

YEARLY REPORT 2002

Another very busy year for Agritechnove. 10 new projects came in, including the Renovation of the US National Arboretum' greenhouses in Washington, DC and a new large size butterfly conservatory in Texas. We've also completed some oldies: the UC Davis Contained Research Facility is now on line ! This has been a 10-year project, our in-house record !

If you want a quick look at a magnificent project, please check our web site to find the Acadia University project ! This project was just completed a couple of months ago. The greenhouse is very elaborate, integrated within a top-of-the-line building. A joint project with Stern Architects from New-York and landscape architects from England, this was a remarkable project any way you look at it. The greenhouse includes a small conservatory, 6 experimental greenhouses with air-conditioning, movable canopy, acid injection for acid rain/fog studies, plus many other compartments for various research and display purposes. This gem is located in Nova-Scotia, Canada and was a gift from the Irving family, well known in Eastern Canada. Truly state of the art, one of our best projects so far.

Agritechnove Inc. also just started the preliminary phase of the greenhouse replacement project in Beltsville, MD. The older greenhouses were demolished by a tornado last year and USDA decided to replace them. The program is almost done and design should start in early 2003.

Several projects were also called for tenders. A very large project was bid at the University of Minnesota and we are proud to tell you that the results came in right on budget after a pretty competitive bid to 5 different manufacturers. Construction will start early spring 2003.

Among the projects currently on our drafting board or under construction, allow us to name a few:

AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA	Lethbridge Research Center Lethbridge, AL, Canada	A major research center for Agriculture and AgriFood Canada. 38 zones, commissioning was recently completed. Greenhouse will come on line shortly.
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND	Research Greenhouse Facility College Park, MD, USA	Under construction, this five-year old project is scheduled to open in 2003.
MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY	Academic Research Facilities and Greenhouse Baltimore, MD,USA	A lovely and tiny 2-zone research located on the beautiful campus of Morgan State University. Also under construction, scheduled to open in 2003
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Reiman Gardens Ames, IA, USA	A conservatory with plant production greenhouses, just opened at the end of 2002.

ARS/USDA	Maximum Security BL3 Ag Greenhouse and Laboratory Beltsville, MD, USA	A new facility, BL3 Ag level, painstakingly making its way toward completion. Guys, highly contained greenhouses are not to be toyed with !
USDA ARS Pacific Basin	Agricultural Research Center Hilo, Hawaii, USA	This project is ongoing. Design will probably be completed at the end of 2003. Too bad we can't move the office over there...
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO	Technology Center Greenhouse San Diego, CA, USA	A small rooftop greenhouse that's needed on top of a 5-story new research/education building. We are currently refining an early design done by others.
UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA	Biology Building Research Greenhouse Ottawa, ON, Canada	2 new rooftop greenhouses for the University. One currently under construction and the second under design.

Agritechnove also continued its participation in various committees regarding the standards of containment design for greenhouses. There is still so much work to do in there... Differences in standards and regulations between the US, Canada and Europe are sometimes trivial, sometimes enormous.

The firm was involved this year in the design and fabrication of several new types of instrumented tools and devices for research. These are custom designed based on future users' requirements and therefore do not exist as such on the market. Consequently, Agritechnove on some occasions came in with actual bids to fabricate and install some of these items. Among them, were special benches for studies of various regimes under hydroponic culture. In one room, 5 different pumping stations feed each 4 carts, for a total of 20 carts in the same room, randomly spaced among each other. System includes pH and conductivity monitoring, temperature of the nutrient solution, all under computer control. Agritechnove plans on increasing this manufacturing side, mostly with elements on its design projects that cannot be purchased outright and that confuse General Contractors bidding the jobs.

With 23 projects currently under design or construction for various Universities throughout Canada and the United States, we believe can attest that 2002 was a great year and 2003 looks very promising indeed.

Richard Denis, P.E.
President
Agritechnove Inc.