



Hedge Laying Tools & Equipment (and suppliers)

Updated June 8th 2008

Safety

Essential

First Aid Kit (Outdoor Shops/ First Aid Specialists/ Chemists)

Chain saw protective clothing (Helmet, Visor, Ear Muffs, Leggings, Footