

Overview

This standard is about processing coppice materials and green wood products. It covers sourcing, assessing the quality of timber and processing the raw materials to meet specifications.

It includes the process of selecting round wood, preparing the wood using the appropriate methods and creating round wood products, or parts of products, once the round wood has been brought to a workable condition.

It covers:

- following specifications
- identifying the quality of timber required for the project
- locating and obtaining round wood for the project
- assembling the appropriate tools and equipment.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and implement appropriate working methods, in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. select, prepare and use the appropriate tools and equipment, safely and effectively
5. confirm all equipment has been checked and is fit for purpose
6. agree the specification for the green wood products
7. plan a work schedule to maximise coppice material usage and minimise waste
8. recognise, select and prepare timber for green wood products
9. assess the quality of timber for its suitability for the green wood product
10. process coppice materials into green wood products, using the appropriate processes
11. assemble green wood products to meet the specification
12. form and present green wood products so that they meet the specification
13. check that the green wood products meet their specifications
14. 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 in line with the manufacturer's recommendations
5. the legal requirements for checking equipment
6. how to interpret the specifications to identify and cost all elements for a job
7. the properties of, main uses for and products that can be made from primary coppice species
8. how to recognise which are the most appropriate woods to use and the main reasons for that choice
9. the seasonality of coppice materials and how this can affect the availability and durability of products
10. the methods used to prolong the workable life of seasonal coppice materials
11. how to assess the quality of the coppice materials
12. the appropriate hand tools used to shape the wood
13. the different processes and equipment used to shape the wood
14. the essential characteristics of coppice products, bearing in mind the specifications
15. the different properties and uses of different woodland tree species
16. how to assess timber for suitability for a green wood product
17. how to match the qualities of the materials to the products
18. how to work different types of split wood
19. how to form and finish basic products or parts of products
20. your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

Scope/range

Assess timber for the following:

- rate of growth
- grain structure and continuity
- presence of knots
- fungal attack
- insect attack
- degree of seasoning
- age
- rots, splits and shanks

Appropriate processes to include:

- splitting, cleaving, riving
- sawing
- axing, chopping
- draw knifing
- peeling.

Wood from the following :

- hazel
- oak
- ash
- willow
- sycamore
- birch
- beech
- chestnut

Scope/range related to knowledge and understanding

Elements including:

- estimate the amount of materials required
- the rate of uptake
- avoid over-/under-stocking

Glossary

Work schedule can be either verbal or written

Process coppice materials and green wood products

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