

# Southern African Institute of Forestry



Delivering a professional service to forestry

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SAIF Calendar : Sept. 2022 -Growing Out -I.Greyling(KZN)

## From the President's Desk **Tree Planting Month and Arbour Day**

National Tree Planting month and Arbour Day is commemorated and celebrated annually during the month of September in South Africa. September is also Heritage Month with Heritage Day celebrated on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September or as many know it "National Braai Day".

South Africa celebrates Arbour Week in the first week of September annually. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as the custodian of forestry in South Africa, is responsible for the campaign. September is also heritage month and as we celebrate Arbour Week, the Department also focuses on the country's champion trees which include some of the oldest, largest and culturally significant trees. These include the Sophia Town Oak Tree and the Sagole Baobab Tree in Limpopo, which are part of our heritage.

This year (2022), the trees of the year are as follows: Common Tree: *Dais cotinifolia* L. – Pompon tree. The tree selected for Promotion is *Peltophorum africanum* -African Black wattle.

Where and when did Arbour Day or National Tree Planting day originate ? According to literature and informed sources, it had its origin in the United States of America. The person credited with this worthy initiative is a certain Mr. J. Sterling Morton. Arbor Day (USA spelling) originated in 1872 in the territory of Nebraska. Mr. Morton , a newcomer to the treeless plains of Nebraska, was a keen proponent of the beauty and benefit of trees. He persuaded the local agricultural board to set aside a day for planting trees and through his position as editor of Nebraska's first newspaper, encouraged participation



in the event by publishing articles on the value of trees for soil protection, fruit, shade and building.

In South Africa, **Arbour Day** was first celebrated in **1983**. The event captured the imagination of people who recognized the need for raising awareness of the value of trees in our society.

It is interesting when this is compared to the recent announcement by DFFE regarding Arbour Week: "National Arbor Week is an opportune time to call on all South Africans to plant indigenous trees as a practical and symbolic gesture of sustainable environmental management.

- It affords the government, the private sector, NGO's , community based organisations and the public to be involved in "greening" their communities. Planting trees and greening human settlements takes place in communities. Greening refers to an integrated approach to the planting, care and management of all vegetation in urban and rural areas, to secure multiple benefits for communities
- Greening in the South African context takes place in towns, townships and informal settlements specifically because in the past the latter mentioned areas were disadvantaged in terms of planning for parks as well as tree planting in streets and open spaces."

J.Sterling Morton who started Arbour Day 150 years ago is quoted as follows ***"Other holidays repose upon the past; Arbor Day proposes for the future."***

In addition to that striking quote the following quote from *The Heart of the Tree* by Henry Cuyler Bunner (1855-1896) which most of us will identify with, reads as follows :

***What does he plant who plants a tree?  
He plants cool shade and tender rain,  
And seed and bud of days to be,  
And years that fade and flush again;  
He plants the glory of the plain;  
He plants the forest's heritage;  
The harvest of a coming age;  
The joy that unborn eyes shall see—  
These things he plants who plants a tree.***

Trees are also often planted to honour significant persons or dedicated to loved ones.



*Secretary of Agriculture Edwin T. Meredith and the District Federation of Women's Clubs plant a tree in honor of J. Sterling Morton in May 1920. Photo courtesy of The Library of Congress.*

An interesting article which appeared in June 2022 indicated that 36 countries are gaining more trees than they are losing. Sadly but not unexpectedly South Africa is not listed as one of the 36 countries gaining trees.

Even though the world gained a significant area of tree cover over the past two decades, unfortunately it still lost much more, with an overall net loss of more than 100 million hectares. And new trees don't make up for the loss of old-growth, carbon-rich forests. But this new data provides a chance to examine where and why gain is happening, opening up new opportunities to monitor and inform forest restoration efforts around the world.

Which are the leading countries gaining trees ? Three Countries Have More than Half of the World's Total Tree Cover Gain namely Russia, Canada and the USA which comprise more than half of the world's tree gain by area, at 68 million hectares collectively ! Of the countries which have gained more trees than they lost all but one (Uruguay) , is situated in the Northern Hemisphere.

