



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCARB206 Operate and maintain stump grinding machines

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Performance Evidence

The candidate must be observed removing stumps using a motorised stump grinder using low-risk work procedures. The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence for and demonstrate:

- determining site location and details and clarifying with supervisor
- determining the depth below ground of stump grinding works
- determining and confirm location and depth of above-and-below-ground services
- unload stump grinder machine
- undertaking a site-specific risk assessment by identifying work health and safety hazards and assessing risk
- checking maintenance log complete and up to date
- checking belts appropriately tensioned and in good order
- checking teeth are sharp
- checking no teeth are missing or loose
- checking tyre pressure is correct or tracks are appropriately tensioned
- checking levels of oils and fluids
- checking hoses
- checking brakes are operational
- checking cutter head rotates freely and is not obstructed
- checking guards for belt, power take-off (PTO) and grinder head are in place
- checking kill switch clearly identifiable and working
- checking that dead-man is working if fitted
- checking debris curtain present and in good order
- checking dust suppression system is working if fitted
- selecting and use appropriate personal protective equipment
- confirming first aid and emergency personnel, equipment and procedures
- exposing stump surrounds manually and check for and remove foreign bodies
- moistening surrounds as required

- recording and implementing work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control measures
- determining exclusion zone for work operations
- isolating exclusion zone with barriers and signs
- positioning machine level within recommended ranges to avoid rollover
- avoiding holes with machine wheels
- positioning machine to minimise impact from flying debris
- positioning operator in low risk position
- positioning operator to provide a clear view of the stump
- locating safety screens as required
- communicating with work team during operations using voice, hand and whistle signals
- confirming work zone cleared prior to starting cutter head
- planning to complete a series of passes across the stump
- starting cutter head
- stopping work if exclusion zone is breached and disengage cutter head if required
- positioning cutter head over stump
- engaging cutter head into stump surface
- maintaining engine speed in revolutions-per-minute (rpm)
- ensuring grinding process is accurate, smooth and ergonomic
- grinding stump to recommended depth of cut on each cutting pass
- ensuring the cut size of each pass is not excessively deep causing the machine to labour excessively or to stall
- grinding stump to predetermined spread and depth
- operating equipment without damaging underground services and surrounding areas
- repositioning machine away from ground stump
- disengaging cutter head if risk of making unwanted contact
- waiting and remaining clear of cutter head until cutter head stops moving
- removing build-up of grindings
- making check in calls at prearranged times
- inspecting grinder as required between stumps and when refueling
- shutting down immediately if abnormal vibration and/or noise develops
- stopping the engine before refueling and allow engine to cool as required
- following safe work method statement instructions for refueling
- replacing and securing fuel cap before restarting
- disengaging cutter head and ensure a complete stop before moving to a new stump
- back-filling stump hole to original ground level
- maintaining clean and safe work area throughout work and upon completion
- collecting waste material and dispose of or recycle in a manner causing minimal environmental damage
- cleaning, maintaining and storing tools and equipment
- performing basic maintenance, including sharpening grinder and replacing teeth as required
- loading grinder in accordance with safe work method statement

- securing grinder for transport
- updating records of operator usage in log record
- updating records of maintenance and replacement items.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- site hazard identification methods
- site risk assessment systems
- control measures for work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control
- personal protective equipment
- communication systems using voice, hand and whistle signals
- first aid
- emergency procedures
- methods of locating services
- pre-operational checks of stump grinders including:
 - logs
 - belts
 - teeth
 - tyre pressure
 - oils and fluids
 - hoses
 - brakes
 - cutter head
 - guards
- safety checks of stump grinders including:
 - guards for belt, power take-off (PTO) and grinder head
 - kill switch
 - dead man
 - debris curtain
 - dust suppression
- exclusion zones
- operation of stump grinders
- cutter head engagement and disengagement
- positioning of stump grinders and operator
- work zone
- methods of determining spread and depth of cut
- recommended depths of cut
- cutting plan
- engine speed (rpm)
- abnormal vibration

- methods of back-filling
- environmental implications of removal activities
- appropriate methods of collecting waste material and disposal or recycling methods
- basic maintenance of stump grinders
- methods of sharpening stump grinders
- methods of teeth replacement of stump grinders
- records of operator usage in log record
- methods of maintaining records for basic maintenance and replacement items.

Assessment Conditions

It is an industry requirement for competency in this unit that assessment includes a log record, verifying ten (10) hours of operating a stump grinder, and five (5) hours of unloading and loading, setup and pre-operational and safety checks, preparatory work, backfilling and cleaning up, sharpening and basic maintenance, performed by the candidate.

Assessment must be demonstrated consistently over time in a suitable range of contexts and have a productivity-based outcome. No single assessment event or report is sufficient to achieve competency in this unit.

Assessment may be conducted in a simulated or real work environment, however determination of competency requires the application of work practices under work conditions.

The mandatory equipment and materials used to gather evidence for assessment include:

- equipment:
 - stump grinder
 - sharpening equipment
 - refuelling kit
 - spill kit
 - emergency communication system
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - first aid and emergency kit
 - traffic management kit
 - signage – work zone
 - tree stumps
- materials:
 - stump grinder operations form
 - hazard identification and risk control form
 - pre-operational and safety check form
 - emergency preparation form
 - work communications form
 - work records form

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs in the assessment of arboriculture units of competency.

Assessment must be conducted only by persons who have:

- arboriculture vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed
- current arboriculture industry skills directly relevant to the unit of competency being assessed

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>