

SIGURD RAMANS HARBOROUGH



“ I first became interested in plant science when I attended the Friends lectures at the John Innes Centre. I attended the updates on cereal breeding EUCARPIA meeting at the University of Cambridge in April 2010. I am now particularly interested in the area of evolutionary trees and genetic mapping. ”

First Degree

BSc Biology (with a year in industry)
University of York
Date due to graduate July 2012

Sainsbury Undergraduate Studentship (2010-2012)

Vacation Research - phenotypic studies of epidermal leaf sheath hairs - August 2010
National Institute for Agricultural Botany, Cambridge
Supervisor - Dr Donal O'Sullivan, NIAB
Mentor - Professor Ottoline Leyser, University of York

Studentship in Conservation Genetics at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew - September 2010 to August 2011.
Supervisor - Robyn Cowan.

Summary of Vacation Project

National Institute of Agricultural Botany

Summer project: phenotypic studies of epidermal leaf sheath hairs. The epidermal leaf sheath hairs is a grouping and distinctness character for barley and is recorded during the assessment of distinctness, uniformity and stability (DUS) of new varieties. As a contribution towards the development of a molecular genetic understanding of how leaf sheath hairs are determined, the project aimed to capture the first appearance of sheath hairs during seedling development, which would indicate the earliest stage at which the causative gene had already been expressed.

Research placement at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Conservation genetic studies on critically endangered species from Bermuda: *Juniperus bermudiana* and *Sisyrinchium bermudiana*. This project has determined the severity of the genetic bottleneck for *Juniperus bermudiana* and the genetic variation between the populations for these species. As a result an effective conservation strategy can be implemented by the Bermuda Government.
