

AGRISCIENCES EYENZULULWAZI NGEZOLIMO AGRIWETENSKAPPE Department of Forest and Wood Science

Postdoctoral Position

Title: Refining the modification of the radiation ratio in tonewoods through controlled wood degradation

Requirements: PhD obtained within the last 5 years

Application deadline: March 15

We are looking for candidates to fill a postdoctoral position in the Department of Forest and Wood Science.

The project deals with artificial ageing of tonewood to enhance acoustical properties.

The aim is to improve the radiation ratio R of tonewoods through artificial ageing. R is improved by decreasing the density without changing the elastic modulus and this can be achieved by reducing the hemicellulose, and to a degree linin content of wood without affecting the cellulose content. This can be obtained either via fungal degradation with fungi that target specifically hemicellulose, thermal degradation, or chemical modification.

The candidate needs a strong background in wood science, wood degradation and analytical techniques.

Please send applications and a full academic CV to

Martina Meincken, mmein@sun.ac.za