There's a popular Chinese proverb that says: **"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."** Lets start planting then !

**Sources:**

**World Resources Institute**

**DFFE**

<https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/the-history-of-arbor-day>; <https://www.gov.za/ArborWeek2022>





## The *Pinus radiata* Cutting Programme

*In Honour and Memory of John Mather*

Compiled by Georg von dem Bussche

### The breeding programme

*Pinus radiata* (*P. rad*), commonly called Monterey Pine, grows very well in the Western and South - Western Cape on well drained, suitable soils. It has superior wood qualities in comparison to all other pine species used commercially in South Africa and is also in high demand for the production of poles. It has however some disadvantages as a silvicultural crop. It is inclined to form uneven stands in height and diameter, it is as a seedling, and even later as a tree, susceptible to *Fusarium* infestation and requires well – drained and deep soil for good growth, just to mention a few points.

In order to overcome some of these possible hassles and because of the variation that was observed in plantations established from wild imported seed the then Department of Forestry initiated a tree breeding programme during the 1950's at the Saasveld Research station, near George. The selection of healthy, well-formed trees with good timber quality at the forestry plantations was then handled meticulously by Peter Kirkman, who established also the first *P. rad* seed orchards. The famous Campher's Kloof seed orchard in the Outeniqua Mountains above George was established at that stage, which still today produces high quality seed, even though the devastating veld fire of 2018 destroyed nearly all old trees. Second and third generation seed orchards were established later, but seed is also collected from plantations in the meantime to secure enough seed for commercial needs.

### The cutting programme

It all started with the beginning of the clonal programme for eucalypts, which was developed in South Africa by Dr Gerrit van Wyk with the support of Vourinus Coetzee of the J D M Keet Forest Research Station near Tzaneen and later also with the support from Sonja Du Buisson of Westfalia. The advantages of clonal forestry became evident and was later also implemented at the D R de Wet Forest Research Station near Sabie with *Pinus patula* and the successful development of *Pinus elliottii* hybrids at Futululu Forest Research Centre. –

The *P. rad* cutting programme was later started at the newly built nursery at Karatara of SAFCOL (South African Forest Company Limited) near Knysna by Vourinus Coetzee.

Vourinus was also responsible for the construction of the new nursery with the support of the forestry experts James Lückhoff and Reinhard van Eeden. – Vourinus then established the first *P. rad* hedges as well as the "Controlled Pollination Orchards" at Karatara.

The first commercial compartment was planted with *P. rad* cuttings at Bergplaas soon afterwards. The whole programme was later stopped by management.

The programme was not attended to during the following years until the experienced tree breeder, John Mather, took over the management of the nursery and the research programme of the new company MTO (Mountain to Ocean). – John raised then again *P. rad* cuttings for commercial use successfully, besides his other developments at the nursery, which must be considered a great achievement, because unlike other pine species and hybrids of them, *P. rad* is not an easy plant to be raised from cuttings. The original trial to raise hedges from cuttings failed until hedges were established from seed from originally second and now third generation seed orchards, as well as from "full-sib" crosses (both parents known *P. rad* x *P. rad*), which happened to be clean from pitch canker.

Most timber companies were hesitant to use the cuttings on a commercial scale at that stage, however Jim Parkes of Geo Parkes & Sons of Knysna agreed to have a compartment planted at the Hoogekraal plantation near Sedgefield with cuttings in 2008. This compartment, photo below, performed very well and is now at the age of 14 years a living monument of our colleague, John Mather, who passed away in May 2022.



## **Rob Thompson Column**

### **Listen to a tree!**

I know that as forestry practitioners we are very susceptible to getting so caught up in the pressures of meeting daily deadlines and producing the daily outputs required of us, that we inadvertently lose touch with the magnificence of the resource that we are ultimately charged to manage, nurture and utilize.

