



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

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22 March 2013

Recommendation letter for Ms Rabia Naz

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am pleased to advise that Rabia NAZ worked at The University of Sydney from 3 October 2012 until 22 March 2013. Ms Naz completed the project entitled "**Pathogenesis-related protein expression in the apoplast of wheat leaves protected against leaf rust (*Puccinia triticina*) following application of plant extract bioformulations.**" While in Sydney, Ms Naz prepared her infected plant material at the University of Sydney's Plant Breeding Institute and extracted and analysed these extracts at the Faculty's laboratories on the main city campus.

The main aim of Ms Naz's visit was to develop skills in the molecular analysis of plant responses to pathogens, and to investigate how these responses are affected by various plant extracts. While in Sydney, Ms Naz prepared plant extract bioformulations and checked its potential against leaf rust in wheat. She extracted apoplastic fluid from wheat leaves after infection and application of bioformulations. During her stay she learned many different advanced techniques of Proteomics (1DE and 2DE), Mass Spectrometry, Enzyme quantification and RT-PCR (RNA extraction and Gene expression analysis of pathogenesis-related proteins). In the course of these experiments she worked with a number of staff, including Professor Robert Park, Dr Neil Wilson and Dr Thomas Roberts, as well as myself.

It was a pleasure to host Ms Naz's visit. While in some ways it was unfortunate that her internship coincided with the summer break, she was able to develop her independence by continuing to work with minimal supervision at times, and I think she will benefit from this. Ms Naz's excellent work resulted in manuscripts that will be published to internationally reputed journals. Ms Naz is an independent, hardworking, mature and intelligent individual. She demonstrated much passion and focus in her research work. Her constant desire to improve her qualifications and research capabilities will ensure her ultimate success. I wish Rabia every success in her future career.

Sincerely,

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