

LANTw48 - SQA Unit Code H2RC 04

Handle, transport and prepare a horse for timber work



Overview

This standard describes the handling, transporting and preparation of horse for the extraction of timber from forestry or woodland

Either a single horse or a pair of horses can be used to extract timber over a range of terrains

With a single horse you will use trace chains and shafted equipment for forwarding and skidding timber. With a pair of horses using traces with a double tree, shafts and pole to extract timber

It is very important to ensure the care and welfare of horses throughout the operation, including maintaining and reporting on horse health and hoof care. There is no requirement to use a horse on a public road

This standard is for those who work with horses to extract and move timber in a forest or woodland environment

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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 maintain the security of the horse(s) and equipment
 - P4 carry out routine checks and maintenance procedures on equipment as per manufacturer's recommendations
 - P5 load horse(s) into transport, care for horse(s) in transit and unload horse from transport
 - P6 prepare the horse(s) for extraction work giving due consideration to horse welfare
 - P7 select, check, prepare and fit suitable harness for wood product extraction
 - P8 handle the horse(s) to maintain control and welfare throughout operations
 - P9 maintain the safety of yourself and others and the welfare of the horse at all times in accordance with current relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation
- K2 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K3 emergency planning and procedures for the site
- K4 the potential impacts of your work on the environment and how these can be minimised when handling, transporting and preparing the horse(s)
- K5 the implications of terrain, ground conditions, season, weather and timber type on handling, transporting and preparing the horse(s)
- K6 the need to carry out checks and maintenance on equipment
- K7 the procedures involved in transporting and preparing horses for extraction work
- K8 how to select, check, prepare and fit various types of harness
- K9 the advantages and disadvantages of the different types of harness (e.g. Scandinavian, trace, plough, cart)
- K10 how to handle horses safely and with regard to their welfare
- K11 how to provide for, and maintain, horse welfare including the provision of rest, food and water
- K12 the capabilities of the horse(s) used, in relation to fitness, temperament, experience, size, weight and the type of extraction equipment used

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