



The Australian Wine
Research Institute

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Title of Position: Technical Officer

Reporting to: Principal Research Scientist - Molecular Biology

Overview:

The Technical Officer provides technical and scientific support for research projects dealing with the microbiology, chemistry and sensory properties of grapes, juice and wine, with an emphasis on microbial ecology.

Qualifications:

A relevant degree in Science, such as BSc, BSc (Hons).

Required experience:

- Practical experience in a laboratory or research environment
- Sufficient experience in molecular biology and/or microbiology to fulfil the requirements of the role.

Principal accountabilities:

1. Provide technical support for research on the microbial ecology of grapes and wine. 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, ensure the efficient and effective operation of biosciences laboratories. This will include ordering, general laboratory maintenance, calibration of laboratory equipment, instruction of others in the correct use of laboratory equipment and taking responsibility with other members of the wine biosciences team for the maintenance of and repairs to laboratory equipment.
3. Using best practice, record on a daily basis all activities, details of any experimental work and outcomes of data processing and interpretation.
4. Actively contribute to the reporting of research progress and outcomes through reports and other modes of communication.
5. Undertake other duties as directed by the Group Manager - Research, Principal Research Scientist or Managing Director.
6. Accept that all intellectual property, patents and discovery arising during the course of employment at the AWRI remain the property of the AWRI.

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7. 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. Skilled in molecular biology and recombinant DNA techniques.
3. Ability to work and communicate successfully with clients, stakeholders and within a multi disciplinary 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.