
Overview

This standard is suitable for those who maintain grass surfaces.

You must carry out your work in a way which will minimise any impact on the natural environment and enhance its nature, conservation and recreational value.

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

**Performance
criteria**

You must be able to:

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
- P2 carry out all work in accordance with specifications
- P3 inspect the site to ascertain what work is required
- P4 select, prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work safely and effectively
- P5 clear any debris before commencing operations
- P6 ensure the grass is in an appropriate condition for maintenance
- P7 use methods of dealing with threats to health which are appropriate to the grass and its condition
- P8 maintain the finish of the grass surface according to specifications
- P9 prevent damage to the surrounding area, and keep environmental pollution to a minimum
- P10 deal with grass cuttings and other waste safely and correctly in accordance with specifications
- P11 clean and store tools and equipment appropriately
- P12 ensure that environmental and health and safety policies and risk assessment requirements are put into practice across your area of responsibility

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to assess the site prior to work
- K2 how to interpret risk assessments
- K3 the importance of checking grass surfaces regularly and how this varies according to the type of grass and the intended purpose
- K4 the conditions that are appropriate for cutting grass
- K5 the stage of grass development
- K6 the impact that the seasons and soil condition have on the growth and maintenance of grass surfaces
- K7 methods of maintaining the health of the grass plant
- K8 how to identify pests, disease and damage to grass surfaces and take appropriate action
- K9 types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
- K10 the effects of boxing off and leaving grass cuttings in situ
- K11 how to handle, transport and dispose of waste in accordance with legal and organisational requirements
- K12 the importance of preventing damage to the surrounding area
- K13 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice
- K14 the dangers of undertaking work alongside the public highway and sloping surfaces
- K15 the implications of using equipment and machinery over an extended period of time

Glossary

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines.

Instructions: verbal or written.

Tools and equipment: hand tools, strimmers, pedestrian-controlled mowers, ride on mowers.

Maintaining health: pests, diseases, disorders, unfavourable conditions, competing growth.

Methods of dealing with threats to health: physical, chemical, cultural, irrigation.

Maintain the grass: mowing, strimming, edging, feeding, watering, top dressing, repair.

Developed by Lantra

Version number 3.6

Date Approved March 2012

Indicative review date March 2017

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Lantra

Original URN LANL3

Relevant occupations Gardeners; Groundsmen; Landscape Contractors; Greenkeepers

Suite Horticulture

Keywords turf; surface; strimmer; mow; feeding; grass; slopes
