

<b>Title</b>	<b>Ultra-high prune plantation trees</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>10</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is intended for people employed in a pruning role in a commercial forestry operation.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: select trees for ultra-high pruning; ultra-high prune plantation trees to the prescribed height from a ladder and step; and use an approved work positioning device when pruning with the feet 4.5 (or more) metres from the ground.</p>
----------------	--

<b>Classification</b>	Forestry > Forest Silvicultural Operations
-----------------------	--

<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
------------------------	----------

<b>Prerequisites</b>	One of – Unit 1245, <i>Prune plantation trees from off the ground</i> ; or Unit 6972, <i>Prune plantation trees with a chainsaw from off the ground</i> ; or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
----------------------	---

### Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes the Health and Safety at Work (HSW) Act 2015; the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry) Amendment Regulations 2018; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 References  
*Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) for Safety and Health in Forestry Operations*, December 2012, available from <https://worksafe.govt.nz/>.  
 New Zealand Forest Owners Association, *Forest Practice Guides* (2019), and any subsequent amendments, available from <https://www.nzfoa.org.nz>.
- 3 Definitions  
*Accepted industry practice* refers to approved codes of practice and standardised procedures accepted by the wider forestry industry as examples of best practice.  
*Forestry Operations* include land preparation, planting, releasing, pruning and thinning to waste.  
*Job prescription* refers to any written instructions for the operation and may include maps, harvest plans or cut plans.  
*PPE* refers to personal protective equipment and may include but is not limited to high-visibility, protective clothing, gloves, face and eye protection, safety helmet, footwear, hearing protection, and safety devices.

*Ultra-high pruning* is defined as being pruning above the 'normal' high pruning height of 5.8 to 6.5 metres, usually to a height of 8.5 metres.

*Worksite procedures* refer to documented procedures used by the organisation carrying out the work and applicable to the tasks being carried out. They may include but are not limited to – standard operating procedures, site safety procedures, equipment operating procedures, quality assurance procedures, housekeeping standards, procedures to comply with legislative and local body requirements.

#### 4 Assessment information

This unit standard must be assessed on-job.

All activities and evidence must meet worksite procedures and accepted industry practice.

---

## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Select trees for ultra-high pruning.

#### Performance criteria

1.1 The rationale for the selection of trees for ultra-high pruning is described in accordance with the job prescription.

1.2 Trees are selected.

Range stocking, spacing, tree form.

### Outcome 2

Ultra-high prune plantation trees to the prescribed height from a ladder and step.

#### Performance criteria

2.1 Trees are ultra-high pruned.

2.2 Safe use and handling of a 5-metre ladder is demonstrated.

Range setting the stiles in the ground, ladder angle at approximately 15 degrees to the vertical, tools in pouch or on belt while climbing, both hands on the ladder while climbing, chain secured around tree, both hands on the ladder while descending.

2.3 Safe use and handling of a step is demonstrated.

Range chain secured, sufficient and comfortable height, use of stirrup.

2.4 The safe use of a pruning tool in ultra-high pruning is demonstrated.

Range includes but is not limited to – feet secure on ladder or step; may include – starting procedures, hand positioning.

### Outcome 3

Use an approved work positioning device when pruning with the feet 4.5 (or more) metres from the ground.

### Performance criteria

3.1 A full body harness is worn and adjusted to allow movement and provide security.

3.2 The lanyard is attached around the tree and adjusted to facilitate pruning when pruning height is reached.

3.3 The lanyard is moved up and down the tree stem as pruning progresses.

3.4 The lanyard is detached from the tree when the operator's feet regain the ladder platform.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2028
----------------------------	------------------

### Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	27 October 2006	31 December 2012
Review	2	22 May 2008	31 December 2013
Revision	3	15 September 2011	31 December 2016
Review	4	19 March 2015	N/A
Review	5	25 June 2020	N/A
Rollover	6	26 April 2024	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0173
--	------

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

### Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Muka Tangata - People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council [qualifications@mukatangata.nz](mailto:qualifications@mukatangata.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.