AWARDS
SPH AWARDS

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Smt. Anne Shikhamany Memorial Award

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DR. G. S. Randhawa Award for Best Thesis

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SPH Fellowship Award

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Student Travel Grant
Dr. S.D. Shikhamany, Former Director, ICAR-IIHR and Founder President, SPH has instituted an award i.e. Smt. Anne Shikhamany Memorial Award for the Best Research papers published in Journal of Horticultural Sciences for once in two years starting from 2008. Dr. Shikhamany has started this award with an intention to encourage the researchers and he has deposited Rs.50,000/- as corpus fund for the award.

Process of selection: A committee of three members has been formed by the Executive Council of SPH and it has been given the responsibility to review all research papers (no focus articles and short communications) and prepare a score card for each paper. After receiving report from three reviewers, report will be combined to compare the results. One paper which has got maximum marks among all the papers will consider as the best paper. Award includes a certificate with cash prize.
DR. G. S. RANDHAWA AWARD FOR BEST THESIS: RULES

1. Name of the Award
   Dr. G. S. Randhawa Award for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Research in Horticulture

2. Sponsor
   Society for the Promotion of Horticulture, ICAR-IIHR, Bengaluru

3. Objectives of the Award
   - To provide recognition to outstanding original research done by doctoral degree students
   - To provide incentive for enhancing the quality of doctoral thesis research
   - To promote high quality doctoral thesis research in emerging priority areas

4. Nature of the Award
   This award is meant exclusively for doctoral thesis related to Horticulture from any Indian University (under NARS). Each individual award consists of Rs.5000 in cash, plaque and citation and Gold medal.

5. Eligibility
   1. Any Indian citizen who has completed his/her Ph.D. degree in Horticulture.
   2. The Certificate of the degree/provisional degree must have been obtained during the year preceding the year (Jan, 2017- June, 2018) of the award. A thesis will be considered only once.
   3. The research work must be original and must have a direct bearing on some relevant aspects of the horticultural production/management systems.
   4. The results obtained must have the potential of enhancing the production/ productivity/ sustainability of the relevant horticultural production/management system or substantially advance our knowledge.
   5. Must have published/accepted at least one research paper in a journal having NAAS rating of 5.0 and above

6. Administration of the Award
   There shall be a Jury Committee consisting of 5 members and the Chairperson appointed by the President, SPH. Wherever deemed necessary the Jury Committee may identify a panel of experts to assist it in the evaluation of the applications. Taking into consideration the evaluation by the experts the Jury Committee shall evaluate the theses and make recommendations to the Society.

7. Evaluation Criteria
   1. Conceptual clarity and coherence of the research problem
   2. Scientific, technological and socio-economic relevance and priority of the research problem
   3. Compilation, analysis and interpretation of existing literature, quality of illustrations and photographs
   4. Organisation of research work. Complementarity of the various experiments and investigations and their integration into a logical plan of work
   5. Conduct of the research programmes: Scientific soundness and technological modernity of the experimental methods and logical planning
   6. Scientific validity and accuracy of the analysis of experimental data
   7. Principal findings: To what extent do they meet the objectives of the research programme
   8. In what way the findings constitute a significant advance in our knowledge and understanding or help improve productivity and sustainability
   9. Research papers published and their quality as judged by the NAAS rating
   10. Patents copyrights applied and accepted

8. Procedure
   1. The following procedures shall be followed:
   2. Applications may be obtained from the SPH website during September of every year.
   3. Application along with 20 pages synopsis (point no. v to x of application form) may be sent to the Secretary, Society for Promotion of Horticulture, ICAR-IIHR, Hesaraghatta, Bengaluru-560089.
   4. Soft copy of the same may be sent to sphiihr2005@gmail.com

9. Presentation
   The presentation of award will be made on the subsequent Foundation day of the society which will be held on Jan. 21st of every year or intimated from time to time. The awardee would give a presentation on achievements of his work to the audience consisting of eminent horticultural scientists.
ELECTION OF FELLOWS

I. General Guidelines

A. Basic Criteria
The main objective of the Academy is to recognize and support excellence in Horticultural science research, technologies and innovations. The outstanding achievements and significant contributions to horticultural sciences are the determining criteria for electing Fellows of Society for Promotion of Horticulture. Applicant should be at a minimum of 10 years of life membership of the Society for Promotion of Horticulture.

