



The Australian Wine
Research Institute

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Title of Position: Laboratory Technician – Applied Biosciences

Reporting to: Manager, Applied Biosciences

Overview:

The Laboratory Technician is responsible for supporting the technical delivery of the AWRI's commercial offerings in the Applied Biosciences Laboratory. They will execute the routine microbiological and molecular-based services offered by this laboratory, and under direction will also assist with laboratory-based project work and the development of new commercial bioscience protocols of value to the wine and beverage industry.

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Science (or equivalent degree or industry experience), with a focus on microbiology, molecular biology, wine science or a related field.

Experience:

Practical knowledge of microbiology and microbiological techniques, particularly aseptic technique. Previous experience in a research or commercial laboratory is desired, but not essential.

Principal Accountabilities:

1. Perform sample preparation and microbiological analyses on wine, grapes and beer samples as required, according to agreed standard operating procedures.
2. Assist with sample preparation and molecular biology analyses of plant material sent for pathogen testing services, according to agreed standard operating procedures.
3. Perform laboratory housekeeping and cleanliness tasks and assist in the maintenance of adequate supplies of consumables.
4. Conduct administrative tasks required for the routine management of the Applied Biosciences Laboratory including entering and checking of results, performing routine calibrations and maintenance of laboratory equipment.
5. Contribute to the technical execution of Applied Biosciences projects (fee-for-service and research-based) as directed by the Manager, Applied Biosciences.
6. As directed, carry out laboratory work related to the development/validation of new bioscience methodologies to address commercial opportunities.

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7. Provide high quality customer service and communication to customers and stakeholders.
8. Undertake other duties as directed by the Group Manager – Commercial Services and/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 microbiology and microbiological techniques.
2. Excellent interpersonal skills to be able to work effectively in a team environment
3. Effective time management skills
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/Team Leader.