



UKFCG E-NEWS

OCTOBER 2015

Health and Safety and the Self-Employed (Received via FISA)

[UKWAS 8.1.1]

Health and safety law in relation to self-employed people has changed. From 1 October 2015, if people are self-employed and their work activity poses no potential risk to the health and safety of other workers or members of the public, then health and safety law will not apply to them.

However, the law also states that there are certain work activities where the law applies because they are **high risk**. If the work involves any of these activities, then the law will continue to apply:

- Agriculture, **including forestry** and horticulture;
- Construction
- Work with asbestos
- Railways
- Gas
- Genetically modified organisms

HSE have produced guidance on this: [Self-employed](#).

Also a reminder: **Guidance on Managing Health and Safety in Forestry** free download at <http://www.ukfisa.com/safety-information/safety-library/health-and-welfare.html>

UKWAS 4 – DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

A call for stakeholder comments has been made by the UKWAS Steering Group to inform the development of an UKWAS Fourth Edition which will be released in autumn 2016.

UKWAS Executive Chair, Peter Wilson said: “The Steering Group has concluded work on a Consultation Draft. **It is a radical revision** so we are looking forward to hearing your feedback on how you think the draft version measures up to stakeholder expectations.

“This is a second chance for stakeholders to make an input into the revision process. There will be one more chance to make comment as the revision process progresses but by commenting now people will be making input at a key point in the process”.

The Consultation Paper is available here: www.ukwas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/UKWAS-Revision-2013-16-Consultation-Paper-September-2015.pdf

This and the draft UKWAS 4, long and short, can be found here: www.ukwas.org.uk/documents

Please email comments to the UKWAS Support Unit on ukwas@confor.org.uk by **30th October 2015**



UPDATE ON DEROGATION APPLICATIONS

[UKWAS 5.2.4]

Propyzamide – In response to a number of enquiries regarding progress with this application, which was submitted in March, FSC have confirmed the following: *We have given priority to this application and scheduled a meeting on the 14th October to make a decision on it and will be able to give you a response on the following days. Until then, the Pesticides Committee has agreed on **temporary extending the derogation** until the decision is made and communicated. This decision has been made taking into account that there have been unexpected delays in the decision-making. Therefore if you have notified UKFCG of your wish to be included on this application you may continue to use Propyzamide pending confirmation of the final decision from FSC.*

Acetamiprid – Derogation application was submitted in late August. This chemical was only added to FSC's Highly Hazardous Chemical list in February 2015. **Therefore if you have notified UKFCG of your wish to be included on this application you may continue to use Acetamiprid pending confirmation of the final decision from FSC.** (We have not been advised of a timescale for this)

Pesticide Applications –

Deadline Approaches for end of Grandfather rights

[UKWAS 5.2.3 & 8.2.1]

If you or your staff are over 50 and currently apply sprays for weeds or Hylobius in your woodlands without a PA1/PA6 certificate, then time is running out to become compliant with revised legislation.

26th November 2015 will be the last date for the purchase or use of pesticides for those who have no spraying certificate for the application of weedkillers or insecticides in forestry or elsewhere. This includes the use of knapsack sprayers or weedwipers for 'low-hazard' herbicides such as Glyphosate. Some suppliers may ask to see your certificate before allowing purchase of chemicals.

This follows EU legislation, which was implemented in the UK in July 2012 and affects those born prior to December 1964 who currently buy and use sprays on their own land without qualification.

All those born after December 1964 are already required to have certificates, as are those who apply sprays as a contractor.

FSC Trademark use – a reminder

If making reference to being FSC certified on a website or on stationary can you get in touch with us, unless you have done this already. UKFCG will check correct usage and confirm approval by e-mail. Please also see attached UKFCG Doc10. for guidance.

UKFCG External Audit

Scheduled for week commencing 19th October in Scotland and Wales, and the following week in England. Sample sites have been selected and forest managers notified. This will be our first audit with Soil Association as Certifiers and we look forward to welcoming SA's UK based audit team. We expect to be able to report back to UKFCG members sometime in November.