



DARWIN INITIATIVE



APPLICATION FOR DARWIN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2005

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Give a full answer to each section; applications will be considered on the basis of information submitted on this form. Please note the additional information requirements (CVs and letters of support as detailed in the Guidance for Applicants). Whilst this form is to be submitted by the host institution the proposed Scholar should be fully involved in development of the proposal.

Submit by 18 March 2005

1. Contact Details

<i>Ref. (Defra/ECTF only):</i>
Name and address of UK applicant organisation Martin Gardner; Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Inverleith Row, Edinburgh, EH3 5LR; Scotland

2. Darwin Scholar. A one page CV must be enclosed.

Name and official address of proposed Darwin Scholar Daniela Weber; Instituto de Silvicultura, Facultad de Ciencias Forestales ; Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH). Valdivia, CHILE
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3. Project summary (no more than 100 words)

<p>TITLE: Implementing a Benefit Sharing Agreement between Chile and the UK.</p> <p>This scholarship will test and refine the protocols and procedures that have been developed for monitoring commercialised germplasm under the terms of a Plant Genetic Resources Commercialization Agreement developed as a major output from the current Darwin Initiative (DR 11-012). It will also allow Daniela Weber, a post-graduate student from the Forestry Faculty of the Universidad Austral de Chile, to develop her experience in managing conservation collections of threatened plants and to broaden her horticultural knowledge and skills. She will then be in a position to play a fundamental role in the long-term conservation of threatened Chilean plants.</p>

4. Principals in Project. Please give the details of the individuals from the UK host organisations (and other institutions if relevant) who would be directly involved in supervising/working with the Darwin Scholar. A 1 page CV on each must be enclosed.

Details	Main UK expert	Other UK expert	Other UK expert	Other UK expert
Surname	Gardner	Thomas	Brownless	Catt
Forename(s)	Martin	Philip	Peter	Peter
Post held	Co-ordinator, International Conifer Conservation Programme (RBGE)	Researcher, International Conifer Conservation Programme (RBGE)	Nursery Supervisor Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE)	Owner Liss Forest Nursery
Institution (if different to above)				
Department	Science	Science	Horticulture	Liss Forest Nursery
Telephone				
Fax				
Email				

5. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the UK applicant organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

The International Conifer Conservation Programme (ICCP) forms part of the RBGE Science Division. The main theme of the ICCP is the integration of ex-situ and in-situ strategies that assist the conservation of conifers and their associated species. Staff from the ICCP have more than 20 years experience of working on the conservation of Chilean native flora and are currently managing the favourably reviewed Darwin Initiative 'An integrated conservation programme for threatened, endemic forest species in Chile Project (DR 11-012). One of the main outputs of this project is a benefit sharing agreement involving the commercialisation of selected Chilean native species where the profits will be used to support plant conservation in Chile. This is the first such agreement in Chile to be negotiated within the context of the CBD. Additionally, ICCP staff are also working closely with NGOs such as Rainforest Concern to secure the purchase of threatened native forests and have recently secured a £200 000 endowment for future training of Chilean graduates in conservation methodologies.

6. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the proposed Darwin Scholar's organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

The Department of Silviculture at the Universidad Austral de Chile, led by Professor Dr Antonio Lara (one of the leaders of the current Darwin Initiative) is the leading center for the study of the ecology, conservation and sustainable use of Chilean native forests. It has made an outstanding contribution to the increased knowledge of the ecology and biodiversity of Chilean rainforests and has taken the lead with many conservation initiatives. The department was responsible for a World Bank funded mapping and assessment of the natural vegetation resources of Chile, using both aerial and satellite images supported by ground-truthing. This is one of the few examples in the world where a complete country assessment has been undertaken. Much of the Department's work is in collaboration with both governmental and non-governmental organisations. Currently Professor Lara and other members of the faculty are working with the President of Chile in the formulation of new policies for the conservation and sustainable management of native forests. They are also at the forefront of radical new initiatives such as the benefit sharing and commercialisation agreements that have been developed through the current Darwin Initiative.