We study the numbers and manage the people looking after the numbers. We invest in machines, infrastructure, and technologies to increase the numbers relating to profit and we sweat the assets to reduce the numbers relating to costs. We invest months and years of time in developing markets, religiously strategize towards establishing and maintaining a competitive edge and execute well-considered business plans clinically, professionally and dare I say ruthlessly. We spend very little time looking at a tree and reflecting on just what a treasure and a blessing this organism is to us directly, to the industry and to the global environment. We need to change this.

This need was brought home to me over recent days when our new neighbours felled a huge, very old, and established poplar tree, that was situated in the front garden of the house they had just purchased.

Yes, it was an exotic tree, it was pretty messy and of course, there was every logical reason to fell the beast, but sadly, its absence is now very conspicuous, and the void it has left along the skyline is a real metaphor of the permanence of the results from actions executed by humankind.

No longer will the resident Harrier Hawk and Goshawk be able to use it as a strategic hunting vantage point, insects that frequented the canopy will have moved on and the traffic noise from the highway has increased threefold. On the positive side, those raucous Hadadas have moved off to alternative haunts. Of course, over time, we will get used to the tree's absence, and maybe even celebrate the lack of leaf litter blowing across the neighbourhood, but I think we do owe it to that age old tree to at least contemplate for a while, the value of trees and the services they render us.

Arbour week is celebrated in the first week of September in South Africa. It is appropriate therefore that I draw my fellow practitioners, and other readers, attention away from the numbers, for a brief period, and re-introduce them to a friend of mine whom I call the "tree".

"Good morning, My name is Arbour and I am a tree. It doesn't really matter what type of tree I am. Just understand that I speak today on behalf of my whole family.

All of you would have studied botany or similar at varsity, so I am not going to bother you with any scientific detail, apart from gently reminding you that my family includes both angiosperms and gymnosperms. I therefore gently urge you to accept that there is accordingly no room for any spermist behaviour here. To me trees are all equal. We have been around for at least 370 million years now and have all got along very well despite humans doing their level best to confine us into ever decreasing areas.

I'm only a tree which obviously limits my analytical ability, but I have heard that around 15 billion trees are felled per year with only 5 billion being planted. What is it with you humans? Was it something we said or did? And this after all the services that we provide to humankind. Maybe you have forgotten or are too busy to think about these services?

Even though you are turning up the heat across the globe, forcing many of my relatives to migrate, evolve or simply die, we continue to photosynthesize, providing you with oxygen to breathe. We are also all, both living and deceased, selflessly capturing and storing carbon and this in a far more positive and beneficial manner than your own adopted state capture mechanisms.

Now that I am gaining your attention, please consider the origins of those special foods, beverages and spices that you all favour so much. Offhand I can think of quite a few:- cinnamon, curry, coffee, tea, a wide variety of nuts and berries, syrup, citrus, deciduous fruit, nutmeg, cloves and the list goes on. We supply all of these products willingly and without favour and yet we sometimes get the impression that you are gradually losing respect for these offerings by demanding more and more from us, with less reciprocal environmental care. Just saying...We even host creatures that are critical to humans. An obvious example would be the honeybee that feeds on our nectar thereby sustaining hives and allowing for pollination, fruit production and of course delicious and nutritious honey. Have any of you tasted eucalyptus honey?

Over the millennia, we have grown accustomed to you burning our deceased relatives for fuel to cook, or smoke and preserve your foodstuffs. As you learned to read and write, so did many of our ancestors sacrifice it all towards the development of pulp and paper technologies. Today, many of our kind are bred specifically for the purposes of paper as well as the new trend of trees for biomass and fuel production, which we believe are all viable options but under correct management.

What worries us most, is the rise of human conflict and development resulting in increased human needs. I must say that my branches quiver at the thought of humans losing total sight of environmental sensitivities and compromising our chances of surviving for another decade or century ... let alone another 370 million years. My Ukrainian cousins for instance, are really worried at what they are witnessing in their homeland. Many of them have been crushed or severely damaged under heavy armoured mobile weapons and missile strikes. Could this human conflict be the precursor of a global environmental disaster on the come?

