**Training in use of the Strimmer**

1. Introduction to the machine. Show trainee the machine and point out all the essential features required for safe operation of the machine.
	1. Corona virus precautions
	2. Petrol mix
	3. Quick release
	4. Cut off switch
	5. Exhaust areas
	6. Spinning head
	7. Pick up and feel the weight of the machine.
2. Explanation of the dangers in using this machine.
	1. Danger of exposure from surfaces of the Strimmer and safety gear, etc, that have not been cleaned and sterilised.
	2. Petrol as an explosive, as an inflammable liquid, as an irritant, as a poison and as a toxic environmental hazard.
	3. Cutting risk from nylon cord.
	4. Fast spinning moving parts.
	5. Hot engine parts and exhaust.
	6. Debris being thrown up
	7. Noise 118Db
	8. Vibration and white finger.
	9. Trips and falls

 Defects in the machinery or equipment

1. How to reduce these all these risk factors.
	1. All surfaces should either be wiped down with surface cleaners before contact or hand sanitiser should be used before and after use. It is the operator’s responsibility to ensure that they are aware of the dangers and take precautions.
	2. All petrol should be stored in accordance with COSH and fire safety regulations. Keep petrol in proper containers and always ensure that lids are replaced after use. Never expose petrol to a naked flame as it is liable to explode. Do not breathe the fumes if possible. If in contact with your skin wash off immediately with water. If petrol is in your eyes then wash out immediately and seek medical attention. All spills should be cleaned up immediately and the association notified. The Strimmer should already be filled and ready to go before you sign for it.
	3. Particular care needs to be taken to keep the fast spinning nylon cord away from your fingers or toes. The cutting chord will also damage plants, trees, bushes and structures like greenhouses etc.
	4. Fast spinning moving parts can cause damage to the operator if safety procedures are ignored. Do not allow yourself to come into contact with spinning and moving parts.
	5. The heat from the exhaust and on the motor casing can cause major burns and the operator should ensure that they are aware of the risks to themselves and to others. Do not leave a strimmer unattended especially after operation and where third parties(children especially) might gain access and be burned.
	6. Debris is often thrown up by the strimmer and the operator must always ensure that a distance of 15 metres is maintained between the strimmer in operation and any other person passing by or in the area. Should anyone move into your working zone you should immediately use the kill switch and stop the Strimmer until they move away to the proper distance You must always wear personal protective equipment when operating the Strimmer.
	7. The Strimmer is rated at 118Db which will cause damage to your hearing if protection is not worn. Ear defenders must be worn at all times during operation.
	8. This strimmer can cause vibration damage known as “White finger” and therefore its use is restricted to 1 hour of use per day by any one operator. Use of the Strimmer for more than one hour per day is not recommended.
	9. Reduce the risk of trips and falls by inspecting the ground where you will operate the Strimmer and move away any hazards and obstacles. Do not walk backwards while operating the Strimmer. Make sure you have a clear view of the ground in front at all times.
	10. Operators should inspect the machine and safety equipment before use. Are there any signs of damage or are there any parts that are loose or not operating as they should? Any damage should be reported t immediately to the Association.
2. You will be shown how to wear the protective gear supplied with the Strimmer.
3. You will be checked for safe clothing, boots and gloves.
4. You will be shown how to fit the safety harness release clip.
5. You will be shown how to mix the fuel for the Strimmer.
6. You will be shown how to start the machine safely.
7. You will be shown how to operate the strimmer. Further training may be necessary to operate the brush cutter attachment.
8. You will demonstrate that you are able to use the Strimmer in a safe manner.
9. You must not take the Strimmer out of the allotments area without the express permission of the Association Committee.

Date that Training was carried out \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of person being trained (printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of trainer (printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I the undersigned agree to operate the Strimmer in the manner explained to me in this training session and in a safe manner.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I agree on behalf of Fernbrae Meadows Association that the above named person has attended training and is now aware of the risks involved and is able to operate the Strimmer in a safe manner.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_