7. Describe briefly the proposed Darwin Scholar's current role within their organisation.

Daniela was an undergraduate student at the Universidad Austral de Chile from 1998 until May 2004. In the early part of her studies, she was involved on a voluntary basis with the development of the University's arboretum as well as working in a tree nursery on Easter Island with the Corporación Nacional Forestal (CONAF). Following her graduation in 2004 she worked in the eco-tourism industry and then obtained a job as a propagation supervisor in a commercial nursery. During this time she maintained personal contact with people at the University, especially those involved with the current Darwin Initiative. In January 2005, Daniela was invited to become a voluntary member of the project team. She is currently working as an assistant to the Curator (Ms Paulina Hechenleitner, the coordinator for the current Darwin Initiative). Her main remit is the care and development of ex-situ collections relating to the commercialisation agreement developed within the current Darwin Initiative. Her secondary remit is the development of policies for the arboretum that will ensure that it complies with the terms of the CBD and the GSPC. Daniela will also be playing a key role in the development and the implementation of a new Darwin Initiative that will be submitted in the next round. (October 2005)

8. Provide a concept note on the Darwin Scholarship. This should include:

- a clear outline of the aim and objectives of the Scholarship
- the programme of work, including key milestones through the duration of the Scholarship and their timing
- the role of the UK applicant organisation, and others where relevant (including contacts)
- where appropriate, how the Scholarships will contribute towards sustainable development or sustainable livelihoods

Aim and objectives

1. to test and critically examine the protocols that have been developed during the current Darwin Initiative ('An integrated conservation programme for threatened, endemic forest species in Chile Project , DR 11-012) for the monitoring of germplasm selected for commercialisation in the UK under the terms of the Access to Plant Genetic Resources Agreement and the Plant Genetic Resources Commercialization Agreement.
2. to provide advanced training for a scholar who will then be able to play a fundamental role in the long-term conservation of the threatened Chilean plants. The advanced training programme will include work experience in the collaborating commercial nursery, formulating policies for the management and development of conservation collections that are appropriate to UACH and comply with the CBD as well as the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Work Programme

May – August 2005: Arrival in UK, Research and work at Liss Forest Nurseries, Hampshire.

Milestones: Report evaluating monitoring system of commercialisation and access to genetic resources agreement
Report on management of nursery stock of Chilean native taxa selected for commercialisation from propagation to marketing;

August – mid December 2005: Research and work at RBGE and specialist gardens (Benmore and Logan Botanic Gardens).

Milestones: evaluation of procedures used for transfer, cultivation and monitoring of germplasm utilised as part of the Plant Genetic Resources Commercialization Agreement; critique of RBGE's Access to Genetic Resources policy;

Mid-December 2005 – 31st March 2006: Research and work at UACH arboretum.

Milestones: Final report for Darwin Initiative; critique of protocols used for monitoring of germplasm selected for commercialisation in the UK under the terms of the Access to Plant Genetic Resources Agreement and the Plant Genetic Resources Commercialization Agreement draft policies for UACH arboretum on Access to Genetic Resources; seminar for UACH staff, selected individuals from collaborating Chilean organisations and institutions.

Role of the UK applicant organisation

The role of the staff from the RBGE will be to supervise and coordinate all activities in addition to providing appropriate working facilities (nursery, herbarium, library) for the proposed scholar during the time of the Scholarship in the UK. The UK experts at RBG Edinburgh specialise in the management of ex-situ conservation collections and have particular expertise with Chilean native plants. The role of Peter Catt will be to supervise the scholar's activities during her time at Liss Forest Nurseries

Sustainable development and livelihoods

The scholar's project will further enhance the contribution to sustainable development and livelihoods that the current Darwin Initiative is making through its commercialisation and benefit sharing agreements.

9. Legacy. Provide information on how the Darwin Scholar will utilise, promote and disseminate the benefits of the Scholarship on return to his/her home country. Will a strategy be developed during the Scholarship to ensure this is achieved?

On returning to Chile the Scholar will spend the last 3 months of her scholarship working in the UACH arboretum in order to apply her knowledge for the propagation and cultivation of the threatened plants of Southern and Central Chile. This work, under the supervision of the Arboretum Curator, will focus continuing to build-up comprehensive collections of threatened plants for ex situ and in situ conservation. One of the very successful elements of the Darwin Initiative project has been the dissemination of techniques and skills through intensive training programmes and this type of programme will continue. Active collaboration will be sought with a local commercial grower in developing strategies for the commercialisation of native plants species so that a percentage of the profits can be used for the conservation of threatened Chilean plants. A strategy for this will be developed during the Scholarship in full consultation with the host institution and collaborative bodies.

10. How will the Scholarship assist the Scholar's organisation and/or local communities and/or home country in working towards the objectives (or implementation) of the Convention on Biological Diversity? References to the Convention should be specific, for example, by referring to articles, cross-cutting or thematic issues¹.

The scholarship will assist UACH and Chile to meet the objectives of the following articles in the CBD

Article 9, *Ex-situ* Conservation ; Article 10, Sustainable use of components of Biological Diversity; Article 11, Incentive measures; Article 12, Research and Training and Article 15 Access to genetic resources

The scholarship is also relevant to the following cross cutting themes; Access and Benefit Sharing, Sustainable Use and Biodiversity, Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC).

