



THE OXFORD FARMING
CONFERENCE

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Practice with Science Award

Application form and information on
the prestigious award for 2012



ROYAL AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY *of* ENGLAND

sponsored by





Oxford Farming Conference/RASE 'Practice with Science' Award

The Award

The Oxford Farming Conference (OFC) is a charitable trust whose primary purpose is to support innovation and knowledge transfer to the agricultural industry. We do that primarily through organising what is commonly regarded as the leading annual conference for agriculturalists in the UK, attracting top quality speakers from politics, academia, the farming community and the global food industry. To further develop the OFC's charitable purpose, an annual 'Practice with Science' award has been established in conjunction with the Royal Agricultural Society of England (RASE) with additional sponsored support from AB Agri.

The award will recognise applied scientific work that has resulted in particular benefits to the agricultural industry. The aim is to encourage new thinking and innovation that results in practical advances or improvements in technical and economic efficiency, and the award will be made to both individual researchers and businesses or institutions that commissioned the research.

Rationale

The current system of assessing and evaluating academic research is based primarily on peer review by scientists and tends to rank scientific achievement by novelty rather than by application. Many agricultural scientists, who are particularly focussed on practical application of their work in the industry, fail to receive adequate recognition of their work by their academic peers. However, all practical agriculturalists realise that it is the transfer of scientific knowledge into practical application that is key to driving innovation in the industry. This award was set up to fill the 'recognition gap' for research and development that has delivered practical benefits to agriculture.

Criteria on which the Award will be based

The research should:

- Be novel and original in terms of application
- Provide clear economic benefit to the industry, food chain and consumers
- Improve sustainability through the more efficient use of resources

The applicant should:

- Have the support of his/her team to apply for the Award
- Have the support of his/her Head of Institution/Company to apply for the Award
- Have the endorsement of at least three industry practitioners who are not directly associated with the research team
- Be prepared to present a paper on their work at the Oxford Farming Conference following their award (3-5 January 2012)

Judging Panel

The judging panel will consist of a Trustee of OFC, an academic of recognised standing in the agricultural sciences who may serve in this capacity for up to 5 years and a representative from the RASE and the sponsor.

Prize

The prize will be an award of £10,000, of which £3,000, funded by AB Agri, will be awarded to the individual and £7,000, funded by the RASE and the OFC, to the institution or business at which the R&D team is based. The latter monies will be used to support further research work on the subject, through the support of a studentship/traineeship or through the purchase of a piece of research equipment.

Applications and closing dates

Application forms, in PDF and MS word format, will be available via the OFC website www.ofc.org.uk Entries should be submitted to the Chairman of the OFC with supporting documentation by the 7th September 2012. Judging will be completed by the 26th October 2012, with presentation of the Award at the Oxford Farming Conference the following January (2-4 January 2013).

Short-listed applicants will be invited to attend an interview in London in September at their expense. The winner will be expected to give a ten minute talk at the Oxford Farming conference 2012 (2-4 January 2013), expenses covered by the Conference.

Return application forms to: OFC Secretariat, Killington Hall, Killington, Kirkby Lonsdale, Carnforth, LA6 2HA

Application Form

Section One. Researcher/Applicant:

Name

Address

Email

Tel. No.

Qualifications

Short Biography

Section Two. Research Body/Organisation

Organisation Name

Position

Brief description
of company/Dept.

