

Saskatchewan Agricultural Biotechnology Information Centre (SABIC)

On April 1, 2004, Ag-West Biotech Inc., Bio-Products Saskatchewan Inc., and the Saskatchewan Nutraceutical Network joined forces to create **Ag-West Bio Inc.** – an organization created to lead Saskatchewan in the economy of the 21st century – the bio-economy!

As a result of the amalgamation, Ag-West Bio, and in turn SABIC, are undergoing a time of change. A new mandate has been given with a new direction, one that has a greater emphasis on the economic development of the industry and less on the educational aspect. For this reason, AWB has decided to close SABIC and its associated programs and publications. This, therefore, will be the last publication of the *AgBiotech InfoSource*.

Looking Back

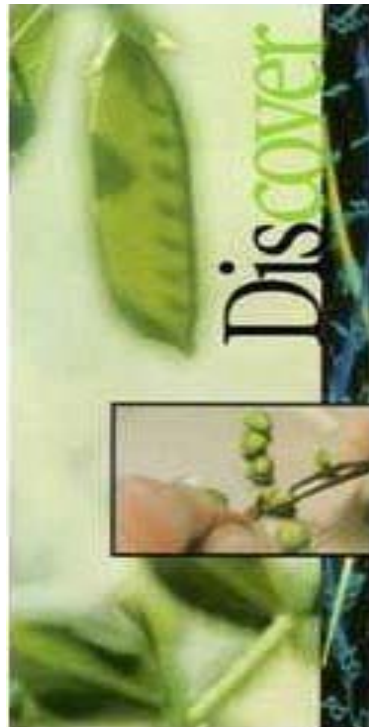
On October 1997, Ag-West Biotech opened the Saskatchewan Agricultural Biotechnology Information centre (SABIC). Canada's first publicly accessible demonstration laboratory and resource center intent on increasing public understanding of agricultural biotechnology. Since then, SABIC has hosted more than 12,000 visitors and has reached additional students through travel, an online presence, and its publications. The *Ag-Biotech*

InfoSource had subscribers in over 45 countries.

Participants to the demonstration laboratory were invited to extract DNA, prepare a blueprint of DNA (DNA fingerprint) using gel electrophoresis, as well as observe and discuss applications of biotechnology. New to 2003, guests could amplify DNA through Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), interact in a forensics session and discover more about bio-products.

Throughout the years, SABIC's had the pleasure of sharing its expertise with many organizations such as:

- ◆ Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC)
- ◆ University of Saskatchewan
- ◆ Biotechnology Human Resource Council (BHRC) and BIOTECCanada
- ◆ Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission
- ◆ Teachers from the KEY Foundation (Knowledge of the Environment for Youth)
- ◆ Biotechnology organizations including AgCare, Council for Biotechnology
- ◆ Information (CBI), & Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO)
- ◆ First Nations Science Camp and Super Saturdays Program



Moving Forward

It is with much sadness that this educational service is being discontinued; however, we are working to re-open the SABIC lab through another organization. So, please keep your eyes open for news this fall!

In closing, Ag-West Bio would like to thank all of the participants in the SABIC lab over the years for your enthusiastic involvement and desire to learn about agricultural biotechnology. We hope the service was valuable to all who passed through.



For more biotechnology information:

Agriculture in the Classroom
<http://www.saskschools.ca/~aitc/>

Biotech Classroom
<http://www.biotech.ca/EN/classroom.html>

Biotechnology Institute - *Your World* magazine
<http://www.biotechinstitute.org/yourworld.html>

Biotechnology Industry Organization
Guide to Biotechnology
<http://www.bio.org/er/index.asp>

Biotechnology Learning Center
<http://www.childrensmuseum.org/biotech/index.htm>

Biotechnology/Bioinformatics Discovery!
<http://www.okc.cc.ok.us/bbdiscovery/>

Canadian Light Source Inc. - Canada's synchrotron
<http://www.cls.usask.ca/>
<http://www.lightsource.ca/>

College of Biotechnology - University of Saskatchewan
<http://biotechnology.usask.ca/>
<http://biotechnology.usask.ca/BulletinBoard.html>

Council for Biotechnology Information
<http://www.whybiotech.com/index.asp>

Food Safety Network - University of Guelph
www.foodsafetynetwork.ca

The Gee! in Genome
http://www.nature.ca/genome/index_e.cfm

Human Genome Project: "Exploring Our Molecular Selves" online multimedia educational kit.
<http://www.genome.gov/Pages/Hyperion/educationkit/index.html>

Human Genome Project Education Resources
http://www.ornl.gov/TechResources/Human_Genome/education/education.html

infoZone - Biotech Links
http://infozone.imcpl.org/kids_path_biotechnology.htm

Iowa State University - Biotechnology Outreach Center
<http://www.biotech.iastate.edu/publications/BOEC/default.html>

The Biotechnology Outreach Education Center is located in the Molecular Biology Building on the Iowa State University campus in Ames.
Microbes.info
<http://www.microbes.info>

Saskatchewan Made - Food Safety page
<http://www.saskmade.ca/02/safety.html>

Ag-West Bio Inc.
101-111 Research Drive
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
Canada S7N 3R2
Tel.: 306-975-1939
Fax: 306-975-1966