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Introducing

DR RICHARD SMART, VINEYARD CONSULTANT

Richard Smart has four degrees (Bachelors, Masters, Ph D and D Sc. Agric.), and 50 year's experience in many vineyards around the world. He has consulted and taught in almost 40 different countries. For this reason he is often called "*the flying vine-doctor*".

Richard Smart knows a lot about viticulture, from the science to vineyard practices. He has owned a vineyard in the Barossa Valley, Australia, and his clients cover the range from some of the world's largest vineyard owners to small family operations. His consulting provides clients with sound and practical advice, based on his wide experience and scientific background.

Specialities of Smart's consulting advice include:

- Suggestions as to varieties, rootstocks and clones, usually based on climate or soil conditions, and also site selection;
- Advice as to canopy management procedures, which is the best trellis system suited to the vineyard;
- Advice on irrigation and nutrition management, as means of controlling vigour and wine quality;
- Over recent years consultation has extended to Asia especially China where vines may be buried in winter, in contrast to other countries planting vineyards in the tropics;
- Since 2010 Dr Smart has become concerned about the world wide occurrence of grapevine trunk diseases. He has identified the problem in many countries and wine regions where it was not known to exist, and has developed protocols to control these diseases in commercial vineyards.

Dr Richard Smart made popular the phrase
Winemaking in the Vineyard.

Let him practice his magic in your vineyard

The Career of Dr Richard Smart

Richard is Australian by birth, and his B Sc. Agr. (Hons) and M Sc. (Hons) were from Universities in Sydney, NSW, Australia. He began his career studying irrigation at Griffith NSW when drip irrigation was novel. He also commenced his pioneering studies into the use of sunlight by vineyards, the topic of his Masters studies. Richard had the good fortune to undertake his PhD studies at the prestigious Cornell University in upstate New York, working with Professor Nelson Shaulis, the recognised founding father of vineyard “canopy management”.

Dr Smart taught viticulture at Australia’s Roseworthy Agricultural College, where he also had administrative positions as Dean, Faculty of Oenology, and managed a small scale winemaking research facility.

During the period 1982 to 1990, he was Government Viticultural Scientist in New Zealand, helping to provide the viticultural science foundations for the now impressive cool climate wine industry. During this time his research established him as a leader in vineyard canopy management, and he wrote the best selling book *Sunlight into Wine*.

Dr Richard Smart began full time consulting with Smart Viticulture, an international vineyard consulting business he founded in 1991. Smart Viticulture has consulted to over 300 clients world wide, in many different countries. Smart Viticulture has also offered educational grape and wine tours to many countries and regions.

Over his career, Richard Smart has published over 350 articles including theses, books, conference papers and reports, and written regular columns in leading Australian and Californian trade journals. He is also the Viticulture Editor for the multi award winning *Oxford Companion to Wine* edited by Jancis Robinson MW, published as four separate editions in 1994, 1999, 2006 and 2015. This is regarded as the authoritative English language reference book on wine. He has also delivered many invited addresses to professional societies in the USA, South Africa and Australia.

Richard has received many awards over his career, including “*One of world’s 50 most influential winemakers*” in 2004 by the US Wine and Spirits Magazine; 2004 Wine Industry “Personality of the Year” for Innovation, Wine magazine, UK.; among “*50 Most Powerful Names in Wine*” by Decanter magazine 2005, UK; an inductee to the New Zealand Wine Hall of Fame 2006, and in 2012 the International Wine Challenge UK *Lifetime Achievement Award*

Since 2010 Dr Smart has become concerned about the world wide occurrence of grapevine trunk diseases, and their potential impacts on vineyard economic viability. He has attended specialist meetings on the problem, and has worked with colleagues to develop protocols to control these diseases in commercial vineyards.

Consulting fees are available on application. Dr Smart typically combines visits to several regions and countries to minimize expenses to clients.

Contact vinedoctor@smartvit.com.au