



BRIAN CHAMBERS SOILS FUND



# Helping trainee scientists develop

Soil is a precious resource that has an essential role to play in sustainable agricultural production. We rely on healthy soils to provide the food we eat, filter the water we drink and to support our valued landscapes.

- **Professor Brian Chambers**
- worked tirelessly to apply
- science to the complex
- problems of soil, nutrient
- and manure management.

Managing soils to deliver multiple benefits is a challenge; especially when a growing population will need more food produced from the same area of land. It is essential that we continue to research and learn about soils, to help farmers, land managers and policy makers protect this valuable resource.

Training and developing soil scientists plays a crucial role in providing the skills and knowledge needed to manage soils effectively to meet the demands of modern farming systems.

*The Brian Chambers Soils Fund* was set up in Brian's memory to provide grants to help fund the learning and development costs of trainee scientists. His untimely passing in 2014 reminds us of the need for investment in careers and for succession planning.

## What is the fund for?

To help support the training and experience of early career scientists studying and working with applied aspects of soil, nutrient or manure management to ensure that essential applied soil science skills and knowledge are sustained for the future.

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Correct use of organic manures can help produce food, without damaging the environment.





The BCSF is pleased to work alongside the International Fertiliser Society who has established the **Brian Chambers International Award**. Cash prizes are offered to PhD or MSc students from any country who can demonstrate how their work will provide practical benefits to farm crop nutrition. For more details see [www.fertiliser-society.org/BrianChambersAward](http://www.fertiliser-society.org/BrianChambersAward)

### Who manages the fund?

The Fund is administered by a small group of scientists and donors who will award grants. It is overseen by the British Society of Soil Science (BSSS), an established organisation and charity committed to the study of all aspects of soil science.

### Who can apply for funding?

Applicants must be researching a topic or be employed in a position in which an understanding of soil science, nutrient or manure management is an important component. They are encouraged to be a student or graduate member of a relevant professional body such as BSSS.

### How will we know if the Fund is making a difference?

The Fund will monitor how its grants are awarded and evaluate how recipients have benefited from the investment. The management board will work closely with donors to ensure that their interests and those of the Fund are addressed.

### How you can help

Initial donations have enabled the establishment of the Fund, but its sustainability will only be assured through contributions from those organisations that recognise the increasing need for robust evidence to improve the management of soils for food production and to protect the environment.

If you or your organisation would like to contribute, involve your own young scientists or find out more about the Fund please contact:

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