Agricen Sciences/UNT Collaboration Identifies Previously Unknown Bacterial Group

New Species Appears to Be Related to Polyphosphate Accumulating Organisms

PILOT POINT, TX – June 26, 2012 – Agricen Sciences, an applied sciences research company leading the development of novel microbial and biochemical solutions for plant nutrition and health, announced today the presentation of data from a collaboration between Agricen Sciences and the University of North Texas (UNT) that has identified a previously unknown bacterial group. Researchers from UNT presented the data at the annual meeting of the **American Society for Microbiology**.

Using molecular analysis techniques, the team identified a potentially novel bacterial species among the community of beneficial microorganisms used to derive biochemical plant nutrition products manufactured by Agricen Sciences' sister company, **Agricen**. The previously unrecognized species appears to be related to a yet-to-be isolated bacterial group, known as the polyphosphate accumulating organisms (PAOs), which have the ability to remove excess phosphate from wastewater. This new finding may have the potential to improve wastewater purification processes, thereby helping to prevent deleterious plant and algal blooms caused by excessive phosphate in lakes or other bodies of water.

The full abstract, "Detection and Phylogenetic Analysis of Uncultured Rhodocyclaceae Closely Related to the Phosphate Accumulating Bacteria," is available **here**.

About Agricen Sciences

Agricen Sciences is an applied sciences research company leading the development of novel microbial and biochemical solutions for plant nutrition and health. The company's cutting-edge research programs on soil-plant systems are yielding new insights for crop nutrition, soil science and nutrient management. By applying this knowledge, Agricen Sciences is developing innovative solutions to address the sustainability and production challenges facing modern agriculture. For more information, please visit **www.agricensciences.com**.