



ATM-RISK ASSESSMENT

TASK:	Use of the Harvester	RA No:	ATMRA2020/056				
EQUIPMENT / MATERIALS USED	<p>The Harvester is a 4-6 wheeled or tracked excavator type vehicle, that is used to fell and cross cut trees. The vehicle has a hydraulic loader on which a harvester head is mounted. The head consists of a chain saw, knives, feed rollers and a measuring device. The machine is operated via a computer system, from within the vehicle cab.</p> <p>All aspects of this type of work are to be planned prior to any work commencing. This planning will include establishing and designating individual roles and responsibilities for any person involved in the task or operation of this equipment. Planning will include establishing and maintaining channels of communication between operators and any other involved in tasks associated with this equipment. During the planning stage, any other risks that may be associated with the work, should be identified and suitable control measures, should be put in place. Any emergency procedures in place should be communicated to all members of staff or personnel involved in any harvesting operations.</p>						
PERSONS AT RISK:	<p>OPERATOR, PERSONS IN THE VICINITY, OTHER EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, VISITORS, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.</p> <p>(All operatives or teams of operatives are to ensure that the daily on-site risk assessment is completed prior to commencing any work on site.)</p>						
HAZARD / RISK	RISK LEVEL			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK		
	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Moving Vehicles/Plant	5	3	15	<p>All operators will be issued with a copy of the AFAG worksheet 603 entitled Mechanical Harvesting.</p> <p>This leaflet covers the use of an excavator conversion or purpose built harvester for felling and processing trees in forestry and other tree work.</p> <p>Drivers are to ensure that all warning lights and alarms are in full working order prior to operating the vehicle.</p>	5	2	10
				<p>The vehicle is not to be driven if the drivers vision is obscured.</p> <p>If for any reason the driver is required to leave the cab. The machine is to be switched off and has stopped operating fully before he leaves his cab. He is to ensure that when he leaves the cab that he is wearing ATM's standard issue PPE.</p> <p>Drivers are to ensure that where any equipment defect is discovered, that the work stops and the defect is reported immediately.</p>			

ATMRA2020/056	Original Author:	Rob Whamond	Date:	01-06-2021
	Reviewed By :	Dale Nelson	Next Review Date:	01-06-2022
Use the table below to calculate the severity and likelihood. (Severity X Likelihood = RISK)		Use the table below to indicate whether the Residual Risk Rating is:		
Severity of Outcome; 5 Fatality / Loss of Limb. 4 Serious Injury. 3 Moderate. 2 Minor Injuries. 1 Negligible. Likelihood of Harm; 5 Almost Certain , 4 Very Likely , 3 Fair Chance , 2 Remote, 1 Very Unlikely.		1 – 6 = Low Risk		Page 1 of 4
		7 – 11 = Medium Risk		
		12+ = High Risk		



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HAZARD / RISK	RISK LEVEL			CONTROL MEASURES	RESIDUAL RISK		
	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Contact with Overhead Powerlines	5	3	15	<p>Drivers are not to operate the loader if any part of the machine or it's load can come within one tree length + the vicinity zone of any energised overhead cables. (A minimum of 15m).</p> <p>The loader is not to be operated if any part of the equipment comes within 1 tree length plus the designated vicinity zone established around any energised overhead cable. The vicinity zone will vary depending on line voltage.</p> <p>Safe working distances from energised cables are to be clearly marked, along with any safe transport/exit routes, within the vicinity.</p> <p>Any felling near to power lines is to be carried out parallel too or away from the energised cables.</p>	5	1	5
Loss of Load	5	2	10	<p>The SWL of the machinery is to be marked on the equipment and is not to be exceeded during any harvesting operations. Any harvesting related lifting equipment, is to have had an in-date full test and thorough inspection, in accordance with LOLER 98</p> <p>Where the loss of any load occurs, the driver must cease operations and ensure that the equipment is in safe operating condition, prior to recommencing with his work.</p> <p>Drivers are to ensure that the vehicle is correctly braked during felling operations. This is to prevent any unexpected movement of the vehicle.</p> <p>Daily checks are to be carried out on the cutting head in order to check for excessive wear and to ensure that all parts of the cutting equipment are correctly aligned.</p>	2	1	2
Injury During Repair of the Machine	4	3	12	<p>The vehicle should be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. A record of such maintenance should be maintained and made available on request.</p> <p>Only trained and authorised persons are permitted to attempt any repair or maintenance on this piece of machinery.</p> <p>No maintenance is to be carried out whilst the machine is running. The machine should be switched off, prior to any maintenance being carried out. No maintenance is to be carried out beneath any suspended piece of equipment.</p>	4	2	8

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	S	L	RL		S	L	RL
Falling Trees	5	3	15	<p>Felling is not to take place where wind conditions could alter the felling direction.</p> <p>Do not fell trees with the chainsaw facing the cab.</p> <p>Do not point the chainsaw towards any person within 200mtrs of the machine.</p> <p>Do not fell or process trees likely to overload the machine</p> <p>Ensure that work stops as soon as any person or other machine enters the exclusion zone.</p>	5	1	5
Risk of Fire during re-fuelling operations Burns, serious injury, fatality	5	3	15	See ATMRA2020/89 Re-fuelling of equipment.	5	1	5
Collision with unauthorised persons	5	3	15	<p>An exclusion zone of should be in place, prior to the operation of this machine in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions or any vehicle markings. As a general rule this will be set at (20 -30 Metres) for operatives and 100 metres for members of the public.</p> <p>If no physical barrier such as fence exists, in order to ensure that safe distances are maintained at all times, a competent banksman is to be employed in order to prevent access to danger areas, by members of the public.</p> <p>If working next to public footpaths, roads or tracks operators are to ensure that any affected areas are subject to a temporary closure, a banksman or vehicle marshal is provided and where necessary, an alternative route or diversion has been provided.</p> <p>Provision for the above controls should be made during the planning phase of the work.</p> <p>Where any person enters the set exclusion zone, work is to cease immediately.</p>	5	2	10

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Hydraulic Pressure	2	2	8	All vehicle checks are to be made prior to use, in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. A record of these checks should be maintained.	2	1	4
Overturning of Vehicle	5	3	15	Any operator of this machinery is to hold a recognised certificate of competence. No unauthorised person is to operate this machine at any time Drivers are to avoid driving over felled trees and other timber. Drivers are to avoid turn up steep slopes in order to prevent rolling over. If required to work on a slope. Drivers are to ensure that they park straight up and down the slope. Drivers are to ensure that the wheels of the vehicle are suitably chocked when required to park or work on a slope.	5	2	10
Ejection of Materials	5	3	15	Operators and all other persons involved in harvesting tasks, are to be aware of the possibility of debris being thrown during the use of this machine. Head and eye protection must be worn. Non essential personnel should be kept away from the danger zone. Operatives should carry out an initial inspection of the work area, as part of the on- site risk assessment, prior to any mowing tasks commencing.	5	1	5
Falls From the Vehicles	4	3	12	Drivers are to make use of all steps and hand holds when accessing and alighting from their vehicle	4	2	8

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