

# BUSH BULLETIN

## Bush fatality & serious accidents March 1994

### Logging

#### Fatality

While sharpening his saw, a leaning dead section of tree fell on a worker. He died later from the internal injuries.

#### Serious accidents 13

Activity	Cause	
Felling	6 Hit by falling object	2
Trimming	2 Hit by moving object	3
Crosscutting	1 Hit object	1
Hauling	1 Contact object carried	3
Driving/operating	1 Slip/slide	3
Firewood	2 Lifting/stretching	1
		<b>13</b>

External agency	Type of injury	
Chainsaw	4 Fracture	1
Log	1 Dislocation	3
Tree	3 Laceration	5
Portable plant	1 Bruising	1
Rigging	1 Crushing	1
Vehicle	1 Multiple	2
Terrain	1	
None	1	
		<b>13</b>

#### Body part

Head	2 Leg	3
Shoulder	1 Foot	2
Hand	3 Multiple	1
Back	1	
		<b>13</b>

### Forestry and tree work

#### Serious accidents 13

Activity	Cause	
Land clearing	1 Hit by moving object	1
Pruning	8 Contact object carried	2
Thinning	2 Slip/slide	5
Plotting	1 Trip/stumble	1
Felling	1 Loss of balance	3
	Mechanical malfunction	1
		<b>13</b>

External agency	Type of Injury	
Chainsaw	1 Fracture	3
Branch	1 Dislocation	1
Tree	1 Strain/sprain	3
Handtool	3 Laceration	3
Terrain	2 Bruising	1
Log	1 Multiple	2
Ladder	4	
		<b>13</b>

#### Body part

Head	1 Back	3
Elbow	1 Leg	2
Arm	1 Multiple	3
Hand	2	
		<b>13</b>

The above accidents were reported to Health and Safety Inspectors (Bush) during March 1994.

Most accidents in logging occurred during felling operations. In bulletin No. 72 we looked at ways of reducing the number and severity of felling accidents. Read bulletin No. 72 again to refresh your memory if you are engaged in felling.

In forestry most accidents took place during pruning. We discussed pruning accidents in bulletin No. 73. If

your work is pruning get the bulletin and check your work methods with those outlined.

Trips and slips caused almost a third of all accidents in March. These were also discussed in bulletin No. 73. Read the tips contained in that section.

**On the reverse side we look at all terrain vehicle safety.**

# All terrain vehicle safety



Recently there have been reports of up to four passengers being carried on ATVs (two- and four-wheel drive farm bikes classed as all terrain vehicles) to provide access to silvicultural operations where there is minimal or substandard access.

Charles Pitt of the General Manager's Office recently attended a meeting of bike manufacturers, ACC, Federated Farmers and Massey University's Agricultural Engineering Department to discuss the draft *ATV Riding Safety Booklet*. This booklet is to be printed for official launching at Agricultural Field Day at Mystery Creek on 16 June 1994.

A main theme of the booklet is: **No Passengers.**

Manufacturers state in the operator manuals and with transfers on their machines, that ATVs are single-rider machines only. The extra-long seat is not designed for passengers but to allow

the driver to move their body weight to balance the machine when operating on slopes.

An advantage of ATVs is their ability to tow a trailer. The booklet will have detailed guidelines on how to load the trailer correctly so that it can be safely used to increase the work capacity and versatility of the ATV. There is no mention of the carriage of passengers on trailers. The trailer's towing attachments and the trailer's deck is totally unsuitable for transportation of workers.

Relevant sections of the Safety Code for Bush and Forest Operations are:

Part 1: Forest Establishment and Silviculture, Section 51

Part 3: Logging, Section 31

Section 6 of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 would also apply.

## Would you like to contribute?

We are continually looking for new material for the bush bulletins. If you have any situation, accident or information that you think may be of interest to others, contact your inspector (forest operations). We will acknowledge any contributions and can arrange any artwork required.