholders named in this prospectus under the heading "Selling Security Holders". We will not receive any of the proceeds from the disposition of the shares covered hereby or interests therein, although we will receive the proceeds from the cash exercise of warrants to acquire certain of these shares.

Our common stock is quoted on the Over-the-Counter ("OTC") Bulletin Board under the symbol "NTRZ". On March 31, 2006, the last sale price of our common stock on the OTC Bulletin Board was \$1.18 per share.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1261 Hawk's Flight Court, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762, and our telephone number is (916) 558-6000.

INVESTING IN THE COMMON STOCK OFFERED HEREIN INVOLVES A HIGH DEGREE OF RISK. YOU SHOULD PURCHASE SHARES ONLY IF YOU CAN AFFORD A COMPLETE LOSS OF YOUR INVESTMENT. YOU SHOULD CONSIDER CAREFULLY THE "RISK FACTORS" CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS BEGINNING ON PAGE 4.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2006.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>About This Prospectus</u>	2
<u>Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	2
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	3
<u>Risk Factors</u>	4
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	12
<u>Price Range of Common Stock</u>	12
<u>Dividend Policy</u>	13
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition And Results of Operations</u>	14
<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition And Results of Operations of The RiceX Company</u>	22
<u>Business of NutraCea</u>	24
<u>Management</u>	41
<u>Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions</u>	51
<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management</u>	52
<u>Description of Securities</u>	55
<u>Selling Security Holders</u>	57
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	60
<u>Legal Matters</u>	62
<u>Experts</u>	62
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	62
<u>Index to Financial Statements</u>	63

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

We have not authorized anyone to provide information different from that contained in this prospectus. This prospectus is not an offer to sell nor is it seeking an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where such offer or sale is not permitted. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of the common stock. In this prospectus, references to “NutraCea”, the “Company”, “we”, “us” and “our” refer to NutraCea, a California corporation.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some of the statements in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement we may file constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These statements relate to future events concerning our business and to our future revenues, operating results, and financial condition. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as “may,” “will,” “could,” “would,” “should,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “believe,” “estimate,” “forecast,” “potential,” or “continue” or the negative of those terms or other comparable terminology.

Any forward looking statements contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement are only estimates or predictions of future events based on information currently available to our management and management’s current beliefs about the potential outcome of future events. Whether these future events will occur as management anticipates, whether we will achieve our business objectives, and whether our revenues, operating results, or financial condition will improve in future periods are subject to numerous risks. The section of this prospectus captioned “Risk Factors,” beginning on page 4, provides a summary of the various risks that could cause our actual results or future financial condition to differ materially from forward-looking statements made in this prospectus. The factors discussed in this section are not intended to represent a complete list of all the factors that could adversely affect our business, revenues, operating results, or financial condition. Other factors that we have not considered may also have an adverse effect on our business, revenues, operating results, or financial condition, and the factors we have identified could affect us to a greater extent than we currently anticipate. Before making any investment in our securities, we encourage you to carefully read the information contained under the caption “Risk Factors,” as well the other information contained in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement we may file.

“TheraFoods,” “NutraCea,” “NutraBeauticals,” “RiSolubles,” “RiceMucil,” “RiceMucille,” “StaBran,” “SolublesS,” “ZymeBoost,” “NutraHGH,” “Equineceuticals,” “FiberSolutions,” “NutraBreathe,” “LiverBoost,” “RiceLean,” “VetC,” “PetCeuticals,” Caduceus logo, “HiFiSolubles,” “Therafeed,” “Via-Bran,” “Proventics,” “SuperSolubles,” “Nourishing The B Health,” “Proceuticals,” “Cea100,” “DiaBoost” and “NutraBalance” are registered trademarks of NutraCea.

RiceX® and RiceX Solubles® are registered trade names of The RiceX Company, NutraCea’s wholly owned subsidiary. Mirachol®, Max "E"® and Max "E" Glo® are registered trademarks of The RiceX Company.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary is qualified in its entirety by the information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. You should read the entire prospectus, including "Risk Factors" and the financial statements before making an investment decision.

