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Kobus (JJ) Hunter is a Specialist Scientist in the Viticulture Department at ARC Infruitec-Nietvoorbij (the Horticulture, Viticulture and Oenology Institute of the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa) and Extraordinary Professor in Vine Physiology and Viticulture in the Department of Viticulture and Oenology at Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa. He has twenty seven years of viticultural and basic and applied plant physiological research on wine grapes. He teaches nationally and internationally and in the prestigious European Master of Viticulture and Oenology program, based in Montpellier and Angers, France.

His main interest is physiological aspects of graft material, source: sink relationships, canopy and root system dynamics, grape quality and wine style, and interaction with short and long term cultivation practices and climate. Research focus is on establishing practically applicable principles to increase grape and wine quality and separate different wine styles. He is visited regularly by European scientists for research sabbaticals. He received many rewards and spent various research stages in Europe. He has been invited to many conferences as guest speaker and is a member of various scientific societies, including the Italian Academy for Viticulture and Wine. He is a peer reviewer for journals all over the world. He authored and co-authored numerous scientific and semi-scientific articles and presented papers to diverse audiences, including producers and scientists, nationally and internationally.