



Fully funded multidisciplinary PhD project: Stacking agroecological innovations for sustainable barley production

An exciting project is offered jointly between the James Hutton Institute, the University of Dundee, and Chivas Brothers for PhD candidates aiming to develop multidisciplinary skills that **improve the sustainability of agricultural production and processing**.

Agriculture contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity losses and unsustainable natural resource use. To reverse these trends and deliver Scotland's ambitious targets for net zero agriculture, there is an urgent need for cross-disciplinary working. This four-year funded PhD studentship starting in October 2022 will equip an enthusiastic student with skills to examine the **social, environmental, and industrial** aspects of sustainable agriculture, focussing on barley production. The project will review, experimentally test, and consult with farmers on innovative practices most likely to improve environmental performance, maintain product quality and reduce the carbon footprint of barley production, then co-develop best practice guidelines with farmers and agronomists.

The project provides excellent **opportunities for multidisciplinary training** in skills and techniques spanning agroecology, crop physiology, social research, experiment design, statistical analysis, and knowledge translation that will be highly attractive to future employers. Placements at Chivas Brothers will provide invaluable insights into processing grain for malt and spirits, and an important link to barley growers supplying the whisky industry. The broad experience gained from this project will create a sound basis for onward **career paths in sustainable agriculture** with opportunities for **research and knowledge transfer in agronomy, environmental consultancy, and agroecology**.

The studentship is offered jointly between the James Hutton Institute and Chivas Brothers, funded by the BARIToNE Collaborative Training Partnership. Candidates should have (or expect to achieve) a high-class Honours degree (equivalent to 2:1 or above) and/or an excellent postgraduate qualification in a relevant subject. Before applying, we recommend getting in touch with Alison Karley (Alison.Karley@hutton.ac.uk), Cathy Hawes (Cathy.Hawes@hutton.ac.uk) or Alexandra Morel (AMorel001@dundee.ac.uk), providing a CV and explaining why this project is of interest to you. For more information, visit the [FindaPhD.com advertisement](#).