

Produce wood fuel products in a woodland or forest

Overview

This standard is about producing wood fuel products in a woodland or forest for the domestic market. It covers identifying wood fuel species, preparing and processing timber and preparing a wood fuel product, taking into account the moisture content, timber density, and market requirements.

When working with machinery 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. select and implement the appropriate working methods, in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. identify the suitable wood fuel species from the woodland or forest to meet the agreed specifications for the wood fuel product
5. select the appropriate tools and equipment to produce the wood fuel product
6. cut wood to meet the specifications for the wood fuel product
7. prepare timber and process it to produce the wood fuel product
8. stack wood fuel products safely for seasoning
9. store wood fuel products according to the production method
10. ensure wood fuel products meet the market requirements
11. carry out work in a way that minimises environmental damage
12. remove all waste and surplus materials and dispose of them as specified
13. ensure the site is left in a condition which meets environmental requirements, in accordance with the specification
14. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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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 different wood fuel markets and the range of products
5. the burning and processing qualities of different woodland or forest tree species
6. the storage methods appropriate for different wood fuel products
7. the equipment required and production methods for different wood fuel products
8. the significance of the moisture content on the quality of the wood fuel product
9. how seasonality can affect the moisture content of different species and the production of wood fuel products
10. how storage can affect the moisture content
11. the wood burning process
12. the effect the raw material will have on particle size and ash content
13. the relevance of seasoning timber and the level required for different wood fuel products
14. the quality standards relevant to the wood fuel product
15. the potential impact of your work on the environment and how this can be minimised
16. the correct methods of disposing of surplus materials and/or waste
17. your responsibilities under relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Produce the following wood fuel products:

- kindling
- split logs
- wood chip
- faggots

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