Our family home in the Amazon is also bearing the brunt of human greed and development. Too many of us have been lost to clearing operations to make room for cattle grazing. If I could only move, I would be travelling the world to draw attention to the plight of trees in natural areas and pleading for humankind to see us in a more positive light. We are not just leaves, branches and a trunk. We are critical ecological service deliverers without which humans would simply not survive. Is this too much to understand? Here we were thinking that humans were clever!

From where I stand, I can see your eyes glazing over. You've heard all of this before. Environmental this, environmental that! Ecology this, ecology that! Boring! Ok then, let me change stance and focus on some of the alternative support that we trees have provided you with over the millennia. Arguably, trees have provided the fundamental wherewithal for your ascendancy to apex earth inhabitant.

Think about the structures and shelters that have protected you from extreme weather and enemies. The weapons you have used for defense and hunting. The vehicles and vessels that have transported you to the far reaches of the world. Have you ever enjoyed barrel fermented beer and whiskey?

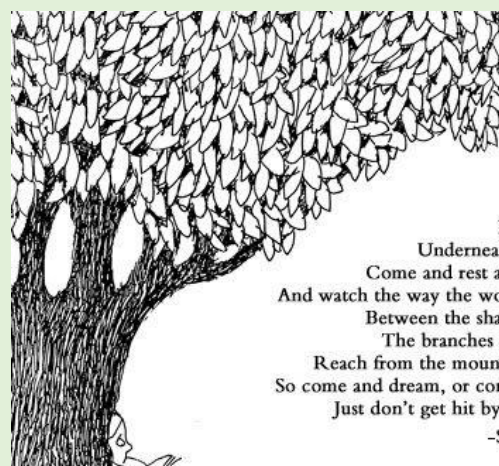
The containers to keep your food in prime condition. Give some thought to the chair upon which you are seated and the desk carrying your laptop or the comfy couch upon which you are going to enjoy your beer this evening. Tools, handles, chop sticks, are all still wooden and made from trees. Art and culture have been, and continue to be supported, by timber and trees. Children are known to develop more balanced traits by ditching their electronic tablets and climbing the occasional tree. Your dog is a happy creature given the presence of trees.

And the list goes on. I guess I am waxing lyrical here but I do declare that I need to do this as no-one else appears to be doing so. Trees need more recognition and active preservation. Humans need to be made aware of the critical role of trees more regularly and certainly from an early age.

I do thank you all for listening to this short tirade and trust that you see it in a positive light. You there...put down that axe. You do make a compelling point however and I promise to wrap up now and leave you to get back to your numbers and deadlines. I look forward to seeing you drop by occasionally and sitting in my shade for a while. Our mutual contemplative silence will teach us both more than we ever would expect."

Well Colleagues, thank you for bearing with this introduction to my renewed friendship with trees in general. I trust that arbour celebrations this month come to mean more to you than mere tree planting tasks and the opportunity to escape the office for a while.

Use the opportunity to reaffirm your respect for trees and share this with someone who needs a gentle nudge towards listening to a tree!



POET'S TREE  
Underneath the poet tree  
Come and rest awhile with me,  
And watch the way the word-web weaves  
Between the shady story leaves.  
The branches of the poet tree  
Reach from the mountains to the sea.  
So come and dream, or come and climb—  
Just don't get hit by falling rhymes.  
—Shel Silverstein



## Forest21 Symposium seeks ways to Adapt Forestry Education

*Forest21 is a European Union funded project aimed at strengthening South Africa's higher education programmes in forestry.*

GEORGE NEWS & VIDEO - A four-day Forest21 symposium at Nelson Mandela University (NMU) George Campus in Sept. 2022 considered ways in which forestry education and training can be adapted to equip future leaders, employees and entrepreneurs in the forestry industry to tackle the challenges of climate change.

**The objective is to establish sustainable forestry practices and businesses that consider their impacts on the environment.**

Forest21 is a European Union funded project aimed at strengthening South Africa's higher education programmes in forestry.

