

# **African Nurseries (Pty) Ltd**

## **Exporting of Grapevines**





# African Nursery

African Nurseries combines 45 years of nursery and industry experience between Andrew Teubes and Koos van der Merwe. We offer an innovative approach to the challenges of the wine-, table- and raisin grape industries.

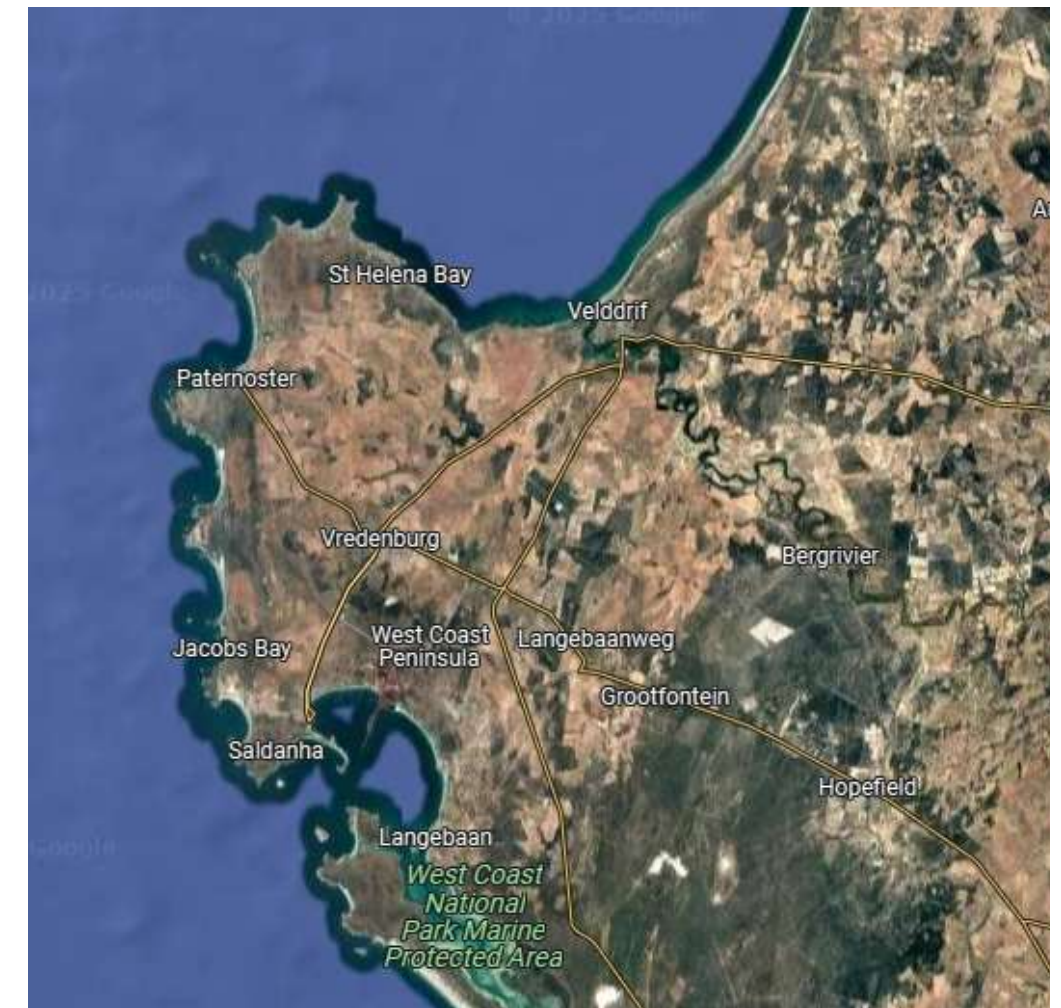
The nursery is on the farm, Heuwelfontein in the Sandveld, halfway between Hopefield and Velddrif. It is far from other grape growing areas and this isolation reduces the risk of the spread of vectors of harmful viruses significantly.

