

Newsletter 201

19 February 2016



Dear Members,

NOTICE OF 1st ROUND OF 2016 SAWPA REGIONAL MEETINGS

Members are notified of the first round of SAWPA regional meetings for 2016 to be held on the dates and at venues given below. Any member wishing to formally add an item for discussion can send the details to SAWPA for inclusion on the agenda. Please indicate whether it is intended for discussion in your specific region or whether or not you would like to add it as a national discussion point at all the regional meetings. In cases where preparation may be required by SAWPA, the required background detail needs to be submitted together with the agenda item.

Regional Meeting Schedule and Venues

Limpopo	9 March 2016	Pietersburg Club , 119 Suid Str, Polokwane
Southern/Eastern Cape	11 March 2016	NNMU Saasveld Campus, George
Gauteng	14 March 2016	Shumba Valley Lodge – Pelindaba Rd, Lanseria
Mpumalanga	16 March 2016	Forever Resort Hotel and Conference Centre, Badplaas
KZN	18 March 2016	Victoria Country Club, Pietermaritzburg
Western Cape	22 March 2016	Wood Sciences Department, University of Stellenbosch

**All the regional meetings will start at 10:00.
Refreshments will be served prior to, and lunch following the meetings.**

For seating and catering purposes please [confirm](#) with Sue on 011 974 1061 or sawpa@global.co.za

AMENDMENT TO SECTORAL WAGE DETERMINATION FOR FORESTRY WORKERS

SAWPA members with forestry interests (growers) please note that the sectoral determination for Forestry Workers has been amended by GoN 138 of 3 February 2016. The new minimum wages with effect 1 March 2016 requires that an employer must pay a forestry worker at least the minimum wage prescribed in the following table.

Minimum rates for employees in the Forestry Sector for the period 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017		
Monthly	Weekly	Hourly
R2 778.83	R641.32	R14.25

The following prescribed minimum wages for the 2017 and 2018 annual increases was also included.

Minimum rates for employees in the Forestry Sector for the period					
1 March 2017 to 28 February 2018			1 March 2018 to 28 February 2019		
Monthly	Weekly	Hourly	Monthly	Weekly	Hourly
Previous year's minimum wage + CPI* + 1%			Previous year's minimum wage + CPI* + 1%		
* The CPI to be utilised is the available CPI excluding owners' equivalent rent as released by Statistics South Africa six weeks prior to the increment date					

NATIONAL BARGAINING COUNCIL FOR WOOD AND PAPER SECTOR - EXTENSION OF PERIOD AND EXTENSION OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT TO NON-PARTIES

Even though SAWPA is not a registered employer organisation, and the driving of employer and labour related matters are not within our constituted mandate and objectives, we strive to keep our members up-to-date and informed of all developments that may impact them within their business operations. Members are therefore informed that the Collective Agreement on Dispute Resolution Levy and Registration of Employers in the Wood and Paper Sector, initially published in 2006 (and extended at various occasions since then), has been further extended to 31 December 2018. The extension effects not just the period but also the control over all Non-Parties to the agreement. The notices were published by GoN 41 and GoN 38 of Government Gazette No. 39610 of 22 January 2016.

According to an opinion received from a Dispute Resolution Practitioner, the extension implies that non-parties to the agreement and bargaining council must comply and contribute to the National Bargaining Council for the Wood and Paper Sector. It is however important to note that the extension to non-parties by the Minister, through section 32 of the Labour Relations Act, has been a controversial one, and at this present moment is being contended by various organisations and groups in various other sectors as unfair and unconstitutional.

PROMOTION IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

In our previous newsletter we gave a summary of our 2015 promotion and advertising efforts. We are also pleased to inform you that we furthered our advertising and promotional footprint in the agricultural sector by placing banner adverts on both the Farmers Weekly and the Landbouweekblad websites since December 2015 and January 2016 respectively. These banner adverts are designed and intended to rotate on the various pages of the sites to ensure a frequent and continuous appearance of the adverts. When the reader clicks on the advert, it will relay them to either our SAWPA home page or the SAWPA member info pages. We trust that this exposure will further the awareness of preservative treated timber produced by our members, and assist in the increased use thereof by the agricultural sector. Although advertising on these electronic platforms is becoming more and more the norm, the main factor in deciding on it, instead of the well-known weekly print editions, was purely based on the fact that the cost of electronic media better fits our funding capacity.

NEWSLETTER OFF-CUTS

- Hits to the SAWPA website in December 2015 and January 2016 was 20668 and 24696 respectively.
- WoodEX for Africa 2016: Members interested in visiting or taking part in the exhibition running from 9 to 11 June 2016 can visit the website www.woodexforafrica.com for more information. SAWPA has already secured our space and we hope to see more of our members at the exhibition.
- SAFETY LABELS: We have noted a decrease in members requesting additional roles of the Safety Labels. We urge and recommend our members to be proactive and prepared and ask that you request rolls from SAWPA, to apply to at least 10% of all treated timber you dispatch from your yard. Remember that at this point the labels are at no cost to SAWPA members. As you know, the safety

labelling of treated timber will soon become a requirement with the publication SANS 10005:2016 Ed 8

- SAWPA would like to thank all the members who recently contributed towards the samples needed for the research project we embarked on this year. The samples were delivered safely to Stellenbosch University on the 12th of February.



BRUCE BREEDT

SAWPA accepts no responsibility for any statement or claim made in this newsletter.