



The Australian Wine
Research Institute

POSITION DESCRIPTION

- Title of Position:** Technical Officer
- Reporting to:** Research Scientist
- Overview:** The Technical Officer provides technical and scientific support for research projects dealing with the management of smoke taint and disease assessment in grapes, juice and wine.
- Qualifications:** A degree in a Science discipline with a relevant speciality, preferably chemistry, food science, viticulture or oenology.
- Experience:** Sufficient experience in laboratory and field work to fulfil the requirements of the role.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. Provide technical support for research into grape and wine chemistry including the preparation of extracts for analysis by GC/MS and LC/MS and the preparation of suitable analytical standards.
2. Provide technical support for research into grape quality assessment using hyperspectral methods, including the collection, preparation and presentation of samples for imaging; and assessment and analysis using reference methods.
3. Support the establishment and maintenance of laboratory and field-based trials. This may include viticultural, fermentation and other experiments, data processing, statistical analysis and data collation and storage.
4. Contribute to the efficient and effective operation of field and research laboratories. This may include procurement, general laboratory maintenance and housekeeping, calibration of laboratory equipment, instruction of others in the correct use of research laboratory equipment and maintenance of and repairs to laboratory equipment.
5. Conduct chemical analysis of samples from investigations of industry technical problems and samples submitted for commercial analysis as directed.
6. Using best practice, record on a daily basis all activities, details of any experimental work and outcomes of data processing and interpretation.
7. Actively contribute to the reporting of research progress and outcomes through reports and other modes of communication.
8. Assist in the drafting and review of relevant risk assessments and standard operating procedures.

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9. Undertake other duties as directed by the Research Scientist, Senior Research Scientist, Viticulture Scientist, Business Development Manager, the Group Manager – Research or the Managing Director.
10. Accept that all intellectual property, patents and discovery arising during the course of employment at the AWRI remain the property of the AWRI.
11. Promote 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.

Person Specification:

1. Practical understanding of and experience in scientific research.
2. Skills in laboratory and field work.
3. Ability to work and communicate successfully with clients, stakeholders and within a multidisciplinary environment and across research and industry groups.
4. Ability to maintain effective working relationships and contribute positively in a team environment.
5. Ability to meet deadlines in the specified timeframe.
6. Superior oral and written communication skills.

Workplace Health and Safety 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.