



**Arboricultural Association
Memorial Trust Fund**

£10,000 available for research from the Arboricultural Association

Research is recognised as critical to the development of the arboricultural profession, because it is the application of the findings of this research that make the management and understanding of trees possible. Research is not necessarily well rewarded financially and the associated costs can be high, particularly for those undertaking projects whilst in higher education as a dissertation or thesis.

In recognition of this, the Arboricultural Association offers a grant to support research that is relevant to arboriculture and undertaken in the UK. There have recently been significant changes to the arrangements associated with the grant, aimed at further incentivising research:

- Most importantly the value of the award has been increased to £10,000
- The scope of the research project has been widened to include projects that are directly concerned with practical arboriculture or other related environmental topics and previously unsuccessful applicants can re-apply
- Finally the conditions associated with the award have been made less onerous. The successful applicant will only be required to meet one of the following: produce a paper for the Conference or the Journal, write an article for the Newsletter or give a demonstration at the Trade Fair.

Of course it is important that this information is still readily accessible and so the AA emphasises that a copy of the research paper will be held at its headquarters.

For further information, interested candidates should visit the web site www.trees.org.uk/downloads/researchgrant.pdf where application forms and guidance notes can be downloaded. The application form requires details of the project aims and objectives, the project team, the research methods to be used, the significance to arboriculture, project timescales and the funding requirements for the project.

The closing date for applications is 30 September of each year. All applications received in the previous 12 months will be considered at the October meeting of the AA Education and Training Committee. The successful applicant (or applicants if the grant is to be divided) will be awarded the grant in November.

If you have an idea for a suitable research project, but are not sure on whether it may be suitable please do not hesitate to contact the AA for guidance.