U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman painted a possible future for agriculture of market-driven, entrepreneurial farmers, new agricultural ventures and rural cooperatives that capture new ways of doing old business, during an April visit to Purdue University. The link between global economies and rural prosperity has never been more apparent, Glickman says, and a vibrant, rural America will depend on a viable agricultural production system if we’re going to attract new residents and business investment to rural areas.

Glickman (left) also toured many of Purdue Agriculture’s facilities, including the horticulture greenhouses with Joe Anderson, USDA Agricultural Research Service (center), and Purdue agronomist Herb Ohm.