

# **Moving Products into the Clinic: The Next Milestone for Plant Made Pharmaceuticals**



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**USDA**

**Ag Outlook Forum**

**2004**

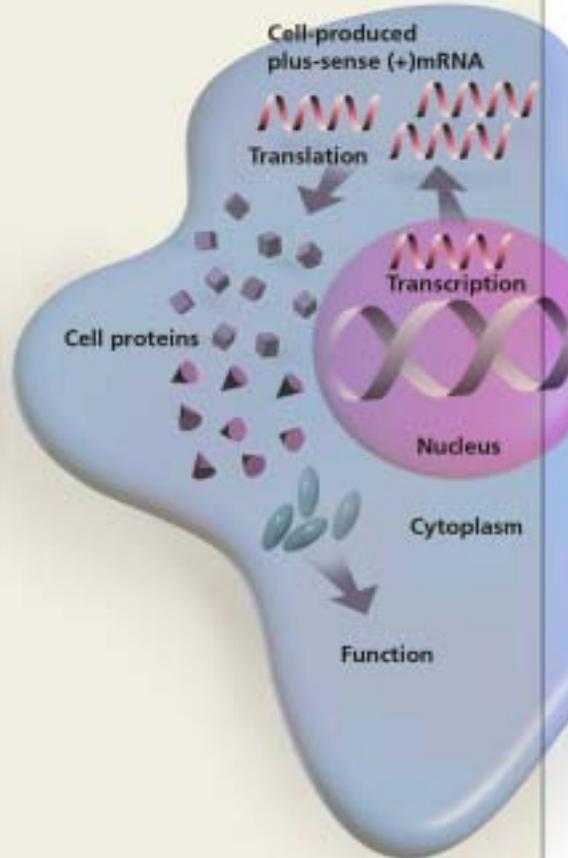
# Evolution of a New Method for Biologics Manufacture

- **New manufacturing paradigms do not come easy**
- **15 years from concept to products in the clinic**
- **Plant made products as a platform**
- **The proof is in the products**

