

Subject: Operating the Hedge Trimmer

Approved: Patrick Bohlen

PROCEDURE:

Operating the Hedge Trimmer

INTENDED AUDIENCE: LNR personnel with access to Hedge Trimmer

PURPOSE: To train LNR person to operate the hedge trimmer to successfully trim existing hedges without damage to personnel or infrastructure.

- I. Knowledge** – The employee must be familiar with the Operations Equipment Manual (OEM) for the equipment being used.
- II. Safety** – At a minimum, follow the safety requirements listed in the OEM for the equipment being used. It is the employee’s responsibility to determine if added Personal Protective Equipment is needed and therefore must consult with their Supervisor prior to starting the task.
PPE: **Chaps are mandatory**, Leather Gloves, Eye Protection and Hearing Protection
- III. Trimming With Power Equipment**

CAUTION: Be aware of your surroundings. Check for debris, branches, rocks and people.

- a. Check fluids (mixed gas and oil) and add as needed.
- b. Prime hedge trimmer.
- c. Turn choke to “ON” position.
- d. Pull start cord until you hear ignition.
- e. Turn choke to the “OFF” position once ignition is engaged.
- f. Re-pull starter chord to start hedge trimmer.
- g. Start hedge trimmer and if trimmer is operating properly, proceed to work area.

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Note: If at any time equipment is not working properly, attach a 3x6 tag from the LNR shop area on hand held equipment with a short explanation the problem. When the repair is complete, the hedge trimmer will be staged outside the LNR shop door for pick up.

- h. Begin trimming hedge at one end and continue to the opposite end.

Note: Hedges should be trimmed along the top and sides. Sides should form a flat top “A” shaped structure to allow light onto the bottom of the plant.

- i. Gather trimmings and dispose of at designated area specified by supervision.
- j. When finished trimming, clean cutting edges with disinfectant to avoid transfer of disease.
- k. Secure equipment for next use.

IV. Trimming with manual equipment

- a. PPE: Leather Gloves.
- b. Begin trimming hedge at one end and continue to the opposite end.

Note: Hedges should be trimmed along the top and sides. Sides should form a flat top “A” shaped structure to allow light onto the bottom of the plant.

- c. Gather trimmings and dispose of at designated area specified by supervision.
- d. When finished trimming, clean cutting edges with disinfectant to avoid transfer of disease.
- e. If manual equipment needs repairing or sharpening turn into equipment into LNR Shop Maintenance Team.
- f. If manual equipment does not need maintenance, secure equipment for next use.