

LANTw12

Ameliorate soil for tree health



Overview

This standard is about ameliorating soil under trees to maintain tree health. This may involve single trees or groups of trees and may take place in urban or rural conditions. Soil amelioration is particularly important on sites that suffer from compaction, erosion and for amenity value trees

Amelioration is maintaining and improving the quality of the soil

This standard is for those involved in improving and maintaining tree health

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and proposed works
- P2 assess soil conditions to determine and recommend suitable amelioration techniques
- P3 advise appropriate person as to the likely outcome of amelioration techniques
- P4 select, prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
- P5 maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
- P6 carry out agreed site amelioration
- P7 recommend suitable aftercare to prevent the soil condition re-occurring in the future
- 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 how to identify the signs and symptoms in the tree and/or the soil that would suggest the need for soil amelioration
- K4 **methods** of soil amelioration and when each would be appropriate
- K5 the physiological problems of the tree and what the proposed treatment will achieve
- K6 the importance of providing accurate advice
- K7 the implications of seasonal and ground conditions for your work
- K8 the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
- K9 why it is important to maintain safety and security of equipment and vehicles when on site
- K10 your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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Scope related to knowledge and understanding

Soil amelioration **methods**:

- 1 mulching
- 2 feeding
- 3 top dressing
- 4 pneumatic decompaction
- 5 mycorrhizal injection

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Suite Treework; horticulture

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