

Genserve labs for testing of GM plants

In Canada, Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) has opened a new plant genetics laboratory, Genserve Laboratories, which offers rapid DNA testing of genetically modified (GM) plants. The tests are performed by employing PCR (polymerase chain reaction) techniques and DNA fingerprinting of crops and micro-organisms using DNA markers. This testing service is intended to support agricultural and biotechnology companies involved in plant-related research and development.

Genserve was established after a market study identified the need for a commercial plant genetics testing laboratory in Saskatoon, aimed at providing resources for plant scientists that will help them develop products effectively and quickly. This facility will complement the many biotech institutions in Saskatoon. *Contact: Mr. Faouzi Bekkaoui, Genetics Branch, Saskatchewan Research Council, Canada. Tel: +1 (306) 9335 448.* (AgBiotech Bulletin, May 2000)