

Overview

This standard is about the preparation of sites for planting.

Preparation methods cover manual, pedestrian-controlled, tractor-mounted equipment and plant and are suitable for all workers involved in preparing sites for planting.

When working with machinery or chemicals you need to be appropriately trained, and hold current certification where required, in line with relevant legislation.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. carry out an environmental assessment of the site before starting work
3. select and implement appropriate working methods in accordance with the assessed risks
4. select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
5. select, prepare and use appropriate tools and equipment, safely and effectively
6. confirm all equipment has been checked and is fit for purpose
7. select the appropriate preparation methods in line with the specifications and the site
8. prepare the site for planting in line with the specifications, taking into account the relevant conditions on the site
9. make effective use of the available resources
10. remove all waste and surplus materials and dispose of them as specified
11. maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
12. follow organisational and industry environmental good practice and minimise environmental damage
13. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with relevant legislation

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
5. the legal requirements for checking equipment
6. why it is important to maintain the safety and security of equipment and vehicles when on site
7. the importance of carrying out an environmental assessment of the site before starting work and the findings that must be reported
8. emergency planning and procedures relevant to the site
9. the different methods of preparing sites for planting
10. how to interpret specifications and select appropriate preparation methods
11. the effects of site conditions on the selection of cultivation methods
12. how to deal with any underground, surface and overhead obstructions
13. the correct methods of disposing of surplus materials and/or waste
14. the potential impact your work has on the environment and how this can be minimised
15. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Methods – use one of the following:

- cultivate by hand
- cultivate by machine

Glossary

Relevant conditions – e.g. weather, ground conditions

Sites could include:

- greenfield
- designated
- urban derelict
- reclaimed land
- existing
- protected

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