ATHEROGENICS INC Form SC 13G August 21, 2003

QuickLinks -- Click here to rapidly navigate through this document

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

(Rule 13d-102)

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS FILED PURSUANT TO RULES 13d-1(b) (c) AND (d) AND AMENDMENTS THERETO FILED PURSUANT TO 13d-2(b) (Amendment No.)¹

Atherogenics, Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

047439 10 4

(CUSIP Number)

August 14, 2003

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement) Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

o Rule 13d-1(b)

ý Rule 13d-1(c)

o Rule 13d-1(d)

¹ The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, *see* the *Notes*).

(a) ý (b) o

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: Biotechnology Value Fund, L.P.

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 568,927
EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0
WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 568,927

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

568,927

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

1.56%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

(a) ý (b) o

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: Biotechnology Value Fund II, L.P.

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 343,938
EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0
WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 343,938

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

343,938

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

0.94%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

Page 4 of 10 Pages

(a) ý (b) o

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: BVF Investments, L.L.C.

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 869,521
EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0
WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 869,521

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

869,521

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

2.38%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

00

* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

Page 5 of 10 Pages

(a) ý (b) o

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: Investment 10, LLC

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Illinois

NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 131,242
EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0
WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 131,242

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

131,242

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

0.36%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

00

* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CU	CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4		13G	Page 6 of 10 Pages	
1	NAME OF REPORTI BVF Partners L.P.	NG PER	SON:		
	I.R.S. IDENTIFICAT	ION NO.	OF ABOVE PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):		
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) (b)				
3	SEC USE ONLY				
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PL Delaware	LACE OF	ORGANIZATION		
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5	SOLE VOTING POWER 0		
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6	SHARED VOTING POWER 1,913,628		
	EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0		
	WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,913,628		

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

1,913,628

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

5.24%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CU	SIP NO. 047439 10 4		13G	Page 7 of 10 Pages	
1	NAME OF REPORTI BVF Inc.	NG PERSON:			
	I.R.S. IDENTIFICAT	ION NO. OF ABOVE	PERSON (ENTITIES ONLY):		
2	CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP* (a) ý (b) o				
3	SEC USE ONLY				
4	CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Delaware				
	NUMBER OF SHARES	5 SOLE VC 0	DTING POWER		
	BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY	6 SHARED 1,913,628	VOTING POWER		

EACH REPORTING PERSON	7	SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 0
WITH	8	SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,913,628

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

1,913,628

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

5.24%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

CO

* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT!

13G

Page 8 of 10 Pages

ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER:

Atherogenics, Inc. ("Atherogenics")

ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

8995 Westside Parkway Alpharetta, Georgia 30004

ITEM 2(a). NAME OF PERSON FILING:

This Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of the following persons* (the "Reporting Persons"):

- (i)
- Biotechnology Value Fund, L.P. ("BVF") (ii)
- Biotechnology Value Fund II, L.P. ("BVF2")
- (iii) BVF Investments, L.L.C. ("Investments")
- (iv) Investment 10, L.L.C. ("Investment 10")
- (v)
- BVF Partners L.P. ("Partners") (vi)
 - BVF Inc. ("BVF Inc.")

* Attached as Exhibit 1 is a copy of an agreement among the Reporting Persons that this Schedule 13G is being filed on behalf of each of them.

ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE:

The principal business office of the Reporting Persons comprising the group filing this Schedule 13G is located at 227 West Monroe Street, Suite 4800, Chicago, Illinois, 60606.

ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP:

BVF:	a Delaware limited partnership
BVF2:	a Delaware limited partnership
Investments:	a Delaware limited liability company
Investment 10:	an Illinois limited liability company
Partners:	a Delaware limited partnership
BVF Inc.:	a Delaware corporation

ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES:

This Schedule 13G is being filed with respect to the common stock, no par value per share (the "Common Stock"), of Atherogenics. The Reporting Persons' percentage ownership of Common Stock is based on 36,533,448 shares of Common Stock being outstanding.

Edgar Filing: ATHEROGENICS INC - Form SC 13G

ITEM 2(e). CUSIP Number:

047439 10 4

CUSIP NO. 047439 10 4

13G

Page 9 of 10 Pages

ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c) CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS: One of the following

Not applicable as this Schedule 13G is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c).

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP:

The information in items 1 and 5 through 11 on the cover pages (pp. 2 - 7) on this Schedule 13G is hereby incorporated by reference.

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the Reporting Persons have ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities check the following. o

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON:

Pursuant to the operating agreement of Investments, Partners is authorized, among other things, to invest the funds of Ziff Asset Management, L.P., the majority member of Investments, in shares of the Common Stock and to vote and exercise dispositive power over those shares of Common Stock. Partners and BVF Inc. share voting and dispositive power over the shares of the Common Stock beneficially owned by BVF, BVF2, Investments and those owned by Investment 10, on whose behalf Partners acts as investment manager and accordingly, Partners and BVF Inc. have beneficial ownership of all of the shares of Common Stock owned by such parties.

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY:

Not applicable.

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF A GROUP:

Not applicable.

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP:

Not applicable.

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: August 21, 2003

BIOTECHNOLOGY VALUE FUND, L.P.

- By: BVF Partners L.P., its general partner
 - By: BVF Inc., its general partner
 - By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BIOTECHNOLOGY VALUE FUND II, L.P.

- By: BVF Partners L.P., its general partner
 - By: BVF Inc., its general partner
 - By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BVF INVESTMENTS, L.L.C.

- By: BVF Partners L.P., its manager
 - By: BVF Inc., its general partner
 - By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

INVESTMENT 10, L.L.C.

- By: BVF Partners L.P., its attorney-in-fact
 - By: BVF Inc., its general partner
 - By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BVF PARTNERS L.P.

- By: BVF Inc., its general partner
 - By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

BVF INC.

By: /s/ MARK N. LAMPERT

Mark N. Lampert President

QuickLinks

SCHEDULE 13G ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES ITEM 2(a). NAME OF PERSON FILING ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES ITEM 2(e). CUSIP Number ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c) CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS: One of the following **ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP** ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACOUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF A GROUP **ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP**

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION