



Australian Government

FWPHAR2208 Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher

Release: 1

FWPHAR2208 Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with FWP Forest and Wood Products Training Package Version 6.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to operate a hand-fed or machine-fed mobile chipping or mulching unit to chip or mulch timber refuse such as branches and other timber waste.

The unit applies to individuals who operate mobile chippers/mulchers as part of arboriculture, forestry, agriculture, conservation and land management, local government, emergency services and other government agency operations.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Harvesting and Haulage (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. Prepare for chipping or mulching	1.1 Determine job requirements from work order or instruction and, where required, seek clarification from appropriate personnel 1.2 Confirm safety and environmental protection requirements for the task according to workplace 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>
	1.3 Identify, assess and take actions to mitigate risks and hazards associated with operating mobile chippers/mulchers 1.4 Identify type and quantity of material to be chipped or mulched 1.5 Plan chipping/mulching activities according to work order or instruction and environmental conditions 1.6 Consult and maintain communication with team members and other appropriate personnel to ensure that work is coordinated effectively with others in the workplace 1.7 Select, fit and use personal protective equipment 1.8 Obtain tools and equipment needed for the work, and check for correct operation and safety
2. Chip or mulch material	2.1 Reject material assessed as unsuitable for chipping or mulching, and dispose of or recycle according to workplace and environmental protection practices 2.2 Use equipment according to workplace safety procedures, manufacturer instructions and environmental protection requirements 2.3 Position, secure and set up chipping and mulching unit according to manufacturer specifications and required size 2.4 Direct material into chipper or mulcher at rate applicable to machine capacity using safe methods for loading and feeding 2.5 Respond to critical situations requiring emergency shutdown to prevent personal injury or damage to machine or product 2.6 Direct chipped or mulched material onto stock pile or transport vehicle if required
3. Complete operator maintenance	3.1 Follow workplace safety procedures and manufacturer instructions to lock out equipment 3.2 Complete operational safety checks according to manufacturer recommendations 3.3 Check cutters for wear and damage as required or at intervals recommended by manufacturer 3.4 Check and replenish fuel and lubricants according to manufacturer recommendations 3.5 Clean and store chipper/mulcher 3.6 Record and report production outcomes and equipment faults to appropriate personnel

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	Interpret workplace documentation to determine requirements
Writing	Use technical and workplace specific vocabulary to accurately and legibly complete workplace records and forms
Oral communication	Ask questions and actively listen to clarify contents of work orders
Numeracy	- Identify quantities of required material within work orders - Interpret basic numerical machine settings, and choose according to chip size - Complete routine production records involving quantities tallied against orders

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
FWPHAR2208 Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher	FWPHAR2206 Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher	Clarified Application Updated and added new Performance Criteria Re-titled Element Added new knowledge items Updated Foundation Skills, Performance Evidence and Assessment Conditions	Equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47>

Assessment Requirements for FWPHAR2208 Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- assessed, planned and conducted the chipping or mulching of two different species of material
- followed workplace policy and procedures and current workplace health and safety legislation, regulations and related industry standards and codes of practice applicable to wood chipping or mulching operations
- inspected and carried out routine operator maintenance on one mobile chipper/mulcher on one occasion according to manufacturer requirements.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- environmental protection practices related to wood chipping or mulching operations:
 - energy use
 - cleaning plant, tools and equipment
 - disposing of, recycling and reusing waste products
- types of material suitable and unsuitable for chipping and mulching
- types, purpose, features and operation of mobile chipping and mulching units
- capacity of chippers and mulchers to cope with differing sizes and diameters of branch
- feed rates at which material is fed into chippers and mulchers to optimise output without damaging or blocking machinery
- feeding techniques to minimise operator exposure to injury
- techniques for loading chipped/mulched material into truck or transport vehicle
- criteria and methods for checking cutting blade condition

- operator maintenance procedures for fuelling, safety checks, cleaning, lubricating, operational adjustments and cutter inspection for wear or damage, replacement and disposal
- common hazards associated with chipping and mulching operations and methods to minimise associated risks
- workplace procedures specific to chipping and mulching:
 - workplace health and safety, with particular emphasis on equipment lock-out, use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and safe manual handling
 - communication reporting lines
 - recording and reporting production outcomes and equipment faults.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - competency is to be assessed in the workplace or a simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - mobile chipper or mulcher
 - truck or transport vehicle suitable for transporting chipped/mulched material if required by site requirements
 - material to chip or mulch
 - PPE required in chipping and mulching operations
 - communication system
- specifications:
 - access to workplace safety and environmental protection policies and procedures applicable to chipping or mulching operations
 - access to workplace standard operating procedures or operator manual for mobile chippers or mulchers.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=0d96fe23-5747-4c01-9d6f-3509ff8d3d47>