



## **PhD Scholarships: wild insect pollinator biodiversity in the provision of crop pollination ecosystem services**

Over 50 different agricultural commodities benefit from insect pollination in Australia, yet we have little knowledge of the contribution of wild insect pollinators to these services. This project will enable us to identify pollinators and determine their efficiency for a number of high value Australian crops. We hope to gain a greater understanding of pollinator efficiency, foraging ranges and diversity as well as provide management options for landholders requiring pollination services for their livelihoods.

The project is part of a \$5.2 million grant awarded to RIRDC in collaboration with the Universities of New England, Sydney, Adelaide and other industry partners. This particular component of the project will be based at the University of New England (UNE), Armidale, NSW under the supervision of Dr. Romina Rader and other collaborators.

We are seeking applicants with an interest and background in pollination, entomology, plant-animal interactions, modelling, ecological economics, landscape genetics and/or biodiversity in agricultural systems for a 3-year PhD project. The successful candidate will be required to undertake field work across the north and eastern parts of Australia across several different crops and adjoining natural vegetation. In addition, the candidate will undertake analytical and statistical work and to disseminate research results to industry and the broader scientific community.

An interest in working alongside industry, a willingness to work in remote areas and the capacity to work both work independently and as part of a team are important qualities. The applicant must be proficient in spoken and written English, have a current driver's license and be an Australian or New Zealand citizen (international applicants will need to obtain a scholarship from the University of New England). Selection of applicants will be based on merit.

**Scholarship applications for candidates are due on the 28 January 2017, or until filled.**

To apply or enquire: Please send an email to Romina Rader [rrader@une.edu.au](mailto:rrader@une.edu.au) with a statement of your background and interest in the project, your Curriculum Vitae and any publications.