The presence of nematodes is completely excluded because of the underground water source from the West Coast Aquifer. The fine sandy soil is ideally suited for the development of a large and branched root system, something that is uniquely different from other nursery regions. This is our pride and joy.

There is ample land availability and therefore it is possible to cultivate the same nursery field only once every four years. In the long term, soil health is ensured by this rotational system.

African Nurseries adheres to the highest phytosanitary and plant certification standards. All material is traceable and undergoes rigorous inspections to meet local and international requirements.

We are proud to provide plant material for all the important breeding programs to our table grape clients. The complete range of wine- and raisin grape varieties are also available. Our product range includes normal Dormant vines, one year old Dormant potted vines, Cartonnage and Uber vines (Langbeen stokke).

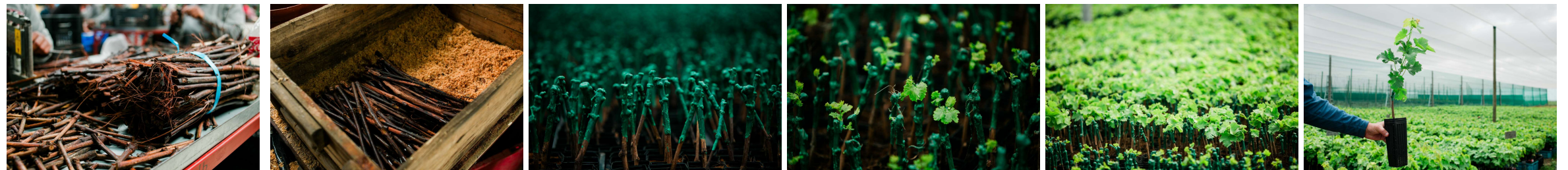


Product Type	Description	Best Use
Dormant Vines	Traditional bare-root vines	Commercial vineyards
Potted Dormant Vines	One-year-old vines in pots	Difficult planting sites
Uber Vines	1 – 1.8m vine for rapid establishment	High-performance
Cartonnage Vines	Late in season orders	All sites

# Our Services

## We provide the following professional services:

1. Soil surveys to determine vineyard suitability.
2. Farm planning, including rootstock compatibility, soil preparation, cultivar recommendations and block design.
3. Regional and site-specific clone performance evaluations.
4. Expert viticultural consultation.
5. Ongoing support for the post-establishment of new vineyards.
6. Client field days sharing insights on new cultivars, rootstocks and industry trends.
7. Breeding program management and producer contract oversight for table grape production.



# The structure of the South African grape industry and its regulatory bodies.

- The South African Wine and Table Grape Industries operate under the Plant Improvement Act governed by the Department of Agriculture.
- **Wine Grapes:** Oversight by the numerous Vine Improvement Associations (VIA).
- **Table & Drying Grapes:** Oversight by the South African Table Grape Industry (SATI) and Raisins SA.
- Both associations are accredited and audited by the Department of Agriculture.
- Only certified plant material that qualifies for a phytosanitary certificate is eligible for export.



agriculture,  
forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





# Procedure for Propagating Plant Material

African Nurseries follows a strict, multi-phase process to ensure that all grapevine material is traceable, healthy and certified according to the highest phytosanitary standards. The propagation chain includes the following steps:

## 1. Nucleus Plant Production

- Plants are established from virus-free, laboratory-tested source material.
- Strict sanitation, access control and hygiene protocols are applied.
- Only trained personnel are permitted in the Nucleus facility.
- Material is grown in a controlled, isolated environment using sterilized, non-soil substrates.

## 2. Foundation Block Propagation

- Material from the Nucleus is used to propagate **Foundation Plants**.
- These plants are established under netting on land with no prior permanent crops.
- Plants are tested for key viruses such as Leafroll and Fanleaf.
- Strict mealybug control and visual inspections are conducted.
- Foundation Plants are used exclusively for scion and rootstock propagation.

