

National Unit Specification: General Information

UNIT Forest Weeding And Cleaning Using Hand Tools (Intermediate 2)

NUMBER D857 11

COURSE

SUMMARY

This unit will enable the candidate to carry out weed control using appropriate hand tools.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Select and describe the most appropriate tools for weeding and cleaning forest crops.
- 2 Use hand tools for weeding and cleaning forest crops.
- 3 Carry out repair and maintenance of hand tools.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

There are no formal entry requirements for this unit.

CREDIT VALUE

1.0 credit at Intermediate 2 level.

CORE SKILLS

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 1999).

Administrative Information

Superclass: SG

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National unit specification: statement of standards

UNIT Forest Weeding And Cleaning Using Hand Tools (Intermediate 2)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Select and describe the most appropriate tools for weeding and cleaning forest crops

Performance Criteria

- a) The reasons for weeding and cleaning forest crops are correctly described.
- b) Different types of hand tools are identified and described correctly.
- c) Appropriate hand tools are selected for a range of weeding and cleaning activities.

Evidence Requirements

Written and/or oral evidence of the candidate's ability to satisfy Performance Criteria (a) to (c).

OUTCOME 2

Use hand tools for weeding and cleaning forest crops

Performance Criteria

- a) The identification of the crop, size, spacing and direction on which rows of trees run is correct.
- b) The identification of common weeds is correct.
- c) The cleaning/weeding of the plantation is completed to the standard specified.
- d) The technique used is consistent with the hand tool used and the operation undertaken.
- e) The disposal of cut vegetation is correct in terms of drainage and access.

Evidence Requirements

Practical/performance evidence of the candidate's ability to satisfy Performance Criteria (a) to (e).

OUTCOME 3

Carry out repair and maintenance of hand tools

Performance Criteria

- a) The sharpening and shaping of a straight edged tool is appropriate for its efficient function.
- b) The sharpening and setting of a tooth edged tool is appropriate for its efficient function.
- c) The cleaning and oiling of tools is appropriate for their efficient function.
- d) The reasons for keeping metal tools clean, dry and oiled is correctly stated.
- e) The selection and shaping of a new shaft is appropriate to the head.
- f) The fitting of a new shaft is appropriate for its efficient function.

National unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Forest Weeding And Cleaning Using Hand Tools (Intermediate 2)

Evidence Requirements

Written and/or oral evidence and practical performance evidence of the candidate's ability to satisfy Performance Criteria (a) to (f).

National unit specification: support notes

UNIT Forest Weeding And Cleaning Using Hand Tools (Intermediate 2)

This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. None of the sections of the support notes is mandatory.

GUIDANCE ON CONTENT AND CONTEXT

Outcome 1

Effect of weeds on forest crops; nature of competition – light and water (effect of different sites and forest crops). Features of different hand tools; linked hand tools to different weeding and cleaning circumstances.

Outcome 2

Practical weeding and cleaning of forest crops.

Outcome 3

The skills of sharpening cutting tools is demonstrated, followed by practice to competency. Maintenance techniques should be demonstrated on one open straight-edged tool and on one saw-edged tool but all tools should be correctly maintained during use and thereafter. Sharpening, stripping and setting a saw-edged tool. Replacing detachable blade. Oiling tools used before storage. Cleaning deposits from saw blades before storage. The skill of re-shafting hand-held tools is demonstrated followed by practice to competency.

GUIDANCE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING APPROACHES

Outcome 1

As well as formal lectures, use is made of site visits, slide/video presentations and handout/support materials. Emphasise health and safety requirements.

Outcome 2

Use is made of demonstration, guided/directed practice and progression towards competency. Cover a range of vegetation types and hand tools – straight edged and saw blades. Heavy emphasis on health and safety requirements.

Outcome 3

Use is made of demonstration, guided/directed practice and progression towards competency. Heavy emphasis on health and safety requirements and recognition of safety standards.

National unit specification: support notes (cont)

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GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT

Centres may use the instruments of assessments which are considered by the assessors to be most appropriate and fully satisfy the outcomes, performance criteria and range statements. Examples of instruments of assessment which could be used are as follows:

Outcome 1

Use of short answer questions to cover the full range of performance criteria in the outcome.

Outcome 2

Use of assessment of practical performance using detailed checklists.

Outcome 3

Use of assessment of practical performance using detailed checklists.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment and Certification Arrangements* (SQA, 1998).