



## ***INFORMATION***

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### **1 EU ALLERGEN LABELLING**

Recent EFSA (European Food Safety Authority) rulings will have the effect that the indication of the use of milk and egg products in wine production will become compulsory as from 30 June 2012. A temporary exemption until that date was granted to allow EFSA to re-evaluate the risk of the use of these products.

Wine placed on the EU market or labelled before 30 June 2012, may be marketed until stocks are exhausted. We are awaiting prescriptions from the EU for the wording and languages required. So, do not change your labels yet, but keep this in mind for planning purposes. We will let you know as soon as these prescriptions become available.

### **2 USE OF NATAMYCIN/PIMARIZIN**

As you are aware, the use of natamycin in certified wine (wine of origin) is no longer allowed – see Wine Law 1/2011 of 18 February 2011 (link to download below). This remains the position.

In the case of uncertified wine, natamycin may only be added in bottling/filling tanks or containers and only on bottling/filling premises. At the time it was decided to allow such use of natamycin for uncertified wine only until the end of 2012. However, it has since become abundantly clear that the current alternatives are not as effective as hoped for and that viable other alternatives are not possible before the 2013 harvest. Thus, it has been decided to recommend to the Minister of Agriculture to allow such use of natamycin for uncertified wine until the end of 2013 – effectively for the 2012 and 2013 harvests.

Please also bear in mind that the majority of our export destinations do not allow the addition of natamycin for wine exported to them.

### **3 INDICATION OF NET QUANTITY – THE SINGLE SPACE REQUIREMENT**

South African National Standard (SANS) 289, incorporated into the trade metrology regulations, regulates prescribed quantities and the net quantity indication. See Wine Law 8/2009 of 15 September 2009 for full details (link to download below).

SANS 289 provides that there must be a single space between the number and the unit of measurement. For example, “750” followed by a single space and then “mL”. It has recently come to light that there are thousands upon thousands of labels, which either do not have a single space at all or have a space less than a single space. The authority concerned has informed us that the single space must be of the size of the font used, it cannot be arbitrary.

The industry has now applied for a dispensation to be able to exhaust incorrect stocks. We are positive that this will be granted. If not, we will let you know, but please ensure that you know and comply with the provisions of SANS 289 to avoid any future problems.

## DOWNLOAD LINKS

1. Wine Law 1/2011:  
[http://www.sawis.co.za/winelaw/download/Natamycin\\_water\\_allergens.pdf](http://www.sawis.co.za/winelaw/download/Natamycin_water_allergens.pdf)
2. Wine Law 8/2009:  
[http://www.sawis.co.za/winelaw/download/Volume -  
prescribed sizes and declaration - updated.doc](http://www.sawis.co.za/winelaw/download/Volume_-_prescribed_sizes_and_declaration_-_updated.doc)



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