

Health and Safety Executive		Sector Information Minute	
Agriculture and Food Sector			
SIM 01/2005/05			
Cancellation Date	May 2009	Open Government Status	Fully Open
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Target Audience:
All FOD inspectors

MOBILE WOOD CHIPPER SUPPLIED BY JINMA (UK) LTD

This SIM alerts inspectors about an unsafe mobile woodchipper supplied by Jinma (UK) Ltd and action to take if they come across these machines.

BACKGROUND

- 1 Inspectors in FOD have identified serious safety deficiencies with a Chinese made, 125mm feed opening, powered mobile wood chipper supplied by Jinma (UK) Ltd. The machine seen, a Model 6, is bright red and has prominent stickers indicating parts are available from Jinma UK. The machine is driven from a tractor PTO, via a belt and gearbox.
- 2 The dimensions of the infeed chute allow access to dangerous parts of the machine and the design of the control bar and linkage to the machine does not meet published standards, for example AIS38, and is unlikely to operate effectively in the event of a person being drawn into the infeed chute. In addition the machine does not need to be reset after the safety stop has been activated and it is possible to gain finger access to the cutters through gaps in the surrounding metal box.
- 3 The supply of Jinma Model 6 woodchippers has been prohibited, and three associated Improvement Notices have been served.
- 4 Jinma (UK) Ltd have informed the investigating inspector that about 70 machines have been supplied. One of the Improvement Notices requires Jinma to notify known users of the problems and what is needed for the machine to be used safely.
- 5 It is thought the machine has been sold to both agricultural users and possibly to some private individuals. The machine has been sold directly or through agents. Trading Standards Officers have been notified.

ACTION BY INSPECTORS

- 6 This woodchipper, without modifications, presents a risk of serious personal injury and is unsafe.

7 Inspectors finding the unmodified machine in use during a work activity should take action to prohibit further use. The Sector should be consulted either at the time of the contact or shortly afterwards.

8 An Improvement Notice(s) may be appropriate to ensure the machine meets the requirements of PUWER.

9 The woodchipper is made in China by Yancheng Tractor Works, Yancheng, Jiangsu, China. The manufacturer sells to Jinma (UK) Ltd but it is possible that they sell to other suppliers in this Country or other European Countries. If other suppliers are identified, contact the Sector.

BENCHMARK STANDARD

10 The benchmark is nil or negligible where the design of the infeed chute and control bar prevents contact with the infeed mechanism and chipping blades of the chipper when used in accordance with industry guidance. Where contact is possible with the infeed mechanism or blades an extreme risk gap is indicated by the EMM.

CONTACT

Frances Hirst, frances.hirst@hse.gsi.gov.uk, tel 02476 698357

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