

For immediate release

Reported stockpiling orders

Melbourne, Australia, 16 September 2005 - Biota Holdings Limited (ASX:BTA) announced today that it is providing a market update on the status of reported stockpiling orders based on information from its commercial partner, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK).

GSK has advised that they are in discussion with a number of individual governments and regulatory agencies in relation to stockpiling orders. In some of these government tenders there is a requirement that certain information be kept confidential. This information can be in relation to price or quantities ordered. Biota will ultimately gain access to this information as royalties are payable, but there can be a time lag between the order and delivery of the order.

Biota currently is entitled to a 7% royalty on sales. Biota is committed to keeping the market fully informed of material events in relation to confirmed stockpiling orders. The current confirmed order position as advised by GSK is as follows:

France	-	200,000 packs
Germany	-	1,700,000 packs
Hong Kong	-	150,000 packs
USA	-	84,300 packs
Holland	-	Order received, but disclosure not allowed at this stage

About Biota

Biota is a world-leading antiviral drug discovery company with its headquarters in Melbourne, Australia. Biota was responsible for zanamivir, a neuraminidase inhibitor, subsequently launched by GSK as Relenza™ in 1999 for the treatment of influenza. In partnership with Sankyo, Biota is developing second generation flu antivirals (LANI or Long Acting Neuraminidase Inhibitors), and has active discovery and development programs aimed at therapies for diseases caused by Human Rhinovirus (common cold), RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus), and hepatitis C. In partnership with Thermo Electron, Biota also markets the FLU OIA® diagnostics range for the rapid detection of influenza.

Damian Lismore
Chief Financial Officer
T: +61 3 9915 3700

Media Enquiries

Tim Duncan or Nerida Mossop
Hinton & Associates
T: +61 3 9600 1979