



Position Description

Title of Position: Technical Officer

Reporting to: Principal Research Scientist – Molecular Biology

Overview:

The position will focus on the provision of technical and scientific support for projects engaged in research dealing with the microbiology, chemistry and sensory properties of grapes, juice and wine, with emphasis on the metabolic engineering of industrial yeast strains.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. Provides technical support for research into the metabolic engineering of industrial yeast strains and other microorganisms as directed. This will include media preparation, microbiological, molecular biological, recombinant DNA and chemical analyses, data processing, statistical analysis and data storage.
2. Along with other technical staff, takes responsibility for the operation of Biosciences laboratories: ordering; general laboratory maintenance; calibration of laboratory equipment and instructs others on correct use of Wine Biosciences Team laboratory equipment; and takes responsibility with other members of the Wine Biosciences Team for the maintenance and repairs of laboratory equipment.
3. Actively contributes to the reporting of research progress and outcomes through reports and other modes of communication.
4. Undertakes other duties as directed by the Managing Director, Group Manager-Research, Research Manager-Biosciences, Principal Research Scientist or Research Scientist.
5. Accepts that all Intellectual Property, Patents and discovery arising during the course of employment at the AWRI remains the property of the AWRI.
6. Promotes the general well being of the AWRI by ensuring that all contact with clients, staff or the public is performed in a professional and confidential manner.

Selection criteria

Essential

1. An appropriate Bachelor's degree with Honours in the biological sciences or equivalent.
2. Demonstrable skills in molecular biology and recombinant DNA techniques.
3. Good command of English: oral and written communication.
4. Good interpersonal skills.
5. Ability to work independently and as part of a team.

Preferred

1. Practical experience in microbial metabolic engineering techniques (transformation, gene deletion, overexpression).
2. Practical experience in recombinant protein expression (*E. coli* or yeast).
3. Experience with analytical techniques such as Gas Chromatography, HPLC or enzyme analysis.
4. Ability to problem solve and troubleshoot.
5. Computer skills in Excel, Word, PowerPoint.

Occupational Health Safety Welfare and Environment Responsibilities:

Employees and students must take reasonable care to protect their own health and safety, and have responsibilities to:

1. Ensure that they do not increase the risk to the health, safety or welfare of others through any act or omission.
2. Obey reasonable instructions that are designed to protect their health, safety and welfare.
3. Use, in the appropriate manner, equipment that is provided to protect their health, safety or welfare.
4. Not wilfully interfere with, or misuse, items or facilities provided in the interest of health, safety or welfare of employees.
5. Ensure that they are not affected by alcohol or any other drug to such an extent that they endanger themselves or others.
6. Report promptly any hazards, incidents or injuries to their Manager/Team Leader.