MSU-PRL Brief History for web

* 1965: Plant Research Lab is founded. It is sponsored by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), with the mission of studying radiation in plants and advancing the field of plant biology.
* 1969: The MSU-AEC Plant Research Lab is fully staffed and moved into its quarters
* 1975 – 1978: The Atomic Energy Commission is replaced by the Department of Energy. The name is now the MSU-DOE Plant Research Lab, and the mission is to look at basic plant processes, especially with regard to the growth of plants as a renewable source.
* 1997: We initiate our first group projects combining multiple researchers from the PRL and other departments. The aim is to tackle big scientific problems that are impossible to do in individual labs.
* 2006: The Department of Energy reprioritizes its program goals, changing the focus to fundamental aspects of energy and carbon capture, conversion, and deposition in energy-rich molecules. The PRL adapts accordingly.
* 2013: The group project model started in the 90s becomes the norm for all research funded by the Department of Energy. Since this change in approach, we pursue 3 major group projects at any one time.
* 2015 and on: The PRL celebrates its 50th anniversary.