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| Revision #:  Written by: | Date: Month DD, YYYY  Approved by: |
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| Related Documents: | * Tractor Owner’s Manual – Machine Planting | |
| When to use this SWP: | Protecting workers from ergonomic and weather relates incident and injuries associated with planting Christmas trees. | |
| Hazards & Risks: | * Heat or Cold related emergencies * Strains/Sprains – lifting, carrying, & planting movements * Uneven/soft ground * Slips, Trips, & Falls * Animal Encounters * Collisions on Woods Roads * Fires | |
| Personal Protective Equipment: | CSA approved equipment as per owner’s manual   * Steel toes * Safety glasses * Gloves * Hearing protection * High Visibility clothing | |
| Training Requirements: | * Training by a competent experienced person | |
| Communication Process: | * Work with an experienced person before planting on your own. | |
| Equipment & Supplies: | * First Aid Kit * Fire Extinguisher * Cell/Smart Phone or two-way radio * Wildlife Spray | |
| 1. Read the owner’s manual for tractor, if planting by machine. 2. Inspect tractor before use and ensure the planting machine is attached to the tractor correctly. 3. Wear the recommended CSA/ANSI standard PPE as per the manufacturer’s specifications and as per Hazard Assessment requirements. 4. Tuck boot laces in to avoid getting snagged on brush. 5. Choose path the least number of obstacles. 6. Avoid wearing loose clothing. Contain long hair and beards. 7. Dress in layers with an outer water proof layer. 8. Keep an extra set of clothing in a bag. May want to keep in plastic to keep it dry. 9. Wear long pants and sleeves. 10. Check weather conditions before working outdoors. 11. Protect yourself from sun exposure by wearing a wide brimmed hat and sunscreen. Also wear light colored clothing. 12. Stay hydrated. 13. If windy, and there are overhead risks such as broken branches (hangers) or weak trees move to another planting area or sop planting until conditions improve. 14. In wet conditions wood roads can become slippery. Wear footwear with grip to prevent slips while walking and wear a wide brimmed hat or hood to keep water from the back of the neck. The neck and hear are areas of the body with the greatest heat loss 15. If there is thunder and lightning, return to the vehicle if nearby or move to a low-lying area. Avoid hilltops, ponds, lakes or sheltering under trees. 16. When traveling to the lot using woods roads drive at a pace for conditions such as slowing down for rough or icy areas. 17. Keep an eye out for off road vehicles and other machinery using the woods roads. 18. Use a GPS tracking system when going to large out of the way lots. 19. Use good ergonomic principles when using a dibble or hand planter. 20. When planting by hand or walking the rows, look at the terrain to choose path to ensure footing. 21. Inspect the dibble before use, when hand planting. 22. Do not step on falling logs or large brush. 23. If trees have been sprayed with a pesticide or fungicide, read the SDS for the chemical applied, wear the recommended PPE as per the SDS, and wash hands before eating or drinking. 24. Check the fire weather map and wildfire situation in the province before going to the wood lot. Follow burn ban and do not smoke on the lot but in an open bare area, or throw cigarette butts out the vehicle window while driving on woods roads. 25. To deter wildlife from approaching, don’t carry smelly food or wear sweet smelling perfumes or sprays. 26. Dispose of garbage in a sealable container. 27. Do not approach wildlife. If approached, back away, making yourself look large and making lots of noise. Look aggressive. If carrying wildlife spray follow the directions as to transportation and storage of the material. 28. Wear insect spray or netting to prevent stings. If allergic, carry medicine recommended by a doctor and if stung, take medication, and seek medical attention. If stung and not allergic, wash the area with antiseptic wipe or soap and water if available, remove stinger and watch for swelling. 29. Ticks in Nova Scotia may carry lyme disease. Wear light colored clothing, wear long pants and shirts with cuffs, and check for ticks periodically throughout the day. After the shift, shower within 1-2 hours as ticks that have not yet attached will wash away easily. If a tick has attached, follow the first aid for tick removal and seek medical attention. | | |
| EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: | | In case of emergency, contact 911 and the farm owner immediately. Remove yourself from harm’s way and ensure no one else is at risk. |