

Overview

This standard is for those who identify, collect and prepare plants for sale or dispatch. It applies to the manual or mechanical collection or lifting of plants for orders. This could include the collection of plants for intermediate storage and preparation for dispatch or sale. The types of preparation activities will depend on the enterprise within which you are working.

Plants may be in containers or pots, for example, bedding plants, shrubs or house plants. They may also be plants which have been grown in the ground, such as open ground trees, shrubs or roses.

The collection of plants for sale or dispatch is mainly appropriate to ornamental nurseries producing house plants, bedding plants and hardy ornamental nursery stock (trees, shrubs, herbaceous and alpine plants).

You will have significant personal responsibility in carrying out these activities, however, you will not be involved in planning or supervising the collection and preparation of plants, as this is covered within LANH55.

When working with machinery or equipment you should be trained and hold certification in accordance with relevant legislation.

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

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. prepare, use and maintain equipment for the identification, collection and preparation of plants for sale or dispatch safely and correctly
2. wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PEE)
3. identify the plants that are to be collected correctly and check their condition against specifications
4. handle and transport plants in a manner to maintain quality and minimise damage
5. identify any problems that may arise during the collection of plants and take the appropriate action
6. check that the collection of the plants takes place within the required timescales and in accordance with specifications
7. prepare and maintain the plants for sale or dispatch correctly
8. identify and replace plants that do not meet specifications
9. check that the plants meet specifications and are ready for sale or dispatch at the correct time
10. maintain the health of plants that require intermediate storage prior to sale or dispatch
11. maintain communication with colleagues and those involved in, affected by, your work
12. maintain records in accordance with instructions
13. carry out your work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and organisational policies

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to prepare, use and maintain equipment and use safely and correctly
2. the types of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
3. how to identify the relevant species or varieties of plants produced by the enterprise
4. sources of information in relation to different species or varieties of plants
5. the importance of completing the activity in accordance with timescales and specifications
6. how to recognise where a plant does not meet specifications and what action to take
7. methods of maintaining the quality of plants during handling and transportation
8. methods for transporting plants within the site relevant to the enterprise
9. problems that may arise during the collection of plants and what action to take
10. methods for preparing the plants ready for sale or dispatch
11. methods for maintaining the health of the plants ready for sale or dispatch
12. any relevant storage arrangements for plants prior to sale or dispatch
13. the importance of maintaining communication with those involving in, or affected by, your work
14. the records which need to be completed relevant to the collection and preparation of plants for sale or dispatch
15. the importance of following relevant environmental and ecological best practice to help minimise the impact of your work on the environment
16. your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational policies

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Scope/range

A. maintain equipment for preparing plants for sale or dispatch:

1. preparation
2. cleaning
3. storage

B. prepare plants for sale or dispatch using methods relevant to the enterprise within which you are working:

1. handling
2. removal of unsuitable plants
3. packing or labelling

Glossary

Instructions: verbal or written.

The term "preparation" is used to cover activities that take place following the identification and collection of plants. The types of preparation activities will depend on the enterprise within which you are working, this could include:

- weeding
- grading
- bundling
- wrapping
- containering/packaging
- labelling
- watering
- loading
- storage

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

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