

Rural Development Initiatives Ltd	Winter 2009	
Benchmarking and Training Needs Assessment Questionnaire		
Assessed by:	Carrick Armer	
Date of assessment:		
Name:		
Address:		
Postcode:		
What kind of business are you engaged in:	Forestry and tree work	
	Landscaping and tree work	
	Forest products	
	Other	
Are you:	Self Employed	
	Employed	
For how long:	< 1 year	
	1-2 years	
	> 2 years	
	> 5 years	
	> 10 years	
Where do you operate from:	Home	
	Office	
	Yard	
	Wood	
	Farm	
	Workshop	
Who carries out the paperwork for your business:	You	
	Partner	
	Employee	
	Other	
How many people do you regularly work with:	Number:	
Are they:	Employed	
	Sub-contracted	
	Both	
How did you recruit your co-workers:	Job-centre	
	Word of mouth	
	Advertise	
	Other	
Over the last 5 years has your workforce:	Increased	
	Decreased	
	No change	
Over the next 5 years do you expect your workforce to:	Increase	
	Decrease	
	Not change	

Do you HAVE or NEED any of the following training:	TYPE	HAVE	NEED
	Forest nursery skills		
	Forest management skills		
	Other practical forestry skills		
	Woodfuel related training		
	Arboriculture		
	Health & Safety		
	Mech. Engineering & Maintenance		
	Ranger/Leisure/Recreation		
	Establishment management skills		
	Harvesting management		
	Green wood-working skills		
	Machine operation skills		
	Environmental best practice		
	Civil engineering		
	Timber haulage skills		
	Roundwood sawmilling		
	Training for trainers		
	Word processing		
	Information technology		
	Business management skills		
	People skills		
	Marketing, sales, promotion		
	Managing & supervising people		
	Woodland certification		

Has the training been only to the statutory minimum:	Yes	
	No	

Who supplied your previous training?	

What has been the driving force behind you getting your training:	Desire to gain new skills	
	Diversify your business	
	Increase efficiency / productivity	
	Made to get training by employer/contract holder	
	Health & Safety requirements	
	Other	

When would you prefer to do your training:	Morning	
	Afternoon	
	Weekdays	
	Weekends	

How would you like to learn:	Short courses	
	Practical workshops	
	Online/computer learning	

What is the best method of receiving training:	On the job training	
	Day release	
	Attending seminars	
	Full-time / sandwich courses	
	Job-shadowing	
	Self-study	

What are the barriers to taking more training:	Cost	
	Time	
	Necessity	
	Poor quality of training staff	
	Times of day when courses held	
	Location of trainers	
	Concerns over trained staff leaving	

Signature	
Print name	
Date	