

Bridge Farm Clay Lake Development
Source: Bridge Farm

Bridge Farm

CASE STUDY

Bridge Farm is applying the latest scientific thinking and technology to pioneer the potential of plants in the Horticulture and Bioscience sectors. It grows more than 70 million plants a year in a low-carbon, water-efficient, biomass heated glasshouse. Cutting-edge robotic and AI technology brings total control, consistently nurturing every plant to its fullest potential.

The business is one of the UK's largest horticultural producers and has been growing plants for over 30 years. Each year it delivers over 70 million plants and cut flowers to the UK market.

The knowledge and expertise of Bridge Farm growers is combined with technology and innovation in a state of the art glasshouse, enabling the business to consistently produce quality plants and cut flowers at scale. The business specialises in growing garden plants, houseplants and cut flower tulips.

The business has developed a sustainable cultivation model and set its sights on net zero. It considers carbon reduction in every aspect of the business and has been pioneering change in the industry, including recently moving to peat free production media.

More recently, starting in 2018, the business identified emerging markets for plant derived molecules for use in high value markets such as pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. Bridge Farm Bioscience is now at the forefront of plant research and development in the UK. The business has worked with industry leading experts in plant cultivation, extraction and plant chemistry to apply their knowledge to harness the transformative properties of plants.

The true definition of being vertically integrated, Bridge Farm Bioscience has the capability to operate across the full value chain from breeding and genetics, to large scale plant cultivation, extraction, product development and manufacturing. It allows plant derived molecules to be delivered for a wide range of food and non-food uses, with full transparency throughout the production process.

The research and development team have been working for nearly 5 years to refine the cultivation and extraction processes involved in the manufacture of these plant-derived molecules. With a growing number of businesses looking to use plant-derived molecules to meet the health and wellbeing needs of their consumers, Bridge Farm has invested over £10m to service this market opportunity. The newly commissioned bioscience facility, built to an unrivalled scale at 32,000m², has the ability to deliver consistent, high-quality and pure plant-derived ingredients and products to UK standards.

