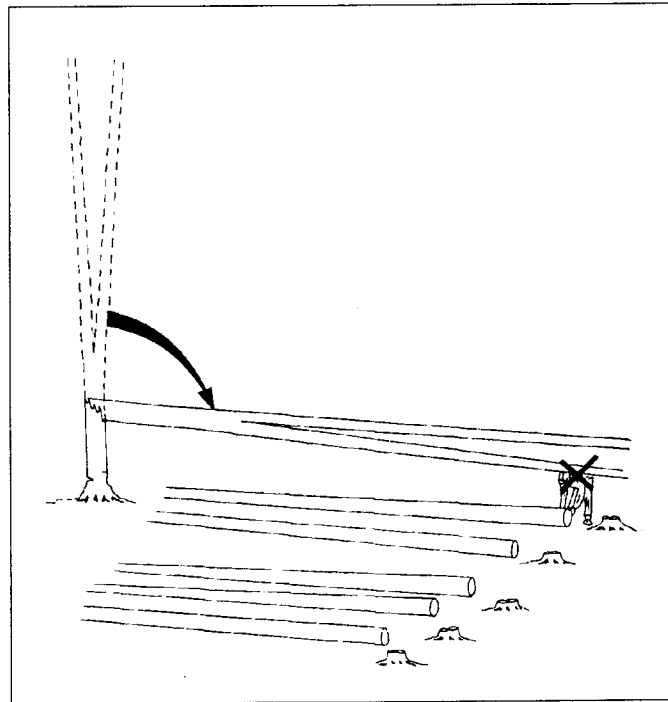


# FORESTRY BULLETIN

## Damaged cut-up tree nails feller



A feller was hit by a damaged cut-up tree as he worked on other trees he had felled.

### What happened

The feller had scarfed a double leader and when the back cut was inserted the tree sat back. It appears that an attempt was made to drive the tree but had not been successful. However, this drive had caused the tree to split about a metre above the scarf. The feller continued to fell trees and trim them. Suddenly, the cut-up tree fell and struck the worker who was cutting the sloven off a tree he had just fallen.

### Accident cause

Not bringing a cut up tree to the ground as soon as possible and before operations continue.  
*Safety Code for Forest Operations Part 3 — Logging* — section 19.5.

### Prevention

Just follow the simple steps as outlined in the logging safety code when you have a cut up or hung up tree. These are repeated below:

“Section 19.5 Where a tree is “hung up” or “cut up” it shall be brought to the ground as soon as possible, and before operations continue. A hung up or cut up tree shall not be left standing, nor shall the feller leave the area before the tree has been brought to the ground, other than to seek assistance to do so. The person in charge shall be notified and additional precautions taken immediately.”

All this may seem a bit over the top — but if the steps are followed they help to prevent people getting maimed and killed

On the reverse side we look at some OSH publications.

# Publications and the Occupational Safety and Health Service

OSH issue a number of publications concerning safety and health in forestry and related industries. The main ones are those developed with the industry as safety codes and cover everyday preferred work practices. These publications have been divided up to cover different parts of forestry. There are two main areas where the codes have been developed, "forest operations" and "tree work". Let's look at what's happening with the codes to fit them in with the Health and Safety in Employment Act — the Act to protect the safety and health of people at work.

## Being revised

These codes have been submitted to industry for comment by the General Manager of OSH. Comments received will be incorporated where considered appropriate and the Minister of Labour will then send a draft out to industry for final comment. It is important that codes are kept up to date with each revision and are supported by industry. With agreement, the code would then become an approved code.

*Safety Code for Forest Operations: Part 1 — Forest Establishment and Silviculture.*

*Safety Code for Forest Operations: Part 4 — Transportation.*

## To be revised

These codes are to be revised after those above.

*Safety Code for Forest Operations: Part 2 — Cable Logging.*

*Safety Code for Forest Operations: Part 3 — Logging.*

## Draft form

This is a new code that has been developed with industry and will go out for final comment before becoming an approved code.

*Safety Code for Tree Work: Part 2 — Maintenance of Trees Around Power Lines.*

## Approved codes

These codes have been through the consultative process and have been approved by the Minister of Labour under the Health and Safety in Employment Act. This means that by complying with work practices as detailed in the code, a Court may consider this to be compliance with the Act. This gives our codes more bite in a Court of law than they have now.

*Safety Code for Forest Operations: Part 5 — Timber Stacking, Packaging and Transportation.*

*Safety Code for Tree Work: Part 1 — Arboriculture.*

Two of our publications which have been well received by user groups are guidelines for those who are occasional chainsaw users and tree fellers. These booklets have been published in association with two major chainsaw companies. They are:

*A Guide to Safety with Chainsaws —* (published in association with Husqvarna Forest & Garden)

*A Guide to Safety in Tree Felling and Crosscutting —* (published in association with Stihl Ltd.)

If you've got mates that are not professional loggers but go out and get their own firewood or fell the occasional tree, tell them they can get a free copy of these booklets at any Occupational Safety and Health office, or maybe you could get them from your inspector (forestry) — alias bush inspector — for them.