Within the GSPC, the scholarship will help Chile reach the following specific targets: Target 3 Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience; Target 8 – 60% of threatened plant species in accessible plant collections; Target 15 – number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased; Target 16 Networks for plant conservation activities established/strengthened

11. What collaboration has there been with the Darwin Scholar to date in developing the proposal, and what collaboration is planned for the duration of the Scholarship? Where relevant, describe any consultation or collaboration by the proposed Scholar within his/her own country.

The present proposal is a combined initiative from the host Institution, the proposed Scholar and Peter Catt, the owner of Liss Forest Nurseries. It is partly the outcome of a previous visit to Liss Forest Nurseries by Prof. Antonio Lara and C. Echeverra (Chilean project leaders) during the negotiations leading up to the commercialisation agreement. During the implementation of the Scholarship, ongoing feedback between UK and Chilean researchers is expected in addition to formal written reports by the scholar. At the end of the scholarship, the three-way partnership between Liss Forest Nurseries, UACH and the RBGE will be strongly enhanced.

12. Provide details of the Darwin Initiative project that the proposed Scholar was involved in, including his/her role in that project and any ongoing involvement.

DR 11-012, April 2002 – March 2005.

'An integrated conservation programme for threatened, endemic forest species in Chile'

The rainforests of southern and central Chile represent one quarter of the world's remaining temperate rainforests. About 90% of the 900 vascular plant species known to occur in this area are endemic. A significant number, many of them listed as threatened by the IUCN, exist only in fragmented forests outside of protected areas. The programme is providing long-term protection through an integrated programme of ex-situ and in-situ conservation involving a wide range of stakeholders. It has been providing the training for key horticultural and scientific personnel in ex-situ and in-situ conservation methodologies and working with private landowners to establish agreements in order to protect key endemic species and develop habitat management plans. To ensure the long term success of the project, an international benefit sharing agreement involving the commercialisation in the UK of selected native Chilean species, has been developed. The management and implementation of this agreement requires staff with experience of both practical conservation and commercial horticulture. In Chile, this combination of experiences is rare. Daniela is a recent, valuable addition to the project team who does possess such experience. Please refer to Question 7 for further details.

13. Duration of the Scholarship: what is the intended start and finish date.

May 2005 - March 2006

¹ Refer to the Guidance Notes for Applicants for further information

14. Where will the Darwin Scholar be based? Please be specific with organisational details and dates (where more than one location).

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh - Inverleith Site, Edinburgh, May 2005
 Liss Forest Nursery, Liss, Petersfield, mid-May – mid-August, 2005
 Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh - Inverleith Site, Edinburgh; mid August – mid September, 2005
 Benmore Botanic Garden (RBGE), mid-September – November, 2005
 Logan Botanic Garden (RBGE); November 2005 – December 1 2005
 Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh - Inverleith, Site, Edinburgh, December 2005 – mid December 2005
 Arboretum Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia; mid-December 2005 – March 31 2006

15. Financial Aspects.

Scholar payment			
London: £1200/month	Number of months	2005/6 £	2006/7 £
UK (outside London): £1000/month	Number of months	£	£
Overseas location £650/month*	Number of months	£	£
Host Organisations' costs			
UK: £200/month	Number of months	2005/6 £1	2006/7 £
Overseas location: £/month*	Number of months		£
A. Total Scholar & Host Organisation Costs		£	£

Actual travel costs		
Return airfare. <i>Details</i> paid for by Friends of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh	2005/6 £	2006/7 £
Travel to/from airports. <i>Details</i> n/a	£	£
Visas etc. <i>Details</i> n/a	£	£
B. Total Scholarship Travel Costs (Actual costs up to £2000 will be paid)	£	£

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP COSTS (A + B)	£	£
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* Figures available from Darwin@defra.gsi.gov.uk

16. Other sources of funding: provide details and amounts

Friends of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh; airfare Royal Horticultural Society; Living costs May 2005 – September 2005; Private Donation (in-kind) accommodation in Liss, Hampshire May – August 2005

FCO NOTIFICATION

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise details of the Darwin Scholarship and the resultant work in the UK or the Darwin Scholar's home country

CERTIFICATION

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

I enclose a copy of the organisation's most recent audited accounts and annual report, CVs for project principals and letters of support.

Name (block capitals)	Dr Mary Gibby
Position in the organisation	Director of Science

Signed

Date:

18 March 2005

Please return completed form to The Edinburgh Centre for Tropical Forests (ECTF) by 18 March 2005 by email to darwin-applications@ectf-ed.org.uk. Where it is not possible to send the full application in electronic form (for example if signed references are not available electronically), a hard copy of the full application should also be sent to ECTF, Darwin Applications Unit, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik, Edinburgh EH26 OPH.