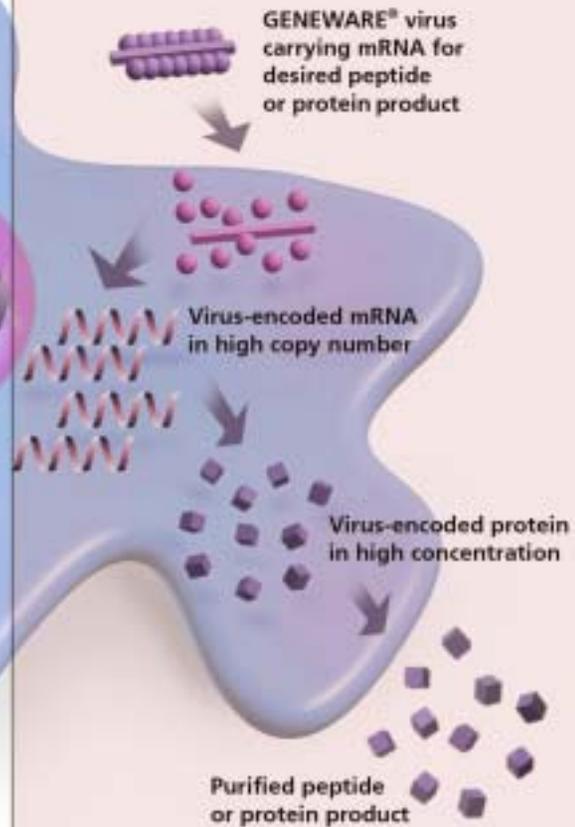
# Bioreactors



## Conventional rDNA Technology



## Viral Vector Technology



# Plants are Excellent Protein Production Factories

## VIRAL VECTOR GFP EXPRESSION

2 dpi



4 dpi



6 dpi



# Advantages of Plant Expression

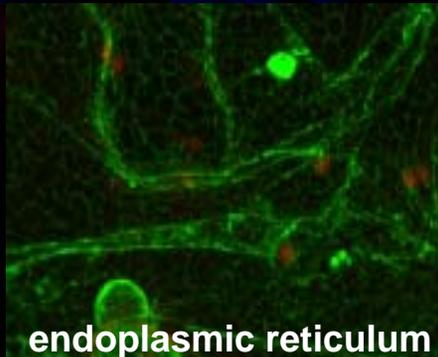
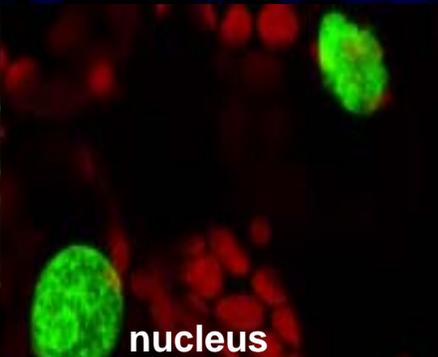
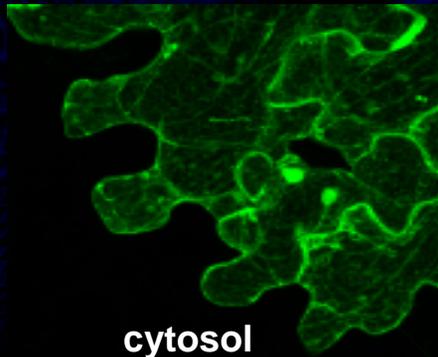
- Proteins are produced in Eukaryotic cells
  - Proper production of the protein,
  - Post translational protein modifications (disulfide bonds, glycosylation, etc).
- High expression levels
  - Expression levels of 20-1000 mg/Kg fresh weight;
  - Adaptable to various manufacturing scales with rapid scale up capabilities;
  - Economies of scale through agriculture-based bioreactor.
- Products suitable for this technology
  - Therapeutic proteins; monoclonal antibodies
  - Subunit vaccine components

# Distribution and Targeted Localization of Recombinant Protein in Plants



Distribution of expressed RNA and protein in infected plant

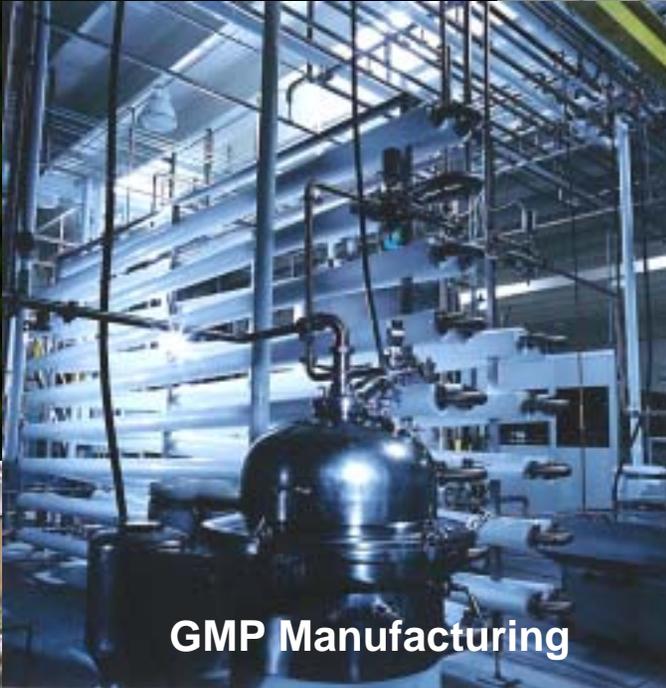
Targeted localization of proteins in infected plant cells.



