

Title	Thin shelter belts and/or plantations		
Level	4	Credits	8

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: select and prepare thinning equipment and machinery; carry out field preparation; thin shelter belts and/or plantations; and carry out post-operational procedures.
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Classification	Rural Contracting > Agricultural Contracting
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Available grade	Achieved
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Pre-requisite	Class of driver licence and any driver licence endorsement appropriate for the vehicle being driven.
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Guidance Information

- 1 Evidence presented for assessment against this unit standard must be consistent with safe working practices and be in accordance with relevant legislative and industry requirements.
- 2 Legislation and references relevant to this unit standard include:
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Resource Management Act 1993, available from www.legislation.govt.nz;
 - and all subsequent amendments or replacements.
- 3 Definitions

Industry requirements refer to relevant policies, processes, methodologies, industry codes of practice, site specific health and safety plans, standard operating procedures, site safety plans, quality plans, work plans, traffic management plans, contract work programmes, job safety analysis, safe work method statements, job instructions, manufacturer's requirements, contract specifications, manuals, procedural documents.

TA/RC refers to territorial authority and/or regional council.

Thinning means to remove, trim or top trees from a shelter belt and/or plantation and does not exclude other agricultural contracting situations requiring thinning. Trees may include vines.
- 4 The range for this unit standard is two of trimming, topping, or removing trees from shelter belts and/or plantations.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Select and prepare thinning equipment and machinery.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Equipment and machinery appropriate for the work are selected.

Range may include but is not limited to – chainsaw, shredder, stump grinder, log skidder, axe, lopper, tracked tractor, excavator, loader; evidence of three pieces of equipment or machinery is required.
- 1.2 Selected equipment and machinery are checked for condition, damage, wear, and faults; problems are identified; and corrective action is taken.
- 1.3 Checks are made, and any necessary actions are taken, or adjustments made to ensure the mobile machinery complies with legal requirements for operator health and safety.

Outcome 2

Carry out field preparation.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Hazards are identified and controlled.
- 2.2 Removal of trees to maximise survival and optimum mature shape for remaining trees is confirmed in accordance with client requirements.
- 2.3 Disposal options for thinnings, and/or stumps are identified, and the preferred option is decided upon in accordance with client and TA/RC requirements.

Outcome 3

Thin shelter belts and/or plantations.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Shelter belts and/or plantations are thinned with no risk of harm to people or animals and with minimal damage to adjoining trees or property structures.
- 3.2 Thinnings and/or trees are disposed of in accordance with client and TA/RC requirements.

Outcome 4

Carry out post-operational procedures.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Shut-down procedures are carried out.
- 4.2 Any damage or faults including any missing, bent, broken, or loose parts are identified and are repaired, replaced, or reported.
- 4.3 Equipment and machinery are stored.
- 4.4 Documentation for the operation is complete.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 July 1996	31 December 2016
Revision	2	5 January 1999	31 December 2016
Revision	3	18 January 2000	31 December 2016
Review	4	31 October 2002	31 December 2016
Review	5	25 June 2007	31 December 2016
Review	6	16 July 2015	31 December 2023
Review	7	26 August 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0101
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Connexis - Infrastructure Industry Training Organisation
qualifications@connexis.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.