



# PhD Scholarship Forestry Pest Management



**NOW OPEN TO INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS!**  
**(tuition fee waiver included)**

***Scholarship value: Aust \$31,669 per annum (APAI plus \$5,000 top-up)***

If you want to study for your PhD in rural Australia, here's your chance! Applications are invited for a PhD in an exciting new Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Program project that will help protect pine plantations from exotic pests and climate change. The work is led by Professor Geoff Gurr of Charles Sturt University and involves close collaboration with members of the National Sirex Coordination Committee (NSCC). The position will be based in Orange NSW but the project will have sites elsewhere in NSW and some interstate travel will be required.

The project has three main components: (i) field survey and insect rearing work to investigate the severity of ips bark beetle damage and the extent to which it is adversely affecting the current program of nematode-based biological control of sirex wood wasp (ii) laboratory studies of the interactions between ips bark beetle, sirex wood wasp and the fungi and nematodes associated with each (iii) laboratory and field experiments on possible pest management strategies to reduce the impact of ips bark beetle. *The split of components between the PhD and a new postdoctoral fellow will be negotiated according to the background of the preferred applicants.*

#### **You will need:**

- Honours degree or equivalent in forestry, agricultural science or related discipline.
- Excellent knowledge of entomology, pest management or plant protection.
- Skills in one or more of the following: field research for insect pest management including sampling, forestry entomology, tri-trophic interactions, plant pathology, chemical ecology, insect culturing and laboratory bioassays, chemical analysis techniques (e.g. GCMS, HPLC), data analysis skills (especially geospatial approaches), biological control.
- Willingness to undertake practical field work, helicopter flights and undertake overnight travel to field sites remote from Orange.
- Driving licence.

**Closing dates for applications: 21 February 2010.**

**Further details are available from Prof Geoff Gurr (02 63 657551/ggurr@csu.edu.au).**