

LANTw21 - SQA Unit Code H2S9 04

Remove branches from felled trees using a chainsaw



Overview

This standard is about the removal of branches (snedding or de-limbing) from trees on the ground or that have been felled onto a natural or created bench, brash mat or similar situation

The standard covers trees both coniferous and broadleaved

Your work must conform to all current legislation and codes of practice

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you need to be appropriately trained or certificated in line with current legislation

This standard is for those carrying out chainsaw operations

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed works
- P2 select and implement appropriate working method in accordance with the assessed risks
- P3 meet specified safety guidelines and organisational environmental requirements when de-branching trees
- P4 remove branches from felled trees using a recognised method appropriate to tree branch pattern, size, form and condition and to leave stem as appropriate to specification
- P5 turn trees and/or remove under branches using appropriate aid tools and method(s)
- P6 ensure resultant brush is stacked, removed or broken down as appropriate to specification
- P7 carry out routine operator maintenance, pre-start checks and setting of the machine for use
- P8 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with current legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K2 how to interpret risk assessments
- K3 the implications of terrain, ground conditions, season, weather and tree condition to de-branching small trees
- K4 how the method of removing branches will vary with tree species, form and condition and safeguards required when de-limbing timber with vertically aligned stems, branches or sections
- K5 how to identify tension and compression in branches and the implications on choice of severing method
- K6 how and when to use additional equipment, to assist with the snedding/de-limbing of trees
- K7 the use of appropriate heavy machinery to turn trees and additional safeguards required for turning a tree and/or removing branches on under side
- K8 the necessity and advantages of leaving a clean stem after de-limbing
- K9 ways of dealing with brash and branches after de-limbing/snedding
- K10 the potential impacts of your work on the environment and how these can be minimised
- K11 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Glossary

Potential impacts on the environment such as red squirrel drays, badger sets, bat colonies

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Suite Treework

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