



New Zealand Winegrowers Research Centre appoints Dr Brian Jordan

New Zealand Winegrowers Research Centre (NZWRC) and Lincoln University today announced that Dr Brian Jordan will be joining the NZWRC team, as Acting Head of Science to assist with the NZWRC's establishment.

While retaining his role at Lincoln University, Professor Jordan will be working part-time with NZWRC management and representatives of other universities and research institutes to shape the NZWRC science programme.

"We're delighted to have Professor Jordan on board at this key time, as we set up the research centre for the future" said NZWRC CEO MJ Loza. "Professor Jordan's immense experience and technical expertise, and his networks across the NZ and international research communities will be invaluable as we define our science programme, plan to build science capability and put in place processes for delivering science excellence."

Professor Jordan is Professor of Plant Biotechnology at Lincoln University, and has over 30 years of experience in plant biochemistry and molecular biology. He received his Doctorate on plant amino acid metabolism from Newcastle-Upon-Tyne University, UK and carried out Post-Doctoral research on lipid biosynthesis at Cardiff University, UK. Throughout his research career he has studied light regulation of plant growth and development, particularly the molecular response of plants to ultraviolet radiation.

In 2003, Professor Jordan was appointed onto the Board of the Marlborough Wine Research Centre and has been involved in New Zealand viticulture and oenology since then; in particular, as a principal scientist and on the management team of the Sauvignon Blanc programme. Professor Jordan is now focusing entirely on viticulture research, especially effects of canopy manipulation on grape biochemistry and molecular biology. In February 2011 he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Örebro University, Sweden in recognition of his professional excellence in plant biology and went on to spend 5 months undertaking research at ISVV, Bordeaux that year. In addition to his research activities Professor Jordan has also been Dean of Faculty and on the Lincoln University Council between 2015 and 2018.

"The establishment of the NZ Winegrowers Research Centre is an excellent opportunity to develop a coordinated research strategy that will provide scientific leadership and innovation to futureproof the New Zealand wine industry. I'm very pleased to be able to contribute to its establishment." said Professor Jordan.

Dr Roland Harrison, Head of Wine, Food and Molecular Biosciences at Lincoln University also welcomed the appointment. "Brian has been and still is an excellent advocate for the application of science to improve our productive systems. Whilst at Lincoln he brought together the cell biology and viticulture teams to focus the science on the impact of the environment on grape berry development. His science management vision will make an important contribution to the future development of this new research centre".

NZWRC is continuing to recruit for a Head of Research and Innovation.

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