Dear Researcher,

Horticulturists and researchers in related sciences are invited to submit research proposals for funding by Floriculture Industry Research and Scholarship Trust. **Deadline for submissions is September 1, of each year.** FIRST has a policy of not funding overhead or travel expenses.

For over 20 years, the Bedding Plants Foundation, Inc. and Ohio Floriculture Foundation have funded research projects at universities throughout the U.S. and Canada. These two charitable organizations have merged to form FIRST. We fund approximately $100,000 in research grants each year.

All grant recipients are required to submit progress reports twice a year, on June 1 and December 1, for the board to review at the July and January meetings. Final reports are published and sent to all FIRST contributors and those who request information.

A survey of growers indicated the following research opportunities in our mission to improve the production and marketability of plants:

- Increasing self life/garden performance
- Economical means for recycling greenhouse waste
- Water quality/alkalinity control
- Evaluation/development of biocontrol methods and management techniques
- Improving production techniques
- Plug production techniques
- Perennial production techniques
- Control of pest problems such as: thrips, aphids, whitefly, fungus gnats
- Control of disease problems such as: TSWV, botrytis, mildew, pythium

FIRST welcomes any proposal pertinent to the floriculture industry. A copy of the proposal submission form follows. Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William T. Willbrandt
Executive Director
Application for Research Project Funding

Include the completed form with the detailed explanation of your request or proposal (not to exceed ten (10) pages.) If project is expected to extend past one year and can be measured in phases, show your anticipated schedule for phase completion and progress reporting.

- **Proposals must be received by September 1** for consideration before the November Board Meeting of FIRST.
- It is not the policy of FIRST to fund administrative costs.
- If a grant is awarded, a research progress report is required June 1 and December 1 each year until a final research report is submitted. Final Reports are to be submitted in popular format to be published by FIRST.
- Grant durations are one year. Renewal requests are given primary consideration. Researchers must submit their requests annually. To fail to submit progress reports or to change the project without prior approval of the FIRST Board is cause for rejecting a renewal request.

Please answer the following questions as concisely as possible.

I. **Title of research project:** _________________________________________________________________

II. **Name of organization submitting request:** _________________________________________________

III. **Name of individual(s) submitting request (Include titles and/or affiliation with organization set forth in II above.)**
   a) ___________________________________________________________________________________
   b) ___________________________________________________________________________________
   c) ___________________________________________________________________________________

IV. **Names and titles of individuals responsible for conducting the project or using FIRST funds, if different from above:**
   a) ___________________________________________________________________________________
   b) ___________________________________________________________________________________
   c) ___________________________________________________________________________________
V. Where the project will be conducted or FIRST funds used: _____________________________________

VI. If the project is funded, to whom should the check be written: ___________________________________

Addressed: ___________________________________

___________________________________

___________________________________

VII. Cost analysis:
Using the grid below, indicate the funds being requested from FIRST and the other sources of funding you
will be using to complete your project.

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VIII. On a separate page, please provide a list of the names and addresses of five colleagues whom you think
are qualified to provide technical input regarding your proposal should FIRST consider it necessary.

IX. On a separate page, please provide a list of the names and addresses of five individuals or firms you think
would benefit from the proposed research.

X. Scheduling:
   a) Anticipated or actual starting date for project: _____________________________________________
   b) Anticipated date of completion: ________________________________________________________

XI. Reporting:
Unless otherwise stated, progress reports should be submitted to the FIRST office on or before June 1
and December 1 each year until a Final Research Report in popular format is submitted. Final Reports
will be published by FIRST.

Signed _________________________________________

Title ___________________________________________

Date ___________________________________________