

5 May 2025

To All SAFCA Members

Regional Meetings

Thank you to all of you who attended the regional meetings in Limpopo, Mpumalanga, and KZN last month.

I am very encouraged by the improving attendances, and the lively discussions and contributions from our members during the meetings. I look forward to seeing even more of you at our next round of meetings during this year.

Spread of Fire / Public Liability Policies

By now you will all have completed and submitted the renewal documentation. As you will have seen, there have been some positive changes to the policies – all SAFCA members now under the one R5.5m policy, with the option to add a R4.5m ‘excess of loss’ policy for those who need R10m cover.

Additionally, and importantly, is the aggregate cover which has been raised significantly to R100m, with a re-instatement option to take our overall SAFCA Spread of Fire policy to R200m.

Please take note of the wording in the POPI Act document that you signed, regarding the permission given for grower companies to be informed if a policy is cancelled due to repeated debit order returns. It needs emphasising that, if a member’s policy is cancelled, that contractor is then in breach of their contractual agreement with the grower company. Please therefore ensure that your debit orders are honoured each month.

In addition, I have been in contact with all the grower companies seeking their approval of our SAFCA policy wording. The vast majority fully accept the contents thereof.

BBBEE Affidavits / Certificates

A reminder to please submit your latest BBBEE documents to FSCC (Forestry Sector Charter Counsel) (Makhosazana@forestsectorcharter.co.za)



Costing Model Update

Those of you that have been sent the draft harvesting and machinery costing model, and to anyone else who would like me to send it to them, we have set a closing date for your comments and inputs, which is the 31st May 2025. Please make time to peruse the content, test the formulae, and revert before then.

We intend approaching the grower company's by seeking their comments and inputs as well, with the intention of obtaining their acceptances of our revised SAFCA costing models so that there may then be a mutually accepted, transparent, and trustworthy basis for rate negotiations and annual and/or statutory rate adjustments.

Our intention is also to conduct training (for contractors as well as grower company managers) on the models once finalised.

Dr. Muedanyi Ramatswana has committed to commencing work on the silviculture model in early July 2025.

Website

This is in the process of being revamped now that we have been able to extract ourselves from the GlueUp agreement. Please send, but not limited to, news from the different regions, notifications, equipment advertisements, employment opportunities, and forestry qualified or experienced out-of-work people seeking employment, for us to include on the website.

We aim to achieve it being a resource centre for our members.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Kindest regards

Roger Johnston | CEO

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