# Plant Made Therapeutics Allows Scale-Adaptable Protein Production



96-well plate



GMP Manufacturing



Greenhouse

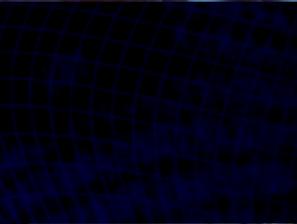


Growth Chamber



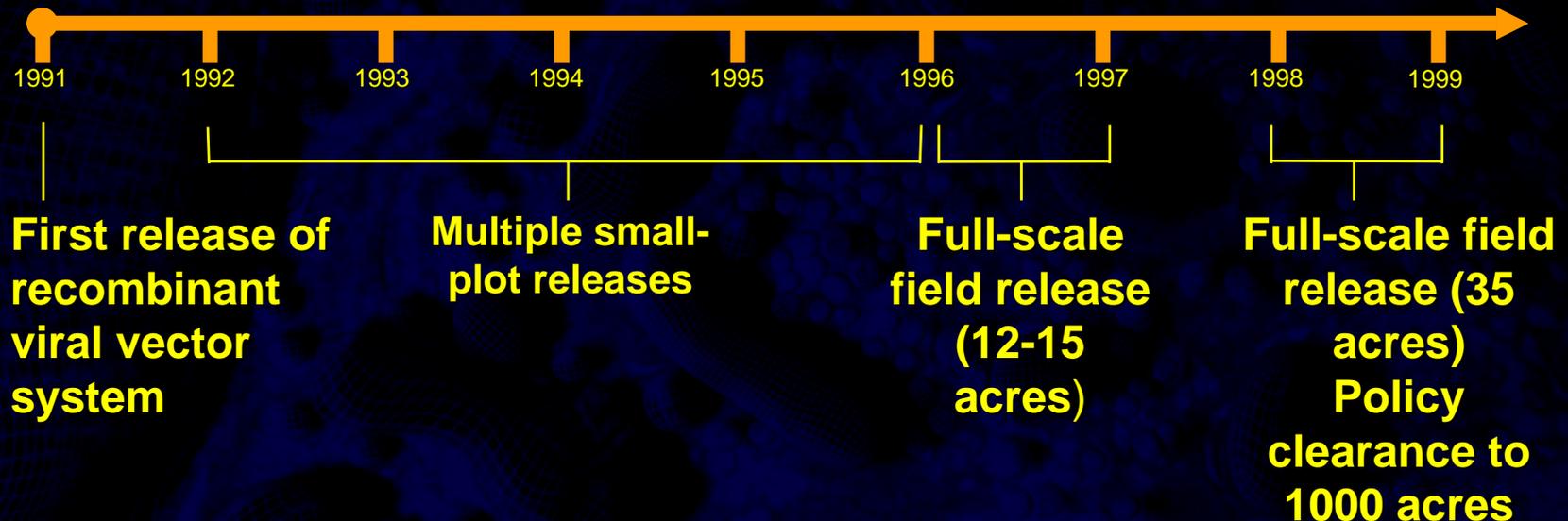
Field

# There are Few Well Developed Manufacturing Facilities



# Large Scale Biology USDA / APHIS-APPROVED OUTDOOR FIELD RELEASES

## Recombinant Viral Vector Field Releases





# The FDA/USDA Guidance Document on Bioengineered Plants: History and Highlights

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# History of the the Guidance Document

## ■ 1999

- White paper from industry group presented to FDA
- FDA establishes topic as a priority
- Working Group formed at FDA
- USDA invited to join the Working Group

## ■ 2000

- FDA/USDA joint meeting in Ames, Iowa
  - Included open public hearing

# History of the Guidance Document - 2

- **2000-2001**

- **Guidance document drafted by Working Group**

- **2001-2002**

- **Review of Guidance document by counsel for FDA and USDA and input from EPA**

- **September 6, 2002**

- **Guidance Document issued**

# The Main Principles of the Guidance

- **Based on existing law**
- **Relies on USDA/APHIS/Biotechnology Regulatory Services Division**
- **Regulates the products the same way as similar products made by different technology**
- **Considers the field as part of the manufacturing facility**
- **Concentrates on issues unique to plant production systems**

# **Considers the field as part of the manufacturing facility**

**“All fields used to grow source  
bioengineered pharmaceutical plants are  
subject to inspection by the USDA (7 CFR  
340.4; 9 CFR 101-108) and/or by the FDA  
(42 U.S.C. 262; 21 U.S.C. 374).”**