The partners are NMU, Venda University, Fort Cox, University of Stellenbosch, and Tshwane University of Technology from South Africa, Aalto University and Häme University of Applied Sciences from Finland, and Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences.

These institutions as well as various stakeholders in the forestry industry, including Sappi and the Institute for Commercial Forestry Research, are represented at the symposium that will conclude on Thursday.

During Monday's workshop, the effects of climate change in the different contexts of South Africa and the Nordic countries were highlighted.

In his introduction Prof Jos Louw, director of the NMU School of Natural Resource Management, said forestry is very sensitive to climate change, but is, together with agriculture, a custodian of vast tracks of land.

**Both these industries have the potential to play an important role in mitigating the impacts of climate change through carbon sequestration and creating climate-smart, resilient production landscapes.**

"Many new entrepreneurial opportunities will arise [from this] and hopefully this will contribute to the development of new business models in support of the green economy.

That will give us as academics pointers with regard to how we must change our curriculum, but more importantly, how we must change our learning and teaching techniques and programmes to make them more relevant to students ... [to] become part of the modern economy, playing a very significant role in how we can adapt to a changing environment."

## 160 000 jobs supplied by forestry

Dr Nuveshen Naidoo, senior scientist from the Institute for Commercial Forestry Research, said the South African forestry industry supplies some 160 000 jobs and earns R25-billion in exports. It makes up 1% of South Africa's GDP.

He warned that climate change models predict hotter and drier weather. It will lead to declining yields in forestry as a result of increased stress on plantations, increased pest and disease incidence and fire risk.

New models for forestry production should be adopted faster and a diversity of genes of tree species must be conserved to ensure a "toolbox" that can be accessed in a changing environment.

Different species could be matched to different, best-suited areas for more resilience.

## Forestry's impacts on environment

Louise van Wyk, area environmental manager of Sappi, said the forestry industry affects water, soil and biodiversity, three "dependencies" of a healthy eco-system. Most stakeholder complaints they receive are centered around plantations reducing water availability in catchments.

Soil is affected through sedimentation landing in streams as a result of roads, harvesting and residue maintenance. The effects on biodiversity are not all clear and need further study.

"We need to break away from thinking that as an industry we can limit our thinking to what is applicable to forestry. We can start with operational specific projects but we need to find solutions for sustainable resource management and so safeguard opportunities, especially when we start looking at ecosystem-based adaptation."

## Finland to share hard-earned knowledge

Dr Eija Laitinen of Häme University said Finland is in the position to transfer hard-earned knowledge to South Africa's forestry industry and educational institutions. Seventy percent of her country is covered in forests and the industry there is centuries old.

Forestry education started in the 1860s. Forests are their only natural resource and ethical entrepreneurship in forestry is vital.



"It is not for money. It is for jobs and wealth in an ethical way. My grandfather planted for me, and I am planting for my grandchildren. So the lifespan of those trees from where our wealth and jobs come, is three generations."

#### Ability to react to rapid change

Romi Rancken, forestry expert of Häme University, warned that the forestry industry must be prepared for anything and must be able to react to rapid change. In Finland, the industry has recently been greatly affected by the Russia-Ukraine war in that the electricity price has increased tenfold and wood imports from Russia have come to a standstill.

Most forests in Finland are owned privately by businesses and individuals. The country has more than 1 000 small sawmills. Forests are open to the public for recreation, hunting and collecting mushrooms and berries.



Dr. Eija Laitinen from Finland (top) and Prof Jos Louw (NMU) (above) who both presented at the Forest 21 event. **Source:** George Herald 8/9/22

