



THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 2/2021

NEWSLETTER

Dear member

THICKNESS OF THATCH LAYER

Normal Thatch Roofs

We would like to report the following as there is uncertainty regarding the thickness of a normal thatch layer and when this Regulation will come into force.

The SANS 10400 - XA (2020) is still in draft form and will be open for public comment later this year. Once these comments have been processed and this document has been finalized and published, the new thickness of a thatch roof layer becomes mandatory.

The thickness of thatch grass will be uniform in all the provinces with a minimum thickness of 210 mm and a minimum R value of 3.7, while the 5H zone of the land as shown on the map below, has a minimum thickness of 175 mm with a minimum R value of 2.7.

Mr. John Smith of Biggarsberg Thatchers gives the following guidelines:

„Normal thatch roofs without wind factor weighs as follows:

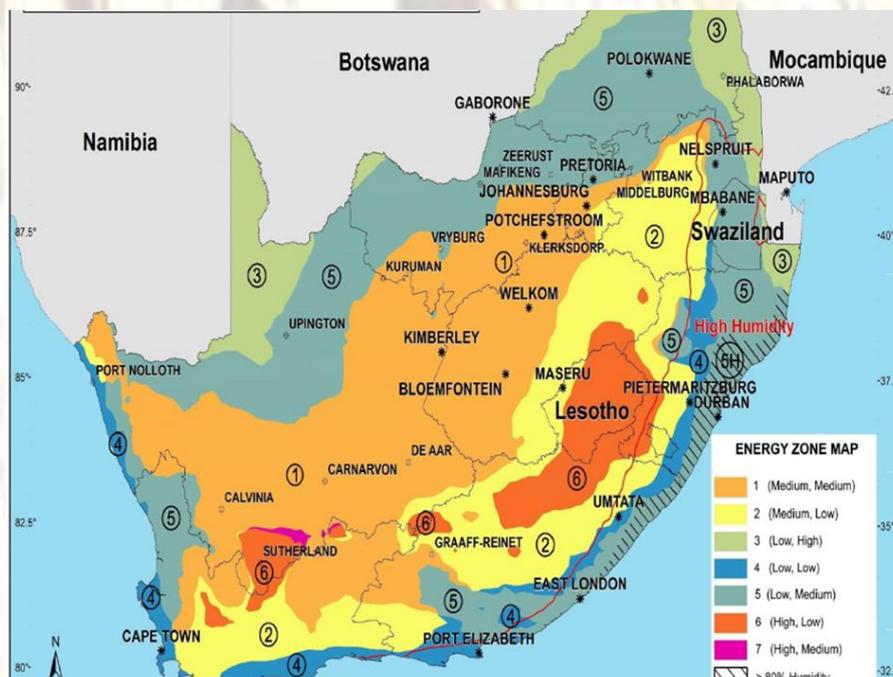
Using 100/125 gum poles 38 Kgs per m²

Thatch grass at 175 mm equals 42 Kgs per m²

Using 125/150 gum poles equals 59 Kgs per m²

The weights calculated above includes tie beams, ridge poles, lathes and king posts but not ring beams or upright columns.“

As in the case of Cape reed roofs, poles and wind load must be designed and calculated by an engineer for the specific roof.



Cape reed roofs

Cape reed roofs' minimum thickness is 207 mm with a minimum R value of 3.7 as indicated for zone 4 on the table of the test report below and the maximum usually not more than 220 mm due to the weight of reed. Poles and wind load must be designed and calculated by an engineer for the specific roof



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T H A T C H C O N S U L T A N T S A N D A S S E S S O R S

The R-values for thatched roofs

June 2013

Requirements of SANS 10400-XA:2011

"4.4.5 Roof assemblies

4.4.5.1 A roof assembly shall achieve the minimum total R-value specified in table 7 for the direction of heat flow."

From the results of the test report ASTM C 518-10 by TTL dated 11 June 2013, the k-value of a thatched roof is:

$$k = 0.056 \text{ W/(m.K)}$$

The required thickness (D(m)) to comply with SANS 10400-XA is therefore:

(The roof need to comply to the min requirements of SANS 10400-L as well)

$$D(m) = R(m^2.K/W) \times k(W/(m.K))$$

Table 7 – Minimum total R-values of roof assemblies
(minimum thickness of thatched roof inserted)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Description	Climatic zone					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Minimum required total R-value (m ² .K/W)	3,7	3,2	2,7	3,7	2,7	3,5
Minimum required thickness for thatched roofs (mm)	207	179	151	207	151	196
Direction of heat flow	Up	Up	Up and down	Up	Down	Up


ABRIE VISAGIE

w o r l d w i d e g u a r d i a n s o n t h a t c h i n g s t a n d a r d s

FINANCIAL YEAR END

The end of February is the end of the TASA's financial year. Our heartfelt thanks to our members who have already renewed their membership for 2021. We hope that more of our members will be able to settle their membership fees before the end of this month.

Kind regards

André Friis

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