



MEDIA RELEASE
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Pukekohe student's passion for horticulture rewarded

Watching plants grow is not everyone's idea of a good time. But tell that to Pukekohe-based student, Ryan Ward, who has just won a \$2,500 horticultural scholarship from Agcarm.

The 20-year-old bachelor of agricultural science student at Massey University says winning the award means "that there are people out there that care for us horticulturalists".

Ryan intends to spend his winnings on living expenses, study resources and travel.

His passion for horticulture developed while at Pukekohe High School studying rural studies, and working at PGG Wrightson as well as assisting senior agronomist at Balle Bros also in Pukekohe.

Ryan says that it is important for organisations such as Agcarm to support horticulture at a tertiary level, as it encourages people to get involved with the industry.

"With the increase in diseases, pests and weeds, horticulture has to undergo change to be able to keep producing at the most sustainable level," says Ryan.

Working in the great outdoors of horticulture is where Ryan plans to be when he finishes his studies next year.

When Ryan hasn't got his head in a text book, he enjoys spending time with family and friends and working on his car.

Agcarm chief executive, Graeme Peters, said the association is pleased to contribute toward the future of such an enthusiastic and hard-working student.

"Ryan's application was of a very high calibre. We were extremely impressed with the passion he showed for horticulture," Mr Peters said.

Agcarm is an industry association of companies which manufacture, distribute and sell products that keep animals healthy and crops thriving.

Industry initiatives led by Agcarm include providing safe and sustainable animal health and crop protection technology for the future of New Zealand, and educating the community about the industry's contribution.

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Agcarm is the industry association of companies which manufacture, distribute and sell products that keep animals healthy and crops thriving. Member companies are committed to ensuring that these products are used safely, effectively and sustainably

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