



ARC • LNR

Enquiries/Navrae

Danie van Schalkwyk

Ref. no. / Verw. nr.

8/2/6/1

ARC INFRUITEC-NIETVOORBIJ

LNR INFRUITEC-NIETVOORBIJARC

ARC Institute for Fruit, Vine and Wine /LNR Instituut vir Vrugte, Wingerd en Wyn

Private Bag / Privaatsak X 5026, Stellenbosch 7599, South Africa / Suid-Afrika
Tel: (021) 809 3100 • Fax: (021) 8093400 (Infruitec) • Fax: (021) 809 3002 (Nietvoorbij)
Website: www.arc.agric.za

2 August 2007

Dr Albin AW Baecker

PROGRESS REPORT JULY 2007

Evaluation of field liners on gum posts in the experimental vineyard plot at Elsenburg, Stellenbosch.

The project at Elsenburg was terminated during 2006 as we have completed our research on the farm. However I visited Elsenburg today to determine whether the block still exists. The vineyard has not been pulled out and most of the posts are still intact. As they are currently busy changing the existing trellis system they removed all the post that are too thin and not suitable for the new system, disregard whether these posts were fitted with field liners or not. None of the posts that have been removed showed signs of rotting off, whether it were field liner fitted gum posts or pine posts treated with creosote. The posts were only removed because they were not sturdy enough to accommodate the weight of the vine canopy during the growth season. They kept these posts for any investigation should one of your personnel like to have a look at them. I have spoken to the farm manager and he informed me that up till now none of the posts with Field Liners fitted have rotted. They will keep the posts in the soil until the vineyard is replaced and this should not happen in the next 10 years. The manager informed me that your company can come investigate the condition of the posts at any time and should you like to uplift one of the posts they will replace it.

Kindest regards

Danie van Schalkwyk

ARC Infruitec-Nietvoorbij