# **Concentrates on issues unique to plant production systems**

**Host and source plant characterization**

**Expression systems**

**Seed banks**

**Genetic stability**

**Tissue Distribution**

**Environmental considerations**

**Confinement measures**

**Special issues for unpurified products**

# Host plant characterization

**Should include:**

- **the potential for the plant to express an allergenic or toxic compound**
- **the method of plant propagation**
- **the measures necessary to ensure confinement**
- **if it is a food crop species, the measures to ensure that non-food (or non-feed) material will not get into food or feed**

# Regulations Are Adequate and Effective

- **Execution is the key**
- **Agriculture is as important as bioprocess**
- **Training of personnel and contractors**
- **Well developed protocols**
- **Long term land use planning**

# cGMP IS SOMETHING YOU DO, NOT SOMETHING YOU HAVE



# Very Few Products have made it to the Clinic

- **Monsanto/NeoRx - mAb for cancer therapy**
- **Meristem Therapeutics - gastric lipase cystic fibrosis**
- **Large Scale Biology - patient specific cancer vaccine**



# Choice of Platform to Develop Pharmaceuticals in Plant

Target : Low cost monoclonal antibody for passive antibody therapy for drug abuse- PCP and methamphetamine acute and chronic treatment

Customer: Public healthcare system

Plants: Have the potential to meet cost, purity, and efficacy requirements

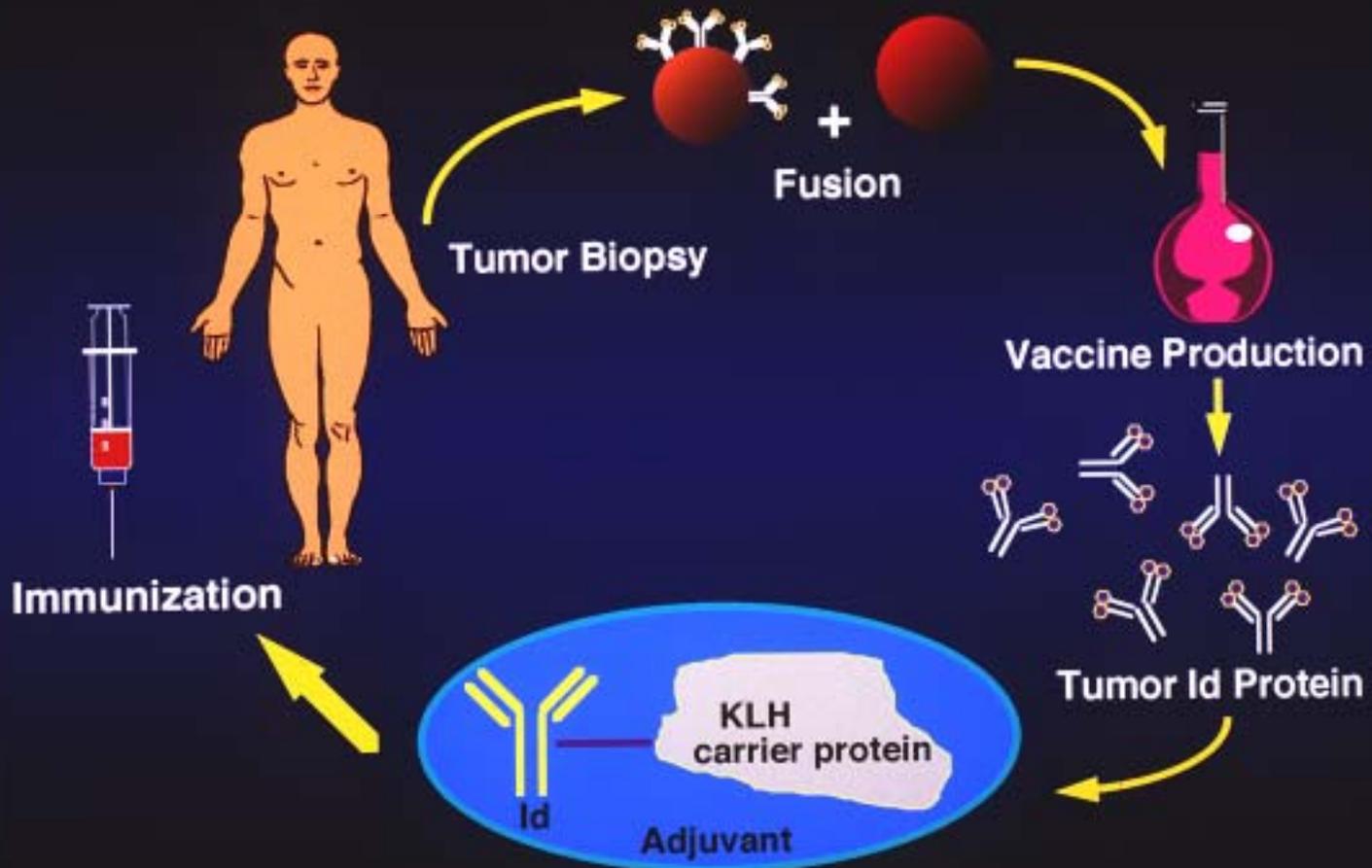
Scalable Process without large capital expense and time