Web address

Section Three. Project Entry

Title of Project

Description

Project Dates

to

Project funding/
investors

Is the research subject to any IP agreement/binding contract? Yes

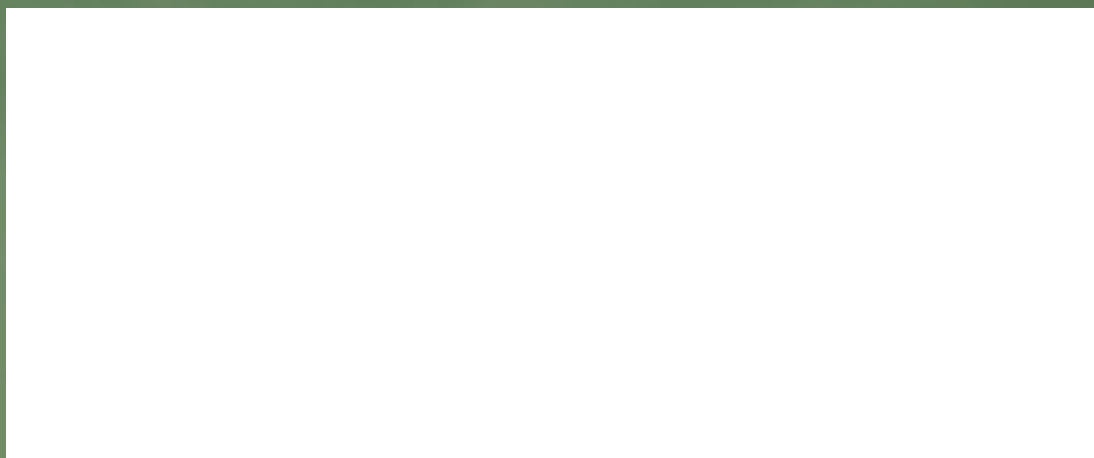
☐

No

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Project Findings

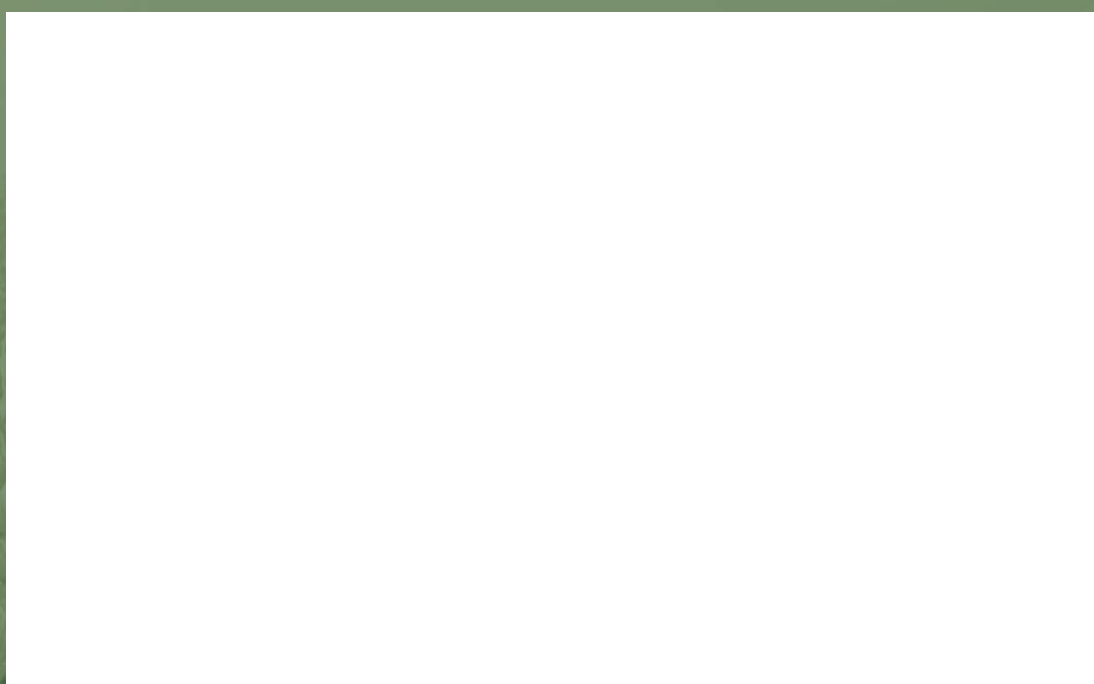
The main benefits
to farmers

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Communication
and KT description
(how you have
communicated
the findings)

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Examples of
uptake and
improvements
on farm

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Previous awards for the same work

Section Four. Next Stages

If you were awarded extra funding for your research body/company, how would the money be used?

Section Five. Supporting Statement

Why is the project you have entered so important to British farmers?

Section Six. Endorsement

Please provide contact details for three endorsers regarding the value of your work to farmers (this can be a farmer, research partner, journalist etc.). We may contact them independently if we need to. Also, please provide, on a separate accompanying sheet, a written endorsement from one of your three endorsers.



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Secretariat, Killington Hall, Killington, Kirkby
Lonsdale, Carnforth, LA6 2HA
www.ofc.org.uk

Please send all entries to:
OFC Secretariat, Killington Hall, Killington, Kirkby
Lonsdale, Carnforth, LA6 2HA
by 7 September 2012.



ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY *of* ENGLAND

Royal Agricultural Society of England
Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ
www.rase.org.uk