

IGNITE: MANAGING WOODS FOR WOODFUEL

A practical training course and handbook on the use of small woodlands for the production of woodfuel products.

COURSE OUTLINE

Morning Sessions

Session 1 – Welcome and Introduction

Session 2 – Management Systems

This session includes a general introduction to woodland types and the management regimes that can be applied to these woodland types. We introduce the concept of the common silvicultural systems used in UK forestry and particularly those used for small, unmanaged and undermanaged woodlands.

Session 3 – Crop Assessment

This session introduces the methods behind assessing woodlands in terms of suitability for the different management systems that can be applied. We look at techniques for measuring standing timber for volume assessments using the abbreviated tarriffing technique, and go on to discuss timber qualities and what may constitute timber that could go to non woodfuel markets (such as sawlogs and fencing grade material) and what is more suited to woodfuel markets.

Afternoon Sessions

The afternoon will be made up of practical site visits including in-forest timber measurements and a visit to local woodlands. This will then be followed by two further sessions which will include a final exercise that will combine all of the day's information.

Session 4 – Harvesting and Extraction

This session introduces the common harvesting and extraction techniques, machinery and equipment in use in the UK today and what situations they are best applied to. It covers motor manual and mechanised harvesting techniques and the many different types of timber extraction system.

Session 5 – Conversion

This session looks at how timber felled and extracted can then be processed into woodfuel, focusing on firewood and woodchip production. We discuss timber quality and how this affects the woodfuel product chosen, and indeed its quality, and we look at moisture content and its effect on energy content. Finally, we cover seasoning techniques, production methods and ongoing compliance with RHI and BSL reporting requirements for self-suppliers and producer traders..



General Information

Throughout the course participants are encouraged to contribute their own experience either of woodfuel or of other aspects of renewable to the course. There is a lively, good humoured atmosphere at courses, where participants can discuss issues of particular relevance or interest to themselves and the group within the framework of the course.

The course is accredited by Lantra Awards under their Customised Award provision.

Lunch and all refreshments will be provided. Trainees should bring a waterproof coat and boots as we will be leaving the confines of the classroom!

For content or technical enquiries please contact **Will Richardson** on **01765 609355** or at will.richardson@ruraldevelopment.org.uk.

Ignite is a series of training courses on the production and supply of woodfuel. The series includes the award winning 3 day **Ignite: Woodfuel Production and Supply** intensive course that provides a customised award from Lantra Awards. **Ignite** courses have been developed and are run by Rural Development Initiatives Ltd.