**INITIAL NOTIFICATION OF FORESTRY/ARBORICULTURE FATALITY**

* **Issued by HSE’s Agricultural Sector to the Arboriculture & Forestry Advisory Group (AFAG); to assist with timely promotion of key health and safety messages.**
* **The details are based on initial notification and media coverage and do not fully reflect the detailed circumstances of the incident. The death has been treated as work related BUT this will be subject to further assessment.**
* **The links to existing H&S guidance are to help recipients promote health and safety and should not be taken to imply any detail about the cause of the incident.**

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| **Incident summary as notified to HSE or reported in the media** |
| **Date of incident** | 06/09/22 |
| **Geographic area** | Perth & Kinross |
| **General nature of incident** | Contact with machinery - Firewood processor |
| **Brief details of incident**  |
| Initial notification is that a worker operating a firewood processor was killed after becoming entangled with the log feed conveyor. |
| **Links to relevant published guidance (HSE and industry publications)**Guidance can be found in [Risks to users from firewood processing machines (hse.gov.uk)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/safetybulletins/firewoodprocessors.htm) and [FISA 607 Firewood Processors](https://ukfisa.com/Safety/Safety-Guides/fisa-607) and [Safe use of work equipment. Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. Approved Code of Practice and guidance L22 (hse.gov.uk)](https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/priced/l22.pdf) |
| **Key messages to promote**Firewood processors are hazardous machines. There have been numerous serious and fatal injuries often due to crushing and entanglement in the machine or its conveyors.Control the risk of injury in these ways:* Check guards and other protective safety devices (including interlock devices) are adjusted and functioning correctly.
* Where the controls require hold to run or two hands for operation ensure these are functioning and used as designed
* Make sure the machine is only operated by a single person
* Ensure the equipment can be stopped and isolated. Do not attempt to adjust or remove blockages without stopping the machine and releasing any stored energy.
* Ensure operators are adequately trained, including what to do if machinery breaks down.
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| **Links to media:**  |