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May 25, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

Swingle has been in the business since 1947. Beginning in the early 1970's in the midst of our first Dutch elm disease (DED) epidemic, we began our disease prevention program. One of the keystones of our program is rigid detail and careful monitoring of our results. The first twenty years of the program involved dormant insecticide spraying treatments for disease prevention. For therapeutic treatments we experimented with many compounds. Beginning in 1984, we began using the three year Arbotect treatment for Dutch elm disease control.

Spraying in the urban environment became difficult and our attention turned to the fungicide injections. Quite frankly, we felt the cost and labor involved in the Arbotect injection process presented a hindrance to our conversion of the spraying to an all injection program. Along came the product – Alamo. The injection process was purported to be much faster and hence we could offer this at a lower cost.

Beginning in 1994, we rolled out our new program using Alamo fungicide for the prevention of Dutch elm disease. At the same time, DED became much more aggressive in Denver.

In 1996, we started seeing problems with abnormally high number of failures with our Alamo injections. In the end – we injected 1385 American elms with Alamo and lost 82 trees. At the same time we injected 1340 American elms with Arbotect and lost 26 trees. We discontinued the use of Alamo in 1997 and told our customers that we will only use Arbotect – it was the only ethical plan of action. Yes, it costs more – but why spend money on something that we feel didn't work?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven D. Geist".

Steven D. Geist



8585 East Warren Avenue • Denver, Colorado 80231 • Telephone 303/337-6200

ARBORICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE STEVEN D GEIST

EDUCATION

Colorado State University
'83 BS Plant Pathology - concentrations - pathology & plant protection
'83 BS Botany (concurrently awarded)

EXPERIENCE

May 1982 - August 1982 &
May 1983 - Present - employed by Swingle Tree Company
as Plant Pathologist since December 1984

MEMBERSHIPS

American Phytopathological Society member since 1984	International Society of Arboriculture member since 1986
American Society of Consulting Arborists member since 1994	Society of Commercial Arboriculture member since 1988
Colorado Tree Coalition member since 1999	Arboricultural Research & Education Academy member since 1999
Entomological Society of America member since 1991	

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

American Society of Consulting Arborists
Bylaws committee, chair 1998
Elected director 2002; President 2006

Colorado Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Chemicals and Groundwater Protection Advisory Committee since 1994

International Society of Arboriculture, Rocky Mountain Chapter
Elected director, 1990 Editor 2000 to 2005
President 1993, 1997 Pesticide Workshop Chair 1994 to 2005

International Society of Arboriculture, Society of Commercial Arboriculture
Elected director, 2001; President-elect 2004.

International Society of Arboriculture, Certification
Board Certified Master Arborist Test Committee, 2005

CERTIFICATIONS

American Society of Agronomy, Certified Professional Agronomist #22192
American Society of Consulting Arborists, Registered Consulting Arborist #340
International Society of Arboriculture, Certified Arborist RM-0116
Qualified Supervisor for pesticide application in the State of Colorado since 1984
Licensed in the following commercial categories:

Forest Pest Control	Public Health Pest Control
Rangeland Pest Control	Research and Demonstration
Aquatic Pest Control	Turf Pest Control
Industrial and Right-of-Way Weed Control	Ornamental Pest Control