



THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 10/2019
28 October 2019

NEWSLETTER

Dear TASA member

PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP

It is gratifying to note that more and more members of the public as well as TASA's existing members are requesting confirmation of membership of the Association.

For those members who are not yet aware of this, we confirm that a letter from the TASA office can be requested to confirm membership. The printed membership certificate on which the year's stamps are pasted is not available electronically.

SOUTH AFRICAN WOOD PRESERVERS ASSOCIATION (SAWPA) **OCTOBER 2019 NEWSLETTER : GUIDANCE NOTE**

TREATED WOODEN POLES STRUCTURAL (SANS 457) VS NON-STRUCTURAL (SANS 1288)

Treated wooden poles (excluding utility poles) can be produced under either SANS 457 or SANS 1288. (Please note that SANS 457-2 is applicable to softwood, e.g. Pine and SANS 457-3 is applicable to hardwood, e.g. Eucalyptus/gum).

The difference between the SANS 457 and SANS 1288 standards is that SANS 1288 only covers the preservative treatment requirements when the physical strength or visual requirements specified in SANS 457 cannot and will not be met. SANS 1288 poles do not and cannot comply with the visual and physical strength requirements, whether because of drying or mechanical defects (or both).

SANS 1288 poles are therefore classified as non-structural poles and shall not be used as structural poles. SANS 457 poles are classified as structural poles intended for the pole types and end uses specified in SANS 457-2 and SANS 457-3, i.e. building poles, agricultural poles, fencing poles, and guard rail posts.

The allowance for treating poles under SANS 1288 was only permitted from 2000 onwards. This was to allow for the use of treated poles not in compliance with SANS 457 in applications such as ranch style outdoor furniture or other applications where a crooked/curved natural looking pole was required by the purchaser on request. Proper preservative treatment and protection against biological agents such as decay fungi and wood destroying insects would still be ensured in accordance with SANS 1288,

The SANS 1288 pole treatment allowance is therefore only for special requests/orders and needs, and not for general retail purposes where the end-user/consumer can potentially purchase a pole, and then use it in an application where it could fail and cause harm or damage due to non-compliance with the physical strength requirements specified in SANS 457.

Note – Utility poles, i.e. transmission, communication, and street lighting poles are covered under SANS 753 for selected Pine species and under SANS 754 for Eucalyptus species.

DISTANCE OF A FIRE PIT FROM A THATCH ROOF

The distance from the fire pit to the eave line must be at least 9 meters.

Wind is always a risk. If your fire pit is not properly sheltered against wind, or when it is windy do not use your pit. 9 meters may be excessive if you build your fire pit properly sheltered from the wind. But if not sheltered from the wind, 9 meters may not be enough.

Do not make a bonfire that will generate a vortex and lift ambers high in the sky. Only make a mild cozy fire.

Problem is that when alcohol is consumed, the fire gets bigger!



Photo with compliments of Biggarsberg Thatchers

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

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'André Friis'.

André Friis

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