# Personalized Medicine with Plant Made Pharmaceuticals

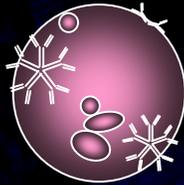
## Patient Specific Vaccine for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma



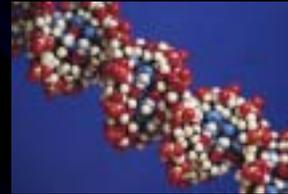
# Hybridoma Produced Full Ig Vaccine



# NHL Vaccine Process Overview



**STAGE 1: Biopsy Processing**



**GENEWARE<sup>®</sup> vector**

**Identify tumor Ig genes**  
**STAGE 2: Cloning the Variable Region Ig Sequences**



**STAGE 3: Cloning and Selection**



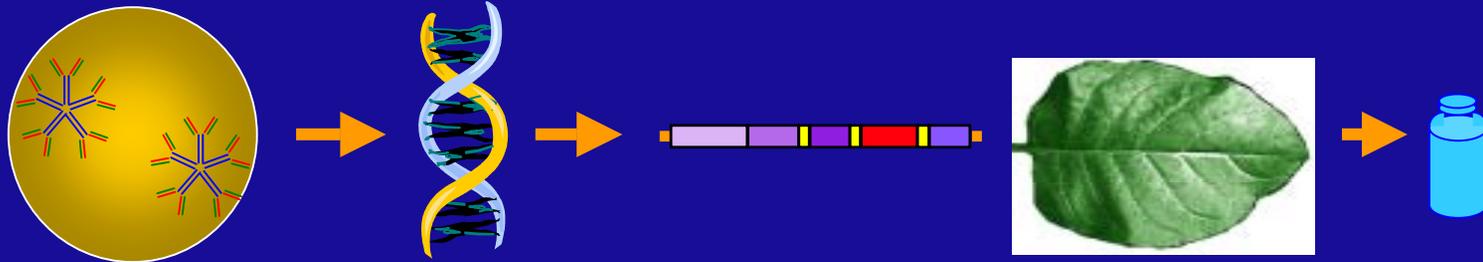
**STAGE 4: Downstream Purification**



**STAGE 5: Finish and Fill**

**Distribute to  
pharmacies  
of clinical  
centers**

# Patient-Specific Vaccine for Treatment of Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma



*LSB's production process: 6-10 weeks*



*Traditional process: 1 year*



# NHL Clinical Development

- **Completion of the Phase I clinical study**
  - No adverse events in 16 individual drug products
    - 15 glycosylated vaccines
  - Good immunogenic response – indication of efficacy
    - Large percentage of patients made cellular or humoral responses
  - Demonstration cGMP manufacturing capability
  - Demonstration of ability to administer a clinical trial
  - Excellent communication and review by FDA
- **Request for review for Phase III trial in to FDA**
  - Special Assessment Protocol preparation

