

## SAFE WORK PROCEDURES CHIPPER



### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Only those persons who have been trained in the safe use of and who are authorised to do so are to operate a chipper.
2. These procedures must be read in conjunction with the manufacturer's operating manual, and specific safety procedures for the machine must be observed.

**IMPORTANT: THESE MACHINES CAN CAUSE FATAL INJURIES. ALWAYS OBSERVE ALL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS WHEN USING CHIPPERS.**

Sequence	Identified hazards	Key processes to be followed	Precautions / PPE required
1. General precautions	<p>Unauthorised access</p> <p>Flying objects</p> <p>Noise</p> <p>Over-exertion/strain injury</p> <p>Falling objects</p> <p>Slips, trips and falls</p>	<p>Provide means of preventing unauthorised access into area where machine is to be used. Keep children and animals away from work areas.</p> <p>Do not allow any person to work or stand where they may be struck by chips and debris from the discharge chute.</p> <p>Harmful noise levels may be present when chipping logs and branches.</p> <p>Ensure that pieces to be chipped can be easily handled by one person.</p> <p>Provide assistance when larger diameter pieces are to be chipped.</p> <p>Suitable footwear must be worn when setting up and using machinery.</p> <p>Keep area around machine clear of branches, twigs, leaves and rubbish.</p>	<p>Prevent unauthorised access.</p> <p>Provide suitable barricading.</p> <p>Keep clear of discharge chute.</p> <p>Wear <b>eye protection</b>.</p> <p>Wear <b>hearing protection</b>.</p> <p>Observe correct lifting practices.</p> <p>Wear <b>head protection</b> where risk of falling or flying objects exists.</p> <p>Wear <b>foot protection</b>.</p>
2. Specific precautions	<p>Unskilled operation</p> <p>Entanglement</p> <p>Moving parts</p>	<p>Persons must be instructed in the correct and safe use of the particular machine before being allowed to operate.</p> <p>Do not wear loose items of clothing or jewellery, and contain long hair.</p> <p>Ensure that clothing, gloves, etc., is of a type that will not become snagged.</p> <p>Ensure that all guards are correctly fitted before operating chipper.</p> <p>Ensure operator cannot contact nip-point of in-feed rollers or other moving parts.</p> <p>Ensure that hazard zones of machine are clearly marked and labelled.</p> <p>Check operation of all safety devices and controls before operating chipper.</p>	<p>Document all operator training.</p> <p>Provide regular refresher training.</p> <p>Wear close fitting clothing; keep shirts and sleeves buttoned. Wear <b>high visibility clothing</b>.</p> <p><b>Do not use without all guards.</b></p> <p><b>Identify all hazardous parts.</b></p> <p><b>Do not use machine if faulty.</b></p>
3. Setting up	<p>Movement of machine</p> <p>Moving parts</p> <p>Slips, trips and falls</p>	<p>1. Machine attached to vehicle – ensure that vehicle park brake is engaged and wheels are chocked to prevent movement.</p> <p>Provide additional support under tow bar to relieve weight on tongue.</p> <p>2. Machine detached from vehicle – chock wheels securely to prevent movement of chipper while operating.</p> <p>Ensure that towbar is secured to ground stand – <b>do not use jack or jockey wheel</b>.</p> <p>Check for correct operation of all safety devices and controls.</p> <p>Ensure that sufficient space is available for persons to safely feed material to be chipped into the feed chute from a safe position.</p>	<p>Set up machine on level surface wherever possible.</p> <p>Ensure that delivery chute is directed into receiving area.</p> <p>Ensure that stand or support is securely attached to the chipper.</p> <p>Check control bar operation.</p> <p>Ensure that sufficient space is available to stack material.</p>
4. Operation – specific precautions	<p>Moving parts</p> <p>Moving or flying objects</p>	<p>Rotating feed roller and cutter drum can cause death or serious injury.</p> <p>Do not place any part of the body in or near feed rollers or cutter drum.</p> <p>Ensure that a second person is available to oversee and supervise operations and activate safety controls if necessary.</p> <p>Ensure material being fed is free of metallic objects, stones, wire, etc.</p>	<p>Do not climb on feed table.</p> <p>Do not remove feed table.</p> <p><b>Never operate chipper alone</b> – always have assistance on-hand.</p>

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5. Operation (feeding)	Moving objects	Feed material into machine from side position away from the front of the in-feed chute, and move away from feed line when feed rollers engage. Keep clear of branches whipping while feeding through feed rollers. Stay clear of discharge chute while cutter disc or drum is turning.	Feed the butt end of branches into the mulcher in-feed rollers first. Wear PPE – <b>eye, hearing, hand, foot and head protection.</b>
6. Clearing jams (Always refer to operators manual and follow specific instructions when working on chipper).	Moving objects  Moving parts	Check branches before feeding to ensure that they will pass through chipper. Avoid feeding fibrous material (palm fronds, etc.) into chipper. Reverse feed control to withdraw jammed material from rollers. <b>Place feed control bar in neutral and stop engine before working on or near feed roller bar for any reason, including cleaning or unlogging feed intake.</b> Stop engine before opening access doors or removing jammed material. Replace and lock all access doors and covers before restarting engine.	Do not feed over-sized material into machine. <b>Do not try to pull material out while chipperer is operating.</b> Wear <b>cut-resistant gloves</b> when handling rough or sharp objects. Keep well clear of cutter knives.
7. Winch operation (if fitted)	Failure of winch line	Do not overload winch line – cut material into shorter lengths to reduce weight. Use synthetic or fibre rope sling around branch or butt being winched. Stop feed rollers to remove winch cable from material before chipping.	Stand clear of line of cable under load. Avoid winch cable or rope being drawn into cutter drum.
8. Emergency shut down	Injury to persons or damage to machine	Provide remote emergency shut-off devices such as lanyards, tag-lines, foot-controlled mechanisms or emergency stop button for activating or de-activating the in-feed rollers. Either a red emergency stop device at the machine work station or actuation of controls shall require continuous depression during the hazardous portion of the work cycle where the machine work station is remote from controls. <b>A second person must be in position to operate the in-feed control bar during mulching operations if none of the above devices are fitted or available.</b>	Emergency stop devices should be immediately accessible to operator in an emergency, and must be tested and verified to be functioning before each time that the machine is used. <b>Assistant must remain at machine at all times when chipper is in operation.</b>
9. Cleaning and maintenance	Moving parts Sharp/rough edges	Always shut down engine and lock cutter drum before working on machine. Avoid contact with edges of cutters and fan blades. Use implement where possible to clear debris and rubbish from machine. Ensure that all guards are refitted and bolts, screws and latches secured before use. Inspect machine and verify as fit for use before returning to service.	Remove key to ensure that engine cannot be started. <b>Wear eye and hand protection.</b>

### PRECAUTIONS:

The following precautions are to be observed in areas where these procedures are carried out.

