



Dear colleagues and friends,

At this time of the year, we are receiving the applications for the BARD research grants. Our online application website has been revamped to better streamline the process. We hope it made it easier to submit and we look forward to receiving your applications. This year, with the help of our technical advisory committee (TAC) and experts from the U.S. and Israel, BARD has revisited its research priority areas. The new priorities were carefully constructed to suit both the needs of American and Israeli agriculture. You are invited to read more about this process in this newsletter.

As we look forward to receiving your research proposals, I am happy to inform you that among the twenty research grants for projects funded last year are: new and intriguing technological developments for the olive, almond, pomegranate industries, drip irrigation systems, aquaculture solutions, as well as possible solutions for a variety of plant diseases in crops such as barley, sesame, and tomato. In addition, studies proposing to improve postharvest agricultural produce and biological and chemical approaches to improve plant nutrition under sub-optimal growing conditions, have been awarded funding. I'd like to congratulate the 2021 grants and fellowship recipients and to conclude that the Covid pandemic brought many challenges but did not interfere with the proposal's submission and evaluation process.

I hope that very soon we will all get comfortable with our 'new normal' and the pandemic won't interfere with the accomplishment of research goals. This newsletter features two innovative research projects that are using artificial intelligence (AI) to try to solve traditional farming problems such as, how to optimize irrigation or to prevent soil erosion. I'm also pleased to introduce you to two bright and ambitious Va'adia-BARD postdoctoral fellows who share their stories on what got them interested in their field of research.

On behalf of all of BARD's team I'd like to wish you and your families health and prosperity for the upcoming Jewish new-year. Shana Tova!

Prof. Yoram Kapulnik,
BARD's Executive Director

Apply for BARD Funding



Research Grants

Covers all phases of agricultural R&D including strategic or applied research.

Award duration: Three years program.
Maximum award: \$310,000 for a 3-year grant.

Deadline: September 13th 2021



Fellowships

[The Vaadia-BARD Postdoctoral Fellowship Program](#)
[Senior Research Fellowship Program](#)
[Graduate Student Fellowship Program](#)
[The BARD International Workshop grant](#)

Deadline: January 17th 2022



2021 Research & Fellowship Grants Recipients

During its meeting held June 1st, the BARD board of directors approved the funding of grants and fellowships of joint US Israel agriculture research and development in the sum of \$7.3 million.

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Research Priorities Reassessment

The refined priority research areas were identified as top priorities for the coming years. The process was led by BARD's technical advisory committee (TAC), and approved by the board of directors.

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Field Visit - Sea of Knowledge

BARD team field-day of marine science visited Dr. Yosi Aizen's fish reproduction lab at the Ruppin Academic Center; Nature and Parks Authority's turtle breeding program at the Sea Turtle Rescue Center and the Seagriculture- seaweed company Seakura.

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Spotlight on Research



Crop per Drop - irrigation optimization

Drought and water scarcity have led researchers to look for the most efficient ways to utilize water for irrigation. The use of moving sprinklers enabled by variable rate irrigation technology together with sensor feedback provides extra capability for site-specific irrigation control within a field.

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"Rain-Checking" to prevent soil erosion

Soil erosion by water is a crucial agricultural issue that can drastically reduce the productivity of arable soils. BARD-funded research teams are working to promote the understanding of erosion risks and their prediction, with the hope mitigating erosion risks in agricultural areas.

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Va'adia-BARD Postdoc Fellows

The Ant Warrior



Dr. Maya Saar, Post-doctoral fellow at the Department of Biology, University of Florida: "Losing almost a year of experiments due to quarantine, was challenging. I had to "sacrifice" some of the molecular work that I intended to perform in the laboratory, in favour of field work, which at some point of the quarantine, was allowed".

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Aquifer Recharge



Dr. Elad Levintal Post-doctoral fellow at the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources UC Davis helps lead large-scale field experiments at three different sites in California's Central Valley. The outcomes of his research will be used by California stakeholders to better design and implement projects to overcome California's growing groundwater overdraft.

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BARD is a competitive funding program that supports collaborative agricultural research in areas of mutual interest to the U.S. and Israel. BARD, P.O. Box 15159 Rishon LeZion 7505101, Israel. We sent out this message to existing BARD contacts. If you no longer wish to receive these emails, simply click on the following link to [unsubscribe](#).