## 3. Commercial Mother Blocks

- Material from Foundation Blocks is used to establish larger **Mother Blocks** at growers.
- These blocks are monitored annually for off-types, visual virus symptoms and pests.
- Grapes are removed early in the season to prioritize wood quality for grafting.

## 4. Grafting & Nursery Phase

- Rootstock and scion wood are collected and grafted in June/July.
- Grafted vines undergo callusing, planting and field growth through spring/summer.
- Harvested in June/July the next year and sorted for quality.

## 5. Certification & Export

- All vines are certified per the South African Plant Certification Scheme.
- Testing includes ELISA and PCR for Fanleaf, Leafroll and Agrobacterium vitis.
- Certified material is packaged and stored in cold rooms (2–4°C) for export.
- Export only occurs with a valid phytosanitary certificate and import permit.

# Nursery Timetable

Month (Southern Hemisphere)	Action (New Grafted Material – Current Year)	Action (One-Year-Old Plants – Previous Year)
May	Collection of plant material	
June	Preparation of grafting material	Uplifting one-year-old vines
July	Grafting, sorting, and certification	
August	Callusing procedure	Distribution to growers
September	Planting of new vines	
October	Final planting and packaging for export	Vines stored in cold rooms (2–4°C)
November	Growing season in nursery	Export to Southern Hemisphere
January to April		Export to Northern Hemisphere



# Available Rootstock

## Viticultural Characteristics of Rootstocks used in South Africa

Rootstock*	Soil Adaptability	Vigour	Resistance to Nematodes	Resistance to Phytophthora	Resistance to Wetness	Resistance to Drought	Resistance to Salinity	Resistance to Lime	Vegetative Cycle
RICHTER 99*	Sandy loam, compacted soils	4	4	1	2	4	2	4	Medium
RICHTER 110*	Loamy clay	4/3	3	4	4/3	4/5	4	4	Long
101-14*	Shallow clay, good moisture	3	4	3/4	4/5	2	4	2	Short
HARMONY**	Loamy clay, deep	4/3	5	3/2	2	2/3	2/3	2	Medium
FREEDOM**	Sand, low OM	5/4	5	3	2	3	3/2	3/2	Long
RAMSEY*	Deep sand, low OM	5	5	4	5	4/3	4	4	Very long
143 B*	Heavy loam, alluvial	3	2/3	4/5	4/5	4/3	4	4	Medium
PAULSEN 1103*	Loamy, deep	4	4/3	1	4	4/3	2/3	4	Long
RUGGERI 140*	Loamy clay, deep	4/5	3/2	1	2	5	2/3	5	Very long
US 8-7*	Sandy loam, shallow/ deep	4	4	5	5	3/4	3/4	4/3	Short
SO4*	Sandy loam, deep	4/3	4/5	4	4/3	3	2/3	5/4	Short

\* Phylloxera resistance is accepted as adequate

1 = Very Poor   2 = Poor   3 = Moderate   4 = Good   5 = Very good

\*\* Not to be used in Phylloxera regions

# Export Procedures

- Import permits are required based on the regulations of the importing country.
- African Nurseries exports to over 20 countries across the globe including Japan, Argentina, Ukraine, Indonesia and Mexico. Our long-standing relationships with plant health authorities make us a trusted global partner.
- **Air Freight** (Ideal for small volumes)
- **Sea Freight** (For shipments >30,000 vines)
- Note: Ports and airports must be equipped with proper cooling and customs facilities for plant material.
- Our office oversees all logistics, including packaging, phytosanitary compliance, storage, shipment and routing.





# Ordering Vines for Export

## Option 1: New Orders

- Place an order **before May**
- Grafted in **June/July**
- Uprooted **May** of the following year and put in cold storage
- Packed in **October/ November for exports**
- Exported **Des/Jan** (Requested time)
- Take up to 24 months in total

## Option 2: From Surplus List

- Already grafted and stored in cold rooms
- Export ready by **next season**
- Shorter lead time