B. Number of Fellowships
There will be 3 fellowships awarded biennial (once in every 2 years) comprising the areas of fruit science, Vegetable science and ornamental and medicinal, plantation and spices crops.

C. Procedure for Screening

i. The Executive Council shall appoint a Selection Committee for screening the applications and selecting the candidates. The Committee shall constitute members representing different subject matter areas of Horticulture. The committee will call for applications for the fellowships under the 3 categories mentioned above as per the score card at least 2 months before the AGM of the Society.

ii. Candidates shall be ranked, specifically highlighting their total contribution in their discipline. Special features, such as number and quality of publications, products/ varieties released / patents obtained and position in professional societies, chairing scientific meetings, Honours/Awards will be given due consideration. Contribution and leadership as Science Manager shall also be given due weightage. Three names shall be recommended under each category to the Executive Council for final approval.

As a convention, if a close relative, such as father, mother, wife, husband, son, daughter, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, brother and sister of a member of a Sectional Committee is being considered for Fellowship, the concerned member will withdraw from the Sectional Committee.

Level 3: Executive Council Level Screening

The Executive Council shall meet under the Chairmanship of the President of the Society to review the recommendations of the Selection Committee. The Council shall scrutinize this list and remove any disparities in the recommendations after seeking clarification from the Sectional Committee. The Council will have the final say in selecting the candidates unanimously from the list submitted by the Selection committee. Executive Council can recommend, disqualify, or reconsider a Fellow on valid grounds.
STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT

1. ABOUT THE SCHEME
The Society for Promotion of Horticulture (SPH) extends financial support to Doctoral students of NARS system to attend and present their papers in international conferences/seminars/symposia which are held outside India and are relevant to the subject area of Horticultural sciences.

The Student grant includes actual return Airfare in economy class and registration fee up to Rs 50000 or the actuals whichever is less. The event should be of international nature organized or partnered by International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS).

1. ELIGIBILITY
   i. Applicant should be a student pursuing PhD in Horticultural Sciences in any University/Institute under NARS system.
   ii. The student should be on the role of the university and should have completed at least 2 years of study after registration for PhD program.
   iii. The paper/abstract should have been accepted for oral/poster presentation as a single or lead author.
   iv. The student should not have availed financial assistance for travel support from SPH earlier.

1. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED
The following documents will be required for submitting the application
   i. Letter of Invitation from organizers giving particulars such as acceptance of paper for Oral or Poster presentation
   ii. Detailed announcement and the technical programmes of the event (Please attach photocopy of the announcement).
   iii. Abstract of the paper accepted for presentation along with letter of its acceptance by the organizers.
   iv. No Objection Certificate from Co-authors (if any) that they are not attending the said conference.
   v. A copy of letter regarding commitment from any other national or international agency, for any financial assistance, full or partial for travel, registration etc.
   vi. Approval/Forwarding letter from the Head of the Organisation/Department.
   vii. Certificate from the applicant that he/she has not availed travel support from any government organisation in the last three financial years from the date of application.
   viii. Bio-data of the applicant
   Envelope may be superscribed: "APPLICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SUPPORT"

1. SELECTION PROCESS
   i. The successful applicant will be informed about 4 weeks before the commencement of the conference. The results will be hosted in our web site about four weeks before the commencement of the event.
   ii. Applications must be submitted at least 5 weeks in advance
   iii. Incomplete application shall be rejected.

1. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO SPH AFTER THE TRIP
The society will issue a sanction letter indicating the amount of the grant before the travel. The sanctioned amount will be released to the student only after return to India after participating in the conference, subjected to actuals spent, upon submitting the following documents:
   i. Claim Sheet for reimbursement of Travel grant for presenting research papers in International Conference/ Seminar/ Symposium/ Workshop.
   iii. A copy of Air ticket with original boarding passes and the receipt of the registration fee paid if claim includes registration fee
   iv. A Certificate of participation at the Conference from the organizers.
   v. Other travel support received for the trip.
   vi. Duly verified Bank details (Name as per bank records, bank name, branch name and address, account no, nature of account, IFSC code and MICR Code) may please be attached.
   vii. Travels claims should be submitted with complete documents within 2 months (60 days) from the completion of the event for which travel is undertaken. Any claim received beyond 2 months will not be entertained.
   viii. Abstract which has been accepted for conference carrying the details of all the co-authors including their affiliations must be provided.
   ix. Supervisor’s name and consent for the application should be provided.
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