## Upcoming Events

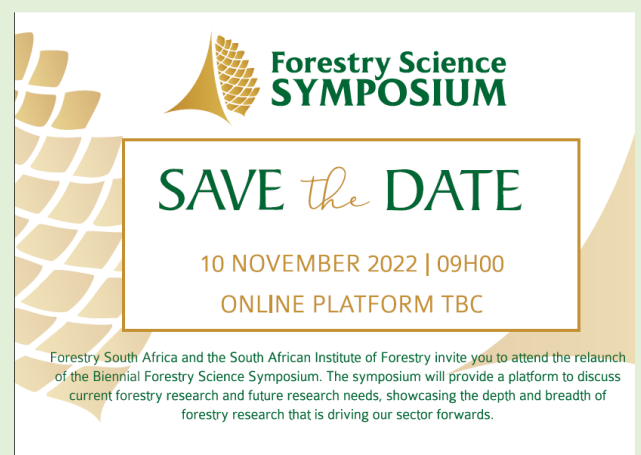
### Stellenbosch University : Forestry Department Forestry and Climate Symposium and Workshop



<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/agri/forestry/upcoming-events>

### SAIF / FSA Forestry Science Symposium

The Southern African Institute of Forestry (SAIF) and Forestry South Africa (FSA) is glad to announce the Forestry Science Symposium to be held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 2022 !



Diarise the Date ! We hope to see many of you on-line for this long awaited symposium !

More Details will follow soon .

## Yosemite's giant sequoias: Wildfire threatens world's largest trees



A wildfire threatening some of the world's oldest giant sequoia trees in California's Yosemite National Park in the US expanded five-fold over the weekend of 9 and 10 July 2022. The smoke prompted air quality alerts throughout the park and obscured the views of its famous scenery. The blaze has scorched nearly 1 600 acres (648 hectares) of timber and brush at the southern end of the park within one after the fire was first reported by visitors on the Washburn Trail of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias.

### What will happen to the ancient giant sequoias?

Fire fighters took special measures to protect the grove, clearing away undergrowth that could add to the fuel bed and deploying ground-based sprinkler systems to increase humidity levels. It is unknown whether any of Yosemite's landmark sequoias, some of them over 3 000 years old and given names, will be lost.

Giant sequoias, the world's largest trees by mass and insulated by thick, spongy bark, have coexisted for millennia with lightning-sparked fires considered part of the natural balance of healthy redwood forests. Fire is even vital to reproduce the trees, whose cones require high heat to crack open and release seeds.

However, experts say drought-stressed sequoias today have grown increasingly vulnerable to more frequent bouts of extreme wildfire activity symptomatic of human-caused climate change. Thousands of the trees have perished in six major wildfires that have raged through California's Sierra Nevada range over the past six years, burning 85 per cent of all giant sequoia groves between 2015 and 2021, compared to only one quarter in the preceding century.

**Source:** Euro News

## Why South African businesses going paperless can do more harm than good

*By Jane Molony, executive director of the Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa (PAMSA)*

**JOHANNESBURG - SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 -** With South Africa celebrating Arbour Month in September, it is a good time to appreciate the role that all trees play in greening our cities, as a food source, in providing timber for construction, as a fuel and, of course, as paper, packaging and tissue.

When it comes to paper, however, there is a still a misconception that reduced paper consumption will help save the planet – an idea seen most often in office-based paperless initiatives that are promoted as being greener or as a means to reduce carbon footprints.

The assumption – which happens to be false – is that using less paper will protect the environment. What we fail to recognise, however, is that the digital world comes at a cost to the environment, a cost that – unlike paper – runs on fossil fuels to a large extent.

It is too easy to ignore the impact of our digital lives – because we don't see the effect of the energy required to power "the cloud". We don't see the electricity consumption it takes to send a thousand emails a month. We don't see the burgeoning e-waste problem as technology becomes obsolete and isn't properly discarded – it's a long list.

Part of the problem is that people don't understand how sustainable forestry – the industry that produces wood and paper products – works. They don't realise that a recently felled plantation will be replanted with new trees within the same year. They don't realise that the trees in plantations remove tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and return it as oxygen. They also don't realise that carbon remains stored in wood even after it's been turned into pulp for papermaking and other cellulose products. They simply think that paper equals deforestation.

Sustainable forestry, however, is the antithesis of deforestation, which is the removal of trees and





natural forests *without* replanting, such as for some forms of agriculture and the development of housing estates, shopping malls and urban environments. This is why greening these areas with indigenous plants helps to offset their impact.

