



Scot Benn
Principal
Benn Essence Consulting

Scot earned his BS in Geology from the University of Southern California. He did well enough at the subject to graduate magna cum laude and become a lifetime member of Phi Beta Kappa.

After graduation, Scot discovered that finding work as a geologist was next to impossible, but he didn't want to become a terminal student and go for a doctorate, and then be a post-doctoral student, then an adjunct, then a professor, and then an emeritus professor. He lucked into a career in essential oils, flavors, and fragrances, starting as an analytical chemist. He figured he should get a chemistry degree, and went to the State University of New York at New Paltz, where he was rewarded with an MA in Chemistry.

Over time, Scot realized he would rather be paid to smell and taste things than to be an analytical chemist, so he pursued his interests in essential oils and their use in flavors and fragrances. He became particularly proficient in the analysis and creation of flavors and essential oil blends, specializing in lemon, lime, grapefruit, and orange. He is also fluent in tangerine, mint, cinnamon, nutmeg, coriander, lavender, and patchouli. He works well with corporate production, planning, commercial and quality control teams.

During his free time, Scot enjoys painting, photography, playing ice hockey, and listening to loud King Crimson. He also enjoys gardening and hiking in the woods behind his house. Quite often Scot will fill his backpack with foraged mushrooms, ramps, or interesting rocks for his gardens.

“Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.”