



European Tree Worker

1. Definition

European Tree Workers (ETW) carry out operations on and in amenity trees with the aim of keeping the trees healthy and safe. They act on the basis of arboricultural knowledge taking conservation matters, environmental protection and safety regulations into account.

Tree care operations require a profound and highly qualified training with a special focus on work safety. Tree maintenance comprises the planting, monitoring and maintenance of trees. There are currently three types of certifications available: ETW-climbing, ETW-platform and ETW-climbing and platform.

2. Objectives

2.1 Elements of tree maintenance

The European Tree Worker has to be able ...

2.1.1 to explain basic principles of growth requirements, function, structure, development and stages of growth of trees in order to decide on appropriate arboricultural measures.

2.1.2 to take natural site factors into account and understand their effects on the growth and development of trees in order to decide on appropriate arboricultural measures.

2.1.3 to recognize the most important woody plants in their work area.

2.1.4 to recognize the quality of nursery stock.

2.1.5 to understand the importance of conservation matters and environmental protection for tree maintenance.

2.1.6 to recognize basic tree diseases, pests and abiotic stresses.

2.2 Arboricultural Matters

The European Tree Worker has to be able ...

2.2.1 to understand the tasks and areas of activity of tree maintenance and to be able to operate and maintain the materials, machines and tools used.

2.2.2 to follow the relevant national safety regulations and the EAC guide to safe working practice.

2.2.3 to understand and apply common work procedures for

- tree site improvement
- planting and moving trees
- protection of trees on construction sites or during excavation
- stabilization of stems and branches
- cabling tree crowns
- prevention and treatment of damage to trees
- pruning
- tree felling

2.2.4 to recognize structural weakness in trees and poor tree health.

2.2.5 to understand and to be able to use and maintain tree climbing devices such as ladders and mobile work platforms and decide on the appropriate climbing technique.

2.2.6 to monitor trees with regards to tree health and safety and diagnose major tree damage.

2.3 Legal and Social Regulations

The European Tree Worker has to be able ...

2.3.1 to understand regulations required with regards to work safety, public safety in the workplace and principles of work organization.

2.3.2 to understand all relevant legal rules and regulations concerning their field of activity.

2.3.3 to know all relevant regulations of labour legislation.

2.3.4 to know the relevant professional associations.