South Africa's sustainable forestry centres around the circular approach of planting, growing, harvesting, and replanting fast-growing species. Wood for the country's forest products comes from sustainably managed exotic trees, not natural or indigenous forests.

This requires that our sector also manages the land and water that plantations share with other biomes, such as grasslands and indigenous forests. While around 850 million trees are farmed over 676,000 hectares by the country's forestry sector for pulp and paper products, a significant portion is reserved for its biodiversity and conservation value.

South Africa's pulp, paper, packaging, and tissue products are made from fresh or virgin wood fibres from sustainably cultivated trees, recycled fibre from used paper products, or a mixture of both – depending on the end-use. Technological advances to make these products are also more resource-efficient than they were a few centuries ago, which makes for even more responsible forest management.

### **The actual cost of businesses going paperless**

In 2021, the pulp and paper sector contributed around R28 billion to the South African economy. Although there has been a decline in printing and writing paper demand, we have seen a switch from plastic to paper packaging and cellulose-based innovations, which is encouraging. But there is more to our sector's impact than its contribution to gross domestic product.

Plantations are grown in rural areas, supporting thousands of households, families, and communities. The South African forestry and forest products sector employs around 150,000 people, and nearly 700,000 people depend on the industry for their livelihoods.

The sector employs people who research tree health, grow seedlings that are more resilient to climate change and disease, plant trees responsibly, nurture them to their required age, harvest them and then take the timber to the mill.

A chain of people is required to operate woodyards, the pulp mill, paper machines, and beyond, when paper, packaging paper or tissue is converted into the products we buy at the supermarket or have delivered to our door.

Considering that planted forests are, in essence, crops, businesses going paperless is similar to limiting our consumption of carrots or cabbage and ultimately not supporting farmers and their jobs by consuming their produce.

The words of Greenpeace co-founder Dr Patrick Moore back this up: "We should be growing more trees and using more wood. If [those] landowners had no market for wood, they would clear the forest away and grow something else they could make money from instead. When you go into a lumber (wood) yard, you are given the impression that by buying wood you are causing the forest to be lost, when in fact what you are doing is sending a signal into the market to plant more trees."

### **Circular economies**

In addition to growing trees and making paper products, the recovery of paper and other materials for recycling serves as a means of income generation for informal waste collectors and small recycling businesses.

Moreover, with much of the forestry-owned land and paper mills situated in rural or semi-rural areas, the forestry and forest products sector contribute to basic infrastructure, including roads, clinics, and schools, and investments in community development and eco-tourism.

This all represents an investment in people, communities and our country, not least of which an investment in the future as we tackle the effects of climate change. So, think again about that little blurb at the bottom of your email. Consider the environment and the economy, before you go paperless.

Source: Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa <[distributions@m.mediaportal.co.za](mailto:distributions@m.mediaportal.co.za)>

## 2022 SAIF Photo Competition

The SAIF National Secretary and the rest of the Council would like to thank everybody who entered the Photo Competition and submitted their entries by 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2022. There were 47 entries and according to Corine, the judges will have a difficult task selecting the winning photos.

Thank you very much once again to Stihl SA who will be sponsoring the photographic competition prizes :

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** GTA 26 Handheld Garden Pruner

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** RE 100 PLUS Control High Pressure Cleaner

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** SE 33 Vacuum Cleaner



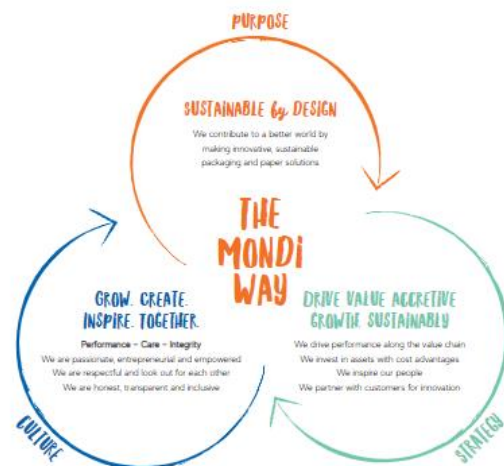
## Sponsors of the 2022 Calendar September 2022



Mondi is a global leader in packaging and paper, employing around 21,000 people at approximately 100 production sites across 30 countries, with key operations located in Europe, North America and Africa (continuing operations). Our business is integrated across the value chain – from managing forests and producing pulp, paper and films, to developing and manufacturing effective industrial and consumer packaging solutions. We contribute to a better world by making innovative packaging and paper solutions that are sustainable by design.

