

Overview

This standard is for those who harvest crops by hand.

Harvesting methods will depend on the type of crop involved and the customer or market requirements.

You will be working in accordance with instructions and specifications.

You must carry out your work in a way which will minimise the impact on the natural environment.

When working with machinery or equipment you should be trained and hold relevant certification where required.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. be aware of hazards associated with the harvesting of crops by hand
2. wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE)
3. prepare, use, maintain and store equipment when harvesting crops by hand safely and correctly
4. handle the harvested crop in a manner which maintains quality and minimises damage to the crop
5. take corrective action where problems arise during harvesting
6. maintain suitable levels of hygiene and biosecurity during harvesting by hand
7. complete harvesting of crops by hand in accordance with specifications
8. dispose of waste safely and correctly in accordance with specifications
9. complete records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation
10. carry out your work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and organisational policies

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. hazards associated with the harvesting of crops by hand
2. the types of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
3. the equipment which is needed to carry out the harvesting of crops by hand
4. how to prepare, use and maintain equipment when harvesting crops safely and correctly
5. the stages of plant development
6. the importance of carrying out the harvesting of crops by hand in accordance with specifications
7. how to recognise crops which do not meet specifications
8. how to carry out the harvesting of crops by hand
9. methods of maintaining the quality of the crop during harvesting
10. why it is important to maintain suitable levels of hygiene and biosecurity during harvesting of crops by hand and the methods for achieving this
11. problems that may arise during harvesting of crops by hand and the action to take
12. the methods for the recycling or disposal of waste created by the harvesting process
13. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them
14. the importance of following relevant environmental and ecological best practice to help minimise the impact of your work on the environment
15. your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational policies

Scope/range

A. deal with the following problems during harvesting of crops by hand:

1. access
2. equipment
3. staffing
4. adverse weather conditions
5. soil conditions

Glossary

Instructions: verbal or written.

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines, organisational policies.

Harvest crops by hand

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