

-SQA- SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

**Hanover House
24 Douglas Street
GLASGOW G2 7NQ**

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE DESCRIPTOR

-Module Number-	1152150	-Session-	1990-91
-Superclass-	SG		

-Title-	BRASHING/PRUNING USING BRASHING EQUIPMENT (x¹/₂)
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-DESCRIPTION-

Purpose	This module is designed to enable the student to understand the reasons for brashing/pruning in plantations and to provide the basic skills necessary to carry out this task.
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It is aimed at those who wish to develop their abilities at the craft level in the land based sector.

Preferred Entry Level	1152140 Maintenance of Hand Held Tools used in Forestry Work.
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Outcomes	The student should: 1. select and sharpen a brashing/pruning saw. 2. brash/prune a crop using brashing/pruning equipment.
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Assessment Procedures	Acceptable performance in the module will be satisfactory achievement of all the Performance Criteria specified for each Outcome.
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The following abbreviations are used below:

PC Performance Criteria
IA Instrument of Assessment

Note: The Outcomes and PCs are mandatory and cannot be altered. The IA may be altered by arrangement with SQA. (Where a range of performance is indicated, this should be regarded as an extension of the PCs and is therefore mandatory.)

OUTCOME 1 SELECT AND SHARPEN A BRASHING/PRUNING SAW

- PCs
- (a) The selection of equipment is appropriate to the job to be undertaken.
 - (b) The setting of the brashing/pruning saw blade is accurate and appropriate for the job to be undertaken.
 - (c) The sharpening of the brashing/pruning saw blade is in accordance with the relevant FSC guide.

IA Practical Exercise

The student will be set a practical exercise which tests the application of knowledge and skills required to select and sharpen a brashing/pruning saw.

The student will be expected to carry out the following:

- (i) select equipment appropriate to the job;
- (ii) set the brashing/pruning saw blade;
- (iii) sharpen the brashing/pruning saw blade.

The assessment may be carried out with the aid of an observation checklist.

Satisfactory achievement of the Outcome will be based on all the Performance Criteria being met.

OUTCOME 2 BRASH/PRUNE A CROP USING BRASHING/PRUNING EQUIPMENT

- PCs
- (a) The brashing/pruning of a crop is in accordance with the job specification standards.
 - (b) The statement of the reasons for carrying out a brashing/pruning operation is correct.

IA Assignment

The student will be set an assignment to test the application of knowledge and skills required to brash/prune a crop using a brashing/pruning saw. The student will be expected to carry out the following:

- (i) brash/prune a crop according to the job specification;
- (ii) correctly state the reasons for carrying out a brashing/pruning operation.

The practical elements of the Outcome (Performance Criterion (a)) may be assessed with the aid of an observation checklist.

Satisfactory achievement of the Outcome will be based on all the Performance Criteria being met.

**The following sections of the descriptor are offered as guidance.
They are not mandatory.**

CONTENT/CONTEXT

Safety regulations and safe working practices and procedures should be adhered to at all times.

The student should at all times comply with procedure and regulations designed for safe practice and use safe working practices specified for equipment and work areas. FSC9 should be referred to when using saws.

Corresponding to Outcomes 1-2:

1. Type of equipment - loppers, pruners, disc pruners, shears, brashing saws, pick axe handle.

Sharpening of tools.

Effects on performance of loss of sharpness and accumulations of resin, dirt etc.

Sequence of operations in preparing saw for efficient use.

2. Relationship between knots and timber quality.

Advantages of easier access.

Economic significance of specification.

SUGGESTED LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES

The student should follow an activity-based learning approach.

The student should work to a clearly defined brief and be made fully aware of the financial significance of straying outwith the limitations prescribed.

Sharpening should first be demonstrated and subsequently practised until proficiency is achieved.

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