



SAFETY ALERT

Further essential information on the felling of diseased ash

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Robust assessment of the work and thorough planning is essential to remove the risk when felling dead ash.

Establish responsibilities – within a forestry operation, all parties need to identify and be clear on which of these roles they are responsible for. Examples of how these roles fit with some of the more common forestry contract arrangements are shown in the Guidance on Managing Health & Safety in Forestry (available at www.ukfisa.co.uk).

Where possible use mechanical felling.

If it is not possible to use a machine for felling; that doesn't immediately justify using a chainsaw operator.

If trees can't be felled by machine or safely by chainsaw they may need to be left unfelled.

Chainsaw felling of diseased trees should only be undertaken if:

- It is unreasonable in all circumstances for the trees to be felled mechanically; and
- It is reasonable in all the circumstances for the trees to be manually felled; and
- Suitable precautions (involving competent operators and appropriate equipment and techniques) can be implemented to prevent injury

**FISA Demo Stand
APF Exhibition 2018, Ragley Estate, Alcester
20 -22 September**

**A chainsaw demonstration on the level of planning, risk assessment and
methods to safely fell diseased hardwood trees**