



The Australian Wine
Research Institute

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Title of Position: Postdoctoral Research Scientist

Reporting to: Research Manager

Overview:

The Postdoctoral Research Scientist undertakes strategic, applied and commercial research in wine chemistry, focused on but not limited to, non-volatile compounds. The fundamental purpose of this role is to improve the in-mouth properties and stability of wine produced in Australia. Of particular interest is the generation of new knowledge on compounds or classes of compounds that contribute to negative wine attributes (e.g. bitterness, astringency or instabilities) and conducting research on extraction and retention of wine macromolecules and their role in wine colour, heat stability or cold stability.

Qualifications:

PhD in chemistry or related field.

Experience:

At least three years undertaking research relevant to fulfil the requirements of the role, which may include the terms of a PhD study. Experience with HPLC, mass spectrometry, NMR spectroscopy and statistical analysis.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. Undertake, as directed, applied and strategic research on non-volatile compounds that contribute to negative wine attributes, aiming to establish their identity, extraction and retention in wine.
2. Initiate, plan, execute, complete and report research projects in a timely fashion and to a standard expected by the AWRI.
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, and critically appraise, the reporting and dissemination of research progress and outcomes through regular reports, refereed and industry publications, seminars and workshops to a standard expected of AWRI presentations and publications.
5. Regularly search, review and report on emerging literature relating to developments and trends in science (and grapegrowing and winemaking) that could be of benefit to industry and advise on the direction of research.
6. Foster and exploit opportunities to collaborate with academic and industry partners to undertake experiments and trials which support research objectives.

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7. Assist in drafting and review of relevant risk assessments and standard operating procedures.
8. Undertake other duties as directed by the Research Manager, the Group Manager – Research or the Managing Director.
9. Accept that all intellectual property, patents and discovery arising during the course of employment at the AWRI remain the property of the AWRI.
10. 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. Ability to work and communicate successfully within a multi-disciplinary environment and across research and industry groups.
3. Ability to maintain effective working relationships and contribute positively in a team environment.
4. 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.