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AIAC 15/06/02

HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AIAC)

Overview of the AFAG meeting held on 12 May 2015

Significant matters discussed

1. European Chainsaw Certificates – an update was provided regarding chainsaw certificate of competence certificates issued by EFSCE and ABA international – certificates are likely to be comparable to those issued by UK awarding bodies although AFAG members were advised that they are only one element of proving competence.
2. Report back from FISA
3. FISA/Lantra have issued a further joint statement on FISA members accepting chainsaw refreshers delivered by Lantra trainers
4. Small-scale forestry machinery – consideration being given to the development of a European standard
5. Guidance on the felling of large trees is now likely to be an issue taken forward by a FISA WG
6. NPTC/City & Guilds gave an overview of the development of future college based training in forestry and arboriculture for qualifications awarded after 2017. Looking for input from employers within the industry.
7. Guidance on the use of chainsaw jackets
8. Guidance on the use of arboriculture helmets in groundwork
9. Arrangements for revising/refreshing FISA guides and AFAG guides which overlap the forestry and arboriculture industries
10. Guidance for use on top-handled chainsaws
11. Development of career structures within the industry and the role of existing qualifications
12. The future of forestry training

Andrew Turner
May 2015