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LED Horticulture Lighting

How Verjure LED Grow Lights are Powering Space-Age Research at Utah State University

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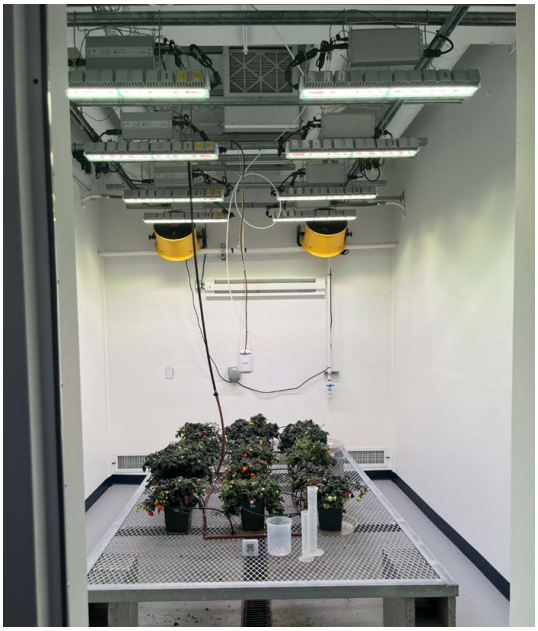
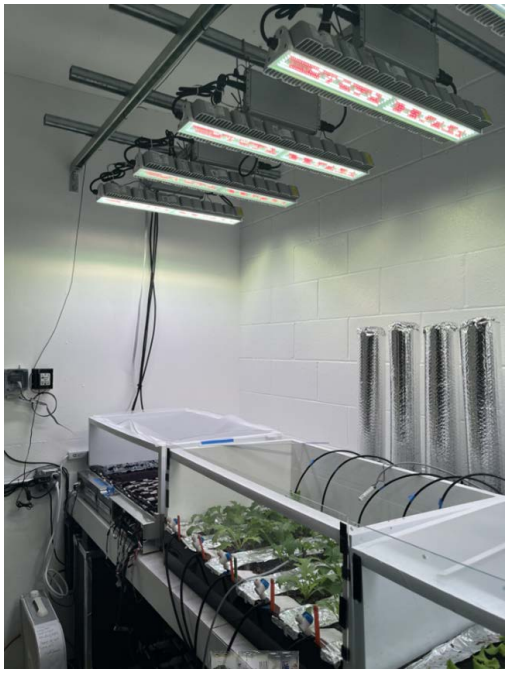
I recently had the opportunity to visit with Dr. Bruce Bugbee at Utah State University's plant research and crop physiology department, where Verjure LED grow lights are playing a crucial role in a groundbreaking study. The university is conducting research to optimize lettuce growth for the International Space Station. Fresh food is critical to the health and wellbeing of astronauts, especially during extended missions.



The researchers at Utah State have experimented with a variety of grow light brands over the years. In talking with Dr. Bugbee and his team, I learned that some of those lights failed to meet the demanding requirements of consistent and reliable performance critical to conducting research. One of the researchers explained the frustration around finding a partial failure on some part of the fixture and LEDs during an ongoing study, compromising the integrity of the data.

Utah State has been using Verjure LED lights for over a year with great results, and Dr. Bugbee explained some of what he really liked about the Verjure L1000 and L2000 lights – quick and easy installation, engineered optics providing uniform lighting distribution, and quality LEDs and drivers designed to perform over time. Bottom line, the lights have continued to perform and do exactly what the researchers need without fail.

One of our discussion points was about the right level of control and overall usability of the Verjure lights provided. The Verjure L1000 and L2000 lights Utah State is using offers a full range of dimming, and wide offering of orderable spectrums to suit different applications.



While some of the lights Dr. Bugbee tested in the past offered more bells and whistles like spectrum tunability, the experience has been anything but seamless. In one specific instance, he mentioned the lights were very problematic, overcomplicated, and almost impossible to get the support needed to get everything working properly when issues arose. Issues also came up with uniformity, and achieving consistent light levels across the areas of research. To this end, I was shown the “lighting fixture graveyard” where many lights sat in various stages of disrepair and partial operation, with failures on everything from drivers to fans to LEDs. Dr. Bugbee’s experience is not the first account I’ve heard like this.

This visit was a powerful reminder of why reliability matters. Consistent and reliable operation gives the researchers confidence in their work and eliminates unwanted variability in the studies. Acuity Brands and Verjure are proud to support Utah State University’s research and the exciting work they are doing.

Learn more about Verjure at www.acuitybrands.com/verjure-horticulture-lighting