

2008

Yearly Report

It seems like the financially troubled time we're living through has not yet hit the research greenhouse "sector". 2008 was another quite busy year for Agritechnove with several projects under construction and many new ones on the drafting board.

USA



The National Arboretum in DC was finally completed and its official opening will be early 09. The interim greenhouse/headhouse at UNC/Chapel Hill was built and recently opened. This facility will be used until the Genomic Science Building is completed. The GSB will receive an architectural custom-designed research greenhouse. It will be a very impressive facility originally for arabidopsis, collection and alpine plants but with other new programs presently discussed. The design of the rooftop facility was completed at the turn of the year.

CANADA

The construction of Bayer CropScience's High-Containment and Low-Containment Research Greenhouses is underway in Saskatoon. This A/C facility will be very airtight and provide "growth-chamber-like" temperature control. Completion is expected in the first part of 2009.



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The new BSL-3 rooftop greenhouse for U of FL/Gainesville is also under construction. It will be a small but highly technical facility allowing research on many exotic pathogens and other agents. Construction just started for the rooftop greenhouse at the new Dartmouth College Life Sciences Center in NH.

We'd also like to report the construction of the new King Abdullah University of Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia, now completed to about 75%. It seems workers are in overdrive as the new facility and the whole university campus is shaping up at an incredible rate. This "Bentley" class high-tech research facility has 18 A/C greenhouse zones, growth chambers, multiple research labs, etc.

We completed the phasing work of the new Sugarcane Research Facility for USDA in Houma, LA. Construction will begin early next year. 2008 was also the starting point for new design work for Syngenta facilities, new research greenhouses in Nebraska, Utah and Alaska.

2008 has been full of challenges and our team was up to them. We're looking forward to 2009. It looks like there will be many new occasions to learn something more!

Sincerely,



Richard Denis, P.E.
President



SAUDI ARABIA

Celebrating 20 years of Controlled Environment Design