

ILLEGAL FLAVOURANTS

WINETECH has confirmed that the research profiling South African Sauvignon Blanc is completed. The profiles will be published for public consumption in the February issue of Winelands magazine.

The profiles have been made available to the Wine and Spirit Board. Dr Jakob Deist, chairperson of the management committee of the Board, confirmed that a two-pronged action programme has been initiated to rid the industry of this unethical, albeit harmless, practice, if it exists. Firstly, a reactive action plan, which will identify possible culprits by comparing pre-2004 wines to the profiles, followed by forensic audits to bring guilty parties to book. In 2004 a proactive programme will be launched, using analyses of grape and must samples compared to analyses of wine samples, in conjunction with the profiles, and followed by forensic audits, if required.