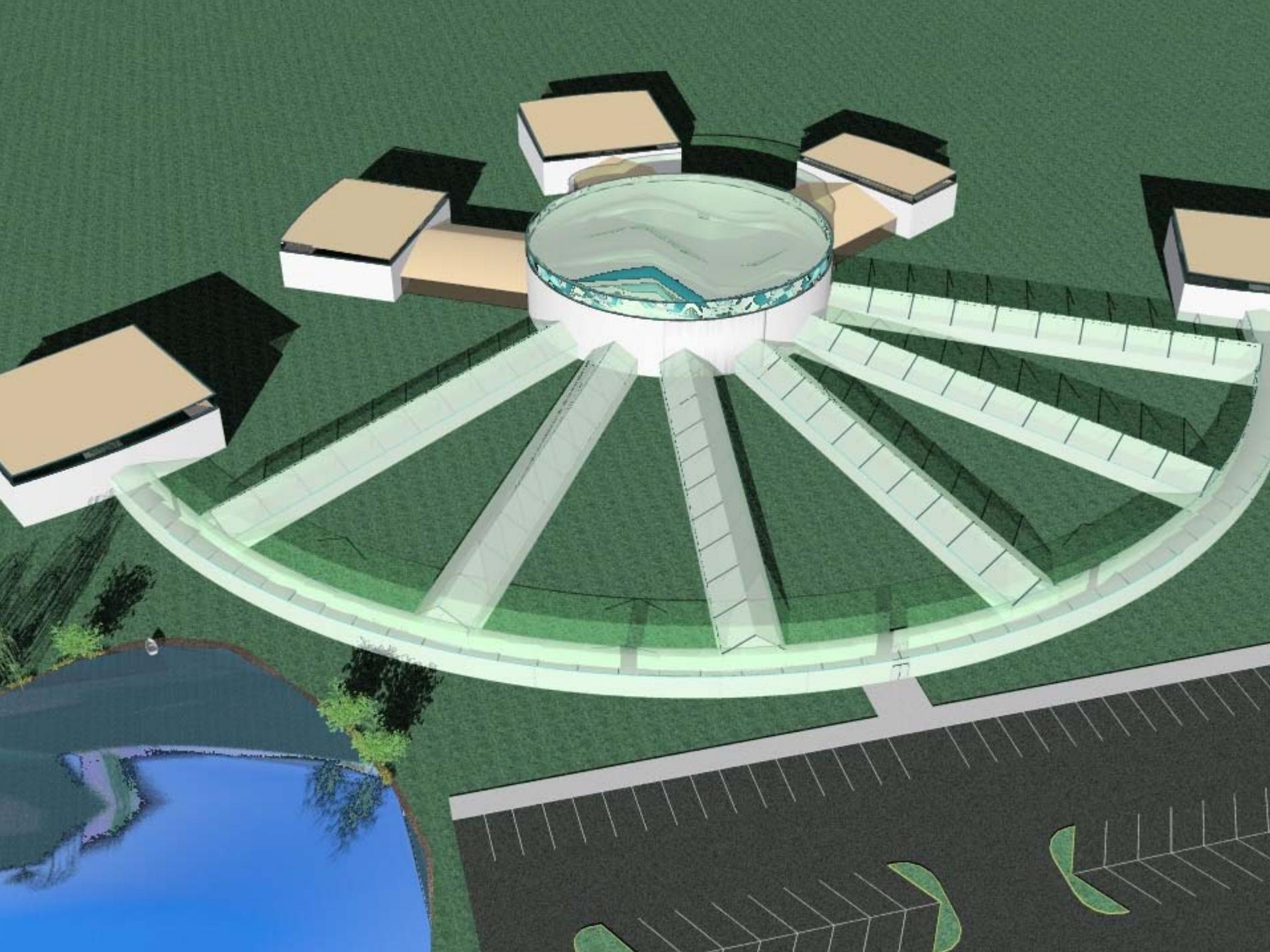
**Genomics  
Robotic Cloning**

**Proteomics  
Automated Protein  
Analyses**

**Automated  
Patient Specific  
Protein Production**

**Bioinformatics  
Database  
Management**

**Bioprocess  
Automation**



**CHANNEL 7**  
**KGO, ABC**  
**San Francisco**  
**News Report**  
November 20, 2001



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