



Australian Government

FWPHAR3226 Operate feller buncher

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 3.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to operate a feller buncher for log production and use optimised production processes in a commercial forest harvesting environment. The main job functions are to fell trees and pre-bunch stems for further processing. Activities are to be conducted safely and to ensure optimal harvesting production.

The unit applies to individuals who work as feller buncher operators in small or larger harvesting crews. Operators generally work under broad direction to complete routine activities related to harvesting operations and take responsibility for their work.

No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Competency Field

Nil

Unit Sector

Harvesting (HAR)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Plan and prepare to operate a feller buncher	1.1 Review production plan, confirm its targets for felling and processing and assess wood flow requirements to ensure efficient machine operation and overall productivity 1.2 Confirm, identify and report health, safety, environmental and heritage risks of operation in line with standard operating procedures

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	and site safety and environmental management plans 1.3 Apply risk control measures in line with standard operating procedures, site operational plan, legislative requirements and industry standards to eliminate or minimise risks 1.4 Identify emergency plan procedures to follow in the event of an emergency 1.5 Use production plans to identify entry points to the coupe, access to trees, extraction routes and directions to landings to facilitate an efficient process and minimise interference with other forestry operations 1.6 Check work area to ensure there is appropriate space to safely manoeuvre both the machine and stems 1.7 Identify cutting sequence and felling directions to minimise damage to the trees and the surrounding environment in line with the production plan 1.8 Carry out pre-operational checks on machine and cutting head attachment in line with workplace procedures or manufacturers' recommendations to ensure optimal production performance and operational effectiveness
2. Operate feller buncher	2.1 Use industry-accepted warning signs, vehicle-to-vehicle communication systems and procedures to maintain communication and workplace safety during operation 2.2 Assess individual trees to determine the best machine position, fall direction, hazards, placement of cuts and tree quality grade 2.3 Drive and position the machine and felling head in response to tree characteristics and terrain conditions to ensure stability 2.4 Use cabin controls to clamp and cut stems in line with cutting instructions and/or production plan and value recovery requirements 2.5 Adjust clamping and cutting techniques in response to unexpected characteristics, movement or condition of tree 2.6 Use controlled manipulation of equipment to free tree hang ups while ensuring safety and minimising damage to the trees, the machine and the environment 2.7 Place stems at pre-bunching site and ensure minimal damage to stems and surrounding environment 2.8 Move machine over pre-arranged routes to eliminate or minimise

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	environmental impact
3. Segregate and stack stems	3.1 Visually assess stems for size species and quality characteristics during stacking at the pre-bunching site to ensure they are placed in the appropriate stack for transport and further processing in line with the production plan requirements 3.2 Position and pre-bunch stems to avoid stem damage, provide stability, restrict height for efficient extraction and allow space for the conduct of other operations in line with worksite layout and production plan requirements 3.3 Maintain stack separation and identification to ensure products are presented for optimum transport and logistics cycle time in line with industry standards and production plan requirements
4 Carry out machine operator maintenance	4.1 Park, shut-down, de-energise and isolate feller buncher in line with workplace procedures or manufacturers' recommendations 4.2 Clean, check and carry out routine maintenance tasks on feller buncher to maintain optimum performance 4.3 Inspect the machine and cutting head attachment for signs of damage and report faults, malfunctions or problems in line with workplace procedures and manufacturers' recommendations 4.4 Clean work area and dispose of or recycle waste materials in line with site environmental management plan 4.5 Record feller buncher operations and maintenance activities

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	- read production plans, site safety and environmental management plans in a forest harvesting environment - read standard operating procedures and/or manufacturers' instructions for the operation of forest harvesting machinery
Writing	record operation, production and machine maintenance on paper

Skill	Description
	based or electronic media
Oral Communication	- interact verbally and non-verbally using agreed systems and processes to communicate with others on site to ensure safe and effective machine operations - use appropriate vocabulary including technical language directly relevant to role
Numeracy	interpret gauges relevant to safe operation of harvesting machinery
Navigate the world of work	understand main tasks, responsibilities and boundaries of own role
Interact with others	- use modes of communication suitable to purpose to confirm and clarify understanding - communicate and report operational and safety information to on-site personnel
Get the work done	- recognise and respond to routine problems - plan and organise own work activities and resources

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
FWPHAR3226 Operate feller buncher	FWPHAR3207 Conduct feller buncher operations	Significant changes to reflect industry requirements for a safe appropriate and efficient operation, including value recovery and product quality. A new element and new PCs were added, most PCs were edited and PE and KE increased in content to map against the revised PCs. Additional foundation skills identified. Code and title change for consistency with other machine	No equivalent unit

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
		operation units.	

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47>