



Quite another dynamic year in 2004 and unusual too, with more projects under construction than new ones under design. Agritechnove completed several projects and welcomed very exciting new ones with several challenging aspects.

But first, we are very pleased to announce the arrival on-line of the long expected updated web site ([www.agritechnove.com](http://www.agritechnove.com)). The site offers much downloadable information on our team, key personnel and projects. You will find project sheets, a map of our activities, a news section, scores of downloadable pictures taken during construction of our projects, plenty of greenhouse related web sites, etc. You are cordially invited to have a look and send us your comments.



Agritech is pleased to say that the University of Minnesota's Plant Growth Facility at the St. Paul Campus was completed very recently. The visitor will witness there the results of a 9-year long collaboration that began with a master-planning effort back in 1996. The process included the evaluation of the existing (at the time) greenhouses and a multi-departmental survey to pinpoint the needs were for the next 25 years. The result is this new large high-tech 32,000 SF greenhouse packed with advanced technological features that will serve well the University for the next 25 years.



Several other projects were completed in 2004. The USDA/ARS Maximum Security BSL-3Ag Greenhouse and Laboratory in Beltsville was finally commissioned and is now on line (as of April 2005). Qualified as a jewel, this high-containment facility exceeded its expected performance and is probably the most advanced greenhouse in the US today.



Also completed was a very exciting project involving the industrial production of genetically modified alfalfa, a containment facility that just opened for Medicigo Inc, in Quebec, Canada. Construction of Phase 2 of the new ARS research greenhouses for the Crops Research Laboratory Modernization, in Fort Collins is underway and will be completed this coming spring. Phase 3 of the same project is scheduled for 2005.



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Agritechnové also completed the plant side of a programming document for a new major BSL-3 Plant and Animal Health Facility at Ohio State University. This facility, if built as currently planned, will certainly be among the largest containment facilities in the US.

In 2004, design of the USDA/ARS greenhouse replacement project at BARC was completed and construction contract awarded. Next year should see 2 completely new greenhouse blocks replacing the now demolished older ones. Design of the new research greenhouses at the US National Arboretum in Washington was also completed and construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2005.

Still on the USDA side, Agritechnové started programming of 2 new facilities in 2004. One is for the improvement of a sugarcane research station in Houma, Louisiana and the other is in the nice coastal area of Salinas, just south of San Jose. These two new research stations should be under design somewhere in 2005.

Agritechnové's reputation is growing, just like plants in the greenhouses we design. After more than 20 years and over 200 projects, we have demonstrated our commitment to the institutional greenhouse community. Our unwavering attention to details, precise drawings and specifications, the thousands of hours spent yearly on all aspects of greenhouse design, our care for the clients' requirements and most of all our hard work have made our success. Agritechnové serves its clients, not the greenhouse manufacturers. We'd like to share this know-how with you !

Richard Denis, P.E.  
President