

Onion Industry Postgraduate Scholarship

Background

The New Zealand onion industry wishes to invest in its future by encouraging postgraduate research and scholarship of relevance to onions.

The money for this scholarship has been made available by the industry body, Onions New Zealand Inc. Sponsorship has also been received from Seed & Field Services Ltd. We are expecting further funds to be contributed by businesses associated with the industry.

This scholarship is administered by Onions New Zealand Inc. on behalf of growers, exporters and associated industries.

Purpose Statement

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide funds to assist any suitable applicant involved in a research project that is likely to make a contribution to the NZ onion industry.

Research topics of interest include: improvement in onion yields, quality and sustainable production, IPM, postharvest technologies, food safety, market access and development (particularly Asian markets); biosecurity, new products.

Eligibility

The scholarship is available to students of any New Zealand university or students registered in other recognised New Zealand tertiary institutions who are enrolled for a postgraduate degree.

Tenure

The monetary value and number of scholarships awarded will be at the discretion of Onions NZ Board, but at least one award of between \$5,000 and \$10,000 will usually be awarded each year. The scholarships will be awarded for one year but with the possibility of renewal or extension.

The scholarship may be held jointly with other awards at the University.

In the event of there being no suitable candidates in any one year, the scholarships may be held over and awarded to suitable candidates in a succeeding year.

Applications

All applications shall be made on the application form below.

Applications for the 2022 study award will be accepted from 15 October to 15 December 2021.

The application should include a statement describing the proposed research and the applicant's perceptions of the importance and relevance of the project, as well as a supporting statement from the applicant's supervisor/mentor.

Applications should be sent to:

Sally Anderson, Research Manager, Onions New Zealand Inc., PO Box 10232, Wellington 6143,
or by email: Sally.Anderson@onionsnz.com

Decision making process

All applications will first be assessed by the Onions NZ Research and Innovation Committee. Recommended applications will then be presented to the Onions NZ Board who will make a final decision on the allocation (number and dollar value) of the annual award(s). A final decision on the award will be made within ten weeks of the closing date for applications.

Assessment criteria

The Onion Industry Postgraduate Scholarship is a prestigious award made on a competitive basis, usually each year. In making awards, consideration will be given to the quality and relevance of the proposed research; the quality of the individual's application; the academic record of the applicant; supporting statements from supervisors and referees comments.

The Research and Innovation Manager of Onions NZ may contact the applicant for additional information.

Monitoring and reporting

The scholar will be expected to report progress to the Onions New Zealand Research and Innovation Committee at six monthly intervals.

At the conclusion of the study, and within six months of the work being completed the scholar shall prepare a report on the research in a form suitable for publication in the New Zealand Grower.

The Onions NZ Research and Innovation Committee may require the recipient to make a short presentation on the research at an industry research conference depending on additional funding availability. This will be negotiated at the time with each reward recipient.

Payment and notification

The Onions New Zealand Board may withhold payment until the presentation of final confirmation that the study or research project is to proceed.

A letter of congratulations and intent to pay the award will be provided to the recipient(s) by Onions New Zealand on the successful granting of the award. Payment arrangements will be negotiated with each individual recipient.

Terms

The Onion Industry Postgraduate Scholarship is awarded at the discretion of the Onions New Zealand Board, as such the application dates, number of scholarships granted and amount of these may change.

APPLICATION FORM POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP 2022

Full name of applicant:

Address for correspondence:

Phone:

Email address:

University or other tertiary institute the study is to take place at:

Qualification for which you are enrolled:

Commencement and anticipated completion dates:

Academic supervisors name(s) and department:

Employer's name (if applicable):

Employer's postal address (if applicable):

Title and brief summary of study or project details (no more than 150 words).

Declaration: By submitting this application, I confirm that the details given on this form and on the attached papers are provided in good faith and correctly represent the study. I authorise members of the judging panel to contact the named referees to enquire about my professional and personal character.

I have read and understood the declaration (please indicate):

Yes

No

Signature:

Date:

Please attach a brief curriculum vitae and no more than three A4 sized pages detailing:

- a) Your current/proposed study or project**
- b) The application and relevance of your proposed study/research to the NZ onion industry**
- c) Contact details for two referees, and their supporting statements.**

Applications to be sent in electronic format to: Sally.Anderson@onionsnz.com. by the specified closing date.

The closing date for the 2022 scholarship is 15 December 2021