

Monsanto Greenhouse Background

- In August, Monsanto announced plans to build a seven-acre, state-of-the-art greenhouse on land in Pima County, Arizona. At this new site, we expect to conduct corn development year-round supporting the advancement of corn seeds that will eventually become new varieties for our farmer customers. The indoor air-controlled facility will be automated in numerous ways including full climate, light and atmospheric management of plant growing conditions. All in-bound and out-bound air is filtered and controlled, so we're able to govern humidity and temperature levels as well as contain pollen. In addition, automated operations and movable benches will improve ergonomic conditions for our employees. Along with the greenhouse, we expect that approximately two acres will be used for seed processing and an office building. Additional improvements at the site include a 2-million-gallon water tank for fire suppression and a composting facility.
- By moving key pieces of the corn product development process under cover (inside), we expect to reduce the environmental impact and enhance our sustainable production. Operations in a greenhouse will reduce water and pesticide usage while managing exposure to weather variables we may otherwise encounter in open field environments. Because the greenhouse will be fully automated, we'll use less land compared to traditional field production. Precise management of plant diseases and insect pressure will enable more targeted control resulting in reduced pesticide usage. Additionally, the smaller footprint combined with a 100% water recapture and recycle system, will mean that we'll be using 1/5th of the water normally used on an open cornfield.

7 acres of greenhouse
2 acres processing space
Office Building

2 M gal. fire tank
Compost facility



Sustainable - Doing More, With Less

- Minimize environmental impact by reducing water usage while managing exposure to weather variables we may otherwise encounter in open field environments
- More days of Arizona sunlight mean that we can maintain plants in a more energy efficient way than a greenhouse built in other geographies with less energy
- Less land usage compared to traditional cornfields – 1/7th of that in an open field
- Automation inside the greenhouse will allow precise management of plant diseases and insect control, reducing how much pesticide and fertilizer is used
- The smaller footprint combined with a 100% water recapture and recycle system, will mean that we'll be using 1/5th of the water normally used on an open cornfield
- Composting facility
- Eliminate soil erosion

Site Specifics

- Construction estimates = \$95m to \$105m
- 20 to 30 full time salaried employees
 - Agronomist
 - Plant Breeder
 - Logistics Coordinator
 - IT Support
 - Software Developer
 - Automation Engineer
 - HVAC Engineer
- 30 to 50 hourly employees
 - Laborers (some seasonal)
 - Technicians