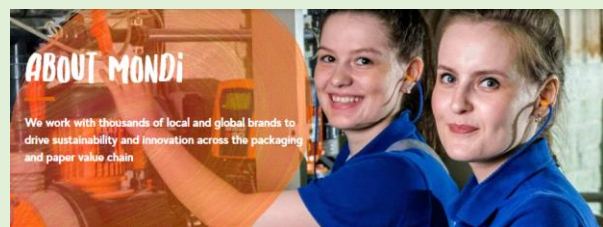
## Sustainable by Design

Our purpose brings us together in contributing to a better world by making packaging and paper that is sustainable by design.



## Some of the Products manufactured by Mondi

- FLEXIBLE PACKAGING, BAGS AND POUCHES
- RELEASE LINERS
- FUNCTIONAL FILMS
- CORRUGATED SOLUTIONS
- INDUSTRIAL BAGS
- BARRIER COATINGS
- SPECIALITY KRAFT PAPER
- SACK KRAFT PAPER
- CONTAINERBOARD
- OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL PRINTING PAPERS
- ECOSOLUTIONS APPROACH



<https://www.mondigroup.com/en/about-mondi/>

## 2022 SAIF Awards



Roger Poole receiving his Forester of the year Award from Mmoledi Mpahlele : KZN Branch Chair

### Creecy pulls the plug on multimillion-rand forestry project in Grabouw



*Minister Barbara Creecy accused the Theewaterskloof municipality and 4 000 land invaders of having “no appetite” to meet and resolve the impasse. Picture: Jonisayi Maromo/African News Agency (ANA)*

Cape Town - After daily land invasions and a lack of co-operation from the Theewaterskloof (TWK) municipality, Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (Deff) Minister Barbara Creecy has pulled the plug on a multimillion-rand forestry project that would

have benefited the Knoflokskraal, Grabouw community. It emerged in the committee that the invasions and land-related protests were so regular and the situation so volatile that provincial police hold weekly meetings to discuss strategies. DEFF and police labelled land occupations as “organised”.

The department, which is responsible for 24 000ha of land in the province, has now relinquished the land to Public Works and Infrastructure.

TWK municipal manager Boy Ngubo had not responded at the time of writing.

Creecy said: “This particular area falls under the category B and C forests, which we would want to put out to lease, and where possible to enter into community forestry agreements with landless community members interested in participating in forestry.”

She said the department recently launched its first community forest agreement, which they wanted to apply in the Grabouw community. Creecy said they would look for a private partner interested in replanting the land with the community.

The department invited those with historical links to the land for discussions, even if they do not hold title deeds, especially the Khoi and the San.

She described the discussions as complex and the department as lacking externalities in resolving the situation. The invasion took place during hard lockdowns, and despite the department obtaining a court order to stop further land invasions, the occupations continued.

Meetings with Khoi and San leaders led to an agreement that the government set up a committee to look into the land rights of the locals.

Nodada said the two departments will now place tactical security guards on the land to curb daily land occupations. She said the Province had also been pressurising the department to get rid of the invaders.

#### Source:

<https://www.iol.co.za/capeargus/news/creecy-pulls-the-plug-on-multimillion-rand-forestry-project-in-grabouw-a4a23560-d5e0-4c0e-9e85-18eeaffc1f55> (17/9/22)



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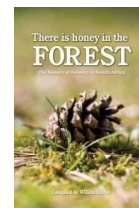
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