Issuer: NutraCea
1261 Hawk's Flight Court
El Dorado Hills, California 95762
(916) 933-7000

Description of Business: We are a developer, formulator and distributor of nutraceutical, health, cosmetic and nutrition products using stabilized rice bran and specially formulated rice bran oil. We have also developed dietary products that provide the benefits of stabilized rice bran and rice bran oil as a nutritional supplement for humans and animals. Consumer products are marketed under the TheraFoods® name. Medical supplements are marketed under the NutraCea® name. Products for veterinary and animal use are marketed under the NutraGlo® name. Cosmetics are marketed under the NutraBeautical® name. A description of our business begins on page 24 of this prospectus.

On October 4, 2005, we acquired The RiceX Company. The RiceX Company manufactures and distributes nutritionally dense foods and food ingredients made from stabilized rice bran for supply to the global food manufacturing and equine feed industries.

The Offering: This offering relates to the resale of shares of our common stock that are outstanding and shares of our common stock that may be acquired from time to time upon conversion of our outstanding Series B convertible preferred stock and upon exercise of outstanding options and warrants. The selling shareholders and the number of shares that may be sold by each are set forth on page 57 of this prospectus.

Shares: 30,478,872 shares of our common stock. A description of our common stock is set forth on page 55 of this prospectus.

Manner of Sale: The shares of our common stock may be sold from time to time by the selling shareholders in open market or negotiated transactions at prices determined from time to time by the selling shareholders. A description of the manner in which sales may be made is set forth in this prospectus beginning on page 60 of this prospectus.

Use of Proceeds: We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of our common stock by the selling shareholders.

Risk Factors: The securities offered hereby involve a high degree of risk and will result in immediate and substantial dilution. A discussion of additional risk factors relating to our stock, our business and this offering begins on page 4 of this prospectus.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Please carefully consider the specific factors set forth below as well as the other information contained in this prospectus before purchasing shares of our common stock. This prospectus contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ significantly from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements.

Risks Related to Our Business

We have a limited operating history and have not generated a profit since we began operations.

We began operations in February 2000 and have incurred losses in each reporting period since commencing operations. Our prospects for financial success are difficult to forecast because we have a relatively limited operating history. Our prospects for financial success must be considered in light of the risks, expenses and difficulties frequently encountered by companies in new, unproven and rapidly evolving markets. Our business could be subject to any or all of the problems, expenses, delays and risks inherent in the establishment of a new business enterprise, including limited capital resources, possible delays in product development, possible cost overruns due to price and cost increases in raw product and manufacturing processes, uncertain market acceptance, and inability to respond effectively to competitive developments and attract, retain and motivate qualified employees. Therefore, there can be no assurance that our business or products will be successful, that we will be able to achieve or maintain profitable operations, or that we will not encounter unforeseen difficulties that may deplete its capital resources more rapidly than anticipated.

We may need to obtain additional funds to finance long-term product research and development as well as fund current operations.

We have not generated a positive cash flow from operations in any period since commencing operations. While we believe that we have adequate cash reserves and working capital to fund current operations, our ability to meet long term business objectives is dependent upon our ability to raise additional financing through public or private debt or equity financings, establish increasing cash flow from operations, enter into collaborative or other arrangements with corporate sources, or secure other sources of financing to fund long-term operations. There is no assurance that external funds will be available on terms acceptable to us in sufficient amount to finance operations until we do reach positive cash flow to fund our capital expenditures. In addition, any issuance of securities to obtain such funds would dilute percentage ownership of our shareholders. Such dilution could also have an adverse impact on our earnings per share and reduce the price of our common stock. Incurring additional debt may involve restrictive covenants and increased interest costs and demand on future cash flow. Our inability to obtain sufficient financing may require us to delay, scale back or eliminate some or all of our product development and marketing programs.

We may not realize the anticipated benefits from the RiceX transaction because of integration difficulties and other challenges.

If we fail to meet the challenges involved in successfully integrating the operations of NutraCea and RiceX or to realize any of the anticipated benefits or synergies of the RiceX transaction could seriously harm our results. Realizing the benefits of the RiceX transaction will depend in part on our ability to overcome significant challenges, such as timely, efficient and successful execution of post-merger strategies, including:

combining the operations of two companies;

retaining and assimilating the key personnel of each company;

Table of Contents

- integrating the technology and products of the two companies;
- retaining existing customers and strategic partners of both companies and attracting new customers and strategic partners; and
- successfully exploiting potential synergies of the two companies.

The risks related to the execution of these post-merger strategies include:

- potential disruption of our ongoing business and distraction of our management resulting from the efforts to combine and integrate NutraCea's and RiceX's operations;
- difficulties associated with successfully coordinating our management;
- difficulties inherent in creating successful strategies for coordinating sales and marketing plans for the products and services of the two companies;
- the risk that synergies anticipated for our products will not be achieved or may not be realized within the timeframe currently anticipated;
- the possibility that efforts to achieve operating expense reductions may be unsuccessful or give rise to unexpected liabilities;
- the potential need to demonstrate to customers that the merger will not result in adverse changes in customer service standards or business;
- impairment of relationships with employees, suppliers and customers as a result of the integration of new management personnel; and
- failure to retain key employees, including members of the management team.

There are significant market risks associated with our business.

We have formulated our business plan and strategies based on certain assumptions regarding the size of the rice bran market, our anticipated share of this market and the estimated price and acceptance of our products. These assumptions are based on the best estimates of our management; however there can be no assurance that our assessments regarding market size, potential market share attainable by us, the price at which we will be able to sell our products, market acceptance of our products or a variety of other factors will prove to be correct. Any future success may depend upon factors including changes in the dietary supplement industry, governmental regulation, increased levels of competition, including the entry of additional competitors and increased success by existing competitors, changes in general economic conditions, increases in operating costs including costs of production, supplies, personnel, equipment, and reduced margins caused by competitive pressures.

We depend on limited number of customers.

During 2005, we received approximately 85% of all sales revenue from five customers and approximately 54% of our revenue from one customer. A loss of any of these customers could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and results of operations.

We rely upon a limited number of product offerings.

All of our products are based on stabilized rice bran. Although we will market rice bran as a dietary supplement, as an active food ingredient for inclusion in our products and in other companies' products, and in other ways, a decline in the market demand for our products, as well as the products of other companies utilizing our products, could have a significant adverse impact on us.

Table of Contents

We are dependent upon our marketing efforts.

We are dependent on our ability to market products to animal food producers, food manufacturers, mass merchandise and health food retailers, and to other companies for use in their products. We must increase the level of awareness of dietary supplements in general and our products in particular. We will be required to devote substantial management and financial resources to these marketing and advertising efforts and there can be no assurance that it will be successful.

We rely upon an adequate supply of raw rice bran.

All of our current products depend on our proprietary technology using stabilized rice bran, which is a by-product from milling paddy rice to white rice. Our ability to manufacture rice bran raw materials is currently limited to the production capability of our facility at Farmers Rice Cooperative and our single plant in Dillon, Montana. Between the Dillon, Montana plant and the facility at Farmers Rice Cooperative, we currently are capable of producing all of our required rice bran raw materials. The current production capacity will meet our immediate supply needs, but that capacity may not be sufficient to meet all of our needs for the year ahead. We have initiated an expansion of the Dillon, Montana facility which should be completed in the first half of 2006 and have entered into a new supply agreement in Louisiana, involving the construction of a new facility which we anticipate will be operating by the end of the third quarter of 2006. These facilities should meet our needs for 2006 and early 2007, but are not anticipated to be sufficient to meet our longer term supply needs. Therefore, we anticipate building new facilities to meet the forecasted demand for our products and envision we will be able to execute on this initiative. In the event we are unable to create additional production capacity to produce more stabilized rice bran products to fulfill our current and future requirements this could materially and adversely affect our business, results from operations, and financial condition.

We are pursuing other supply sources in the United States and in foreign countries and anticipate being able to secure alternatives and back-up sources of rice bran, although we have not entered into any definitive agreements other than the agreements with Farmers Rice Cooperative and Louisiana RiceMill. However, there can be no assurance that we will continue to secure adequate sources of raw rice bran to meet our requirements to produce stabilized rice bran products. Since rice bran has a limited shelf life, the supply of rice bran is affected by the amount of rice planted and harvested each year. If economic or weather conditions adversely affect the amount of rice planted or harvested, the cost of rice bran products that we use may increase. We are not generally able to pass cost increases to our customers and any increase in the cost of stabilized rice bran products would have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

We face competition.

Competition in our targeted industries, including nutraceuticals, functional food ingredients, rice bran oils, animal feed supplements and companion pet food ingredients is vigorous, with a large number of businesses engaged in the various industries. Many of our competitors have established reputations for successfully developing and marketing their products, including products that incorporate bran from other cereal grains and other alternative ingredients that are widely recognized as providing similar benefits as rice bran. In addition, many of our competitors have greater financial, managerial, and technical resources than us. If we are not successful in competing in these markets, we may not be able to attain our business objectives.

Our products could fail to meet applicable regulations which could have a material adverse affect on our financial performance.

The dietary supplement and cosmetic industries are subject to considerable government regulation, both as to efficacy as well as labeling and advertising. There is no assurance that all of our products and marketing strategies will satisfy

all of the applicable regulations of the Dietary Supplement, Health and Education Act, the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and/or the U.S. Federal Trade Commission. Failure to meet any applicable regulations would require us to limit the production or marketing of any non-compliant products or advertising, which could subject us to financial or other penalties.

Table of Contents

Our success depends in part on our ability to obtain patents, licenses and other intellectual property rights for our products and technology.

NutraCea has one patent entitled Methods for Treating Joint Inflammation, Pain and Loss of Mobility, which covers both humans and mammals. In addition, our subsidiary RiceX has five United States patents and may decide to file corresponding international applications. RiceX holds patents to the production of Beta Glucan and to a micro nutrient enriched rice bran oil process. RiceX also holds patents to a method to treat high cholesterol, to a method to treat diabetes and to a process for producing Higher Value Fractions from stabilized rice bran. The process of seeking patent protection may be long and expensive, and there can be no assurance that patents will be issued, that we will be able to protect our technology adequately, or that competition will not be able to develop similar technology. There currently are no claims or lawsuits pending or threatened against us or RiceX regarding possible infringement claims, but there can be no assurance that infringement claims by third parties, or claims for indemnification resulting from infringement claims, will not be asserted in the future or that such assertions, if proven to be accurate, will not have a material adverse affect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In the future, litigation may be necessary to enforce our patents, to protect our trade secrets or know-how or to defend against claimed infringement of the rights of others and to determine the scope and validity of the proprietary rights of others. Any litigation could result in substantial cost and diversion of our efforts, which could have a material adverse affect on our financial condition and results of operations. Adverse determinations in any litigation could result in the loss of our proprietary rights, subjecting us to significant liabilities to third parties, require us to seek licenses from third parties or prevent us from manufacturing or selling our systems, any of which could have a material adverse affect on our financial condition and results of operations. There can be no assurance that a license under a third party's intellectual property rights will be available to us on reasonable terms, if at all.

We are dependent on key employees and consultants.

Our success depends upon the efforts of our top management team, including the efforts of Bradley D. Edson, our President and Chief Executive Officer, Todd C. Crow, our Chief Financial Officer, Ike E. Lynch, our Chief Operating Officer, Patricia McPeak, our founder and former Chief Executive Officer, and Margie D. Adelman, our Secretary and Senior Vice President. Although we have written employment agreements with each of the foregoing individuals there is no assurance that such individuals will not die or become disabled. In addition, our success is dependent upon our ability to attract and retain key management persons for positions relating to the marketing and distribution of our products. There is no assurance that we will be able to recruit and employ such executives at times and on terms acceptable to us.

Our products may require clinical trials to establish efficacy and safety.

Certain of our products may require clinical trials to establish our benefit claims or their safety and efficacy. Such trials can require a significant amount of resources and there is no assurance that such trials will be favorable to the claims we make for our products, or that the cumulative authority established by such trials will be sufficient to support our claims. Moreover, both the findings and methodology of such trials are subject to challenge by the FDA and scientific bodies. If the findings of our trials are challenged or found to be insufficient to support our claims, additional trials may be required before such products can be marketed.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to Our Stock

Our Stock Price is Volatile.

The market price of a share of our common stock has fluctuated significantly in the past and may continue to fluctuate significantly in the future. During 2005, through March 31, the high and low sales prices of a share of NutraCea common stock were \$1.42 and \$0.65, respectively. During 2004, the high and low sales prices of a share of our common stock were \$1.81 and \$0.20, respectively. The market price of a share of our common stock may continue to fluctuate in response to a number of factors, including:

- announcements of new products or product enhancements by us or our competitors;
- fluctuations in our quarterly or annual operating results;
- developments in our relationships with customers and suppliers;
- the loss of services of one or more of our executive officers or other key employees;
- announcements of technological innovations or new systems or enhancements used by us or its competitors;
- developments in our or our competitors intellectual property rights;
- adverse effects to our operating results due to impairment of goodwill;
- failure to meet the expectation of securities analysts' or the public; and
- general economic and market conditions.

We have significant "equity overhang" which could adversely affect the market price of our common stock and impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of equity securities.

As of March 3, 2006, NutraCea had approximately 68,350,622 shares of common stock outstanding and 7,250 shares of preferred stock outstanding, which preferred shares are convertible into 14,500,000 shares of our common stock. Additionally, as of March 3, 2006, options and warrants to purchase a total of 38,283,259 shares of our common stock were outstanding. The possibility that substantial amounts of our outstanding common stock may be sold by investors or the perception that such sales could occur, often called "equity overhang," could adversely affect the market price of our common stock and could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of equity securities in the future.

We may need to raise funds through debt or equity financings in the future, which would dilute the ownership of our existing shareholders and possibly subordinate certain of their rights to the rights of new investors.

We may choose to raise additional funds in debt or equity financings if they are available to us on terms it believes reasonable to increase its working capital, strengthen its financial position or to make acquisitions. Any sales of additional equity or convertible debt securities would result in dilution of the equity interests of our existing shareholders, which could be substantial. Additionally, if we issue shares of preferred stock or convertible debt to raise funds, the holders of those securities might be entitled to various preferential rights over the holders of our common stock, including repayment of their investment, and possibly additional amounts, before any payments could be made to holders of our common stock in connection with an acquisition of the company. Such preferred shares, if

authorized, might be granted rights and preferences that would be senior to, or otherwise adversely affect, the rights and the value of our common stock. Also, new investors may require that we and certain of our shareholders enter into voting arrangements that give them additional voting control or representation on our board of directors.

Table of Contents

Inadequate market liquidity may make it difficult to sell our stock.

There is currently a public market for our common stock, but we can give no assurance that there will always be such a market. Only a limited number of shares of our common stock are actively traded in the public market and we cannot give assurance that the market for our stock will develop sufficiently to create significant market liquidity. An investor may find it difficult or impossible to sell shares of our common stock in the public market because of the limited number of potential buyers at any time. In addition, the shares of our common stock are not eligible as a margin security and lending institutions may not accept our common stock as collateral for a loan.

The application of the “penny stock regulation” could adversely affect the market price of our common stock

Penny stocks generally are equity securities with a price of less than \$5.00 per share other than securities registered on certain national securities exchanges or quoted on the NASDAQ Stock Market, provided that current price and volume information with respect to transactions in such securities is provided by the exchange or system. Our securities may be subject to “penny stock rules” that impose additional sales practice requirements on broker-dealers who sell such securities to persons other than established customers and accredited investors (generally those with assets in excess of \$1,000,000 or annual income exceeding \$200,000 or \$300,000 together with their spouse). For transactions covered by these rules, the broker-dealer must make a special suitability determination for the purchase of such securities and have received the purchaser’s written consent to the transaction prior to the purchase. Consequently, the “penny stock rules” may restrict the ability of broker-dealers to sell our securities and may have the effect of reducing the level of trading activity of our common stock in the secondary market.

The senior rights and preferences of our outstanding Series B preferred stock may have an adverse economic effect on our common shareholders and could impair our ability to obtain future financing when and if needed.

As long as any shares of our Series B preferred stock remain outstanding, Series B preferred shareholders will enjoy various economic rights and contractual benefits not held by our common shareholders. Most significantly, holders of Series B preferred stock are entitled to a liquidation preference upon a liquidation of NutraCea, and for purposes of the Series B preferred stock, a liquidation is deemed to include a merger, acquisition, or similar transaction involving NutraCea. As a result, the Series B preferred stock is entitled to receive its liquidation preference prior to any payments or distributions being made to holders of our common stock. After payment of the liquidation preference, holders of Series B preferred stock and holders of common stock share pro-rata in any remaining proceeds. The aggregate outstanding liquidation preference of our Series B preferred stock currently totals approximately \$7,250,000 million. Holders of our Series B preferred stock also hold certain preferential voting rights, including the right to approve liquidation events and future financings.

Based on the senior rights of the Series B preferred stock, particularly the liquidation preference, common shareholders may receive a substantially reduced portion of the proceeds of any merger, acquisition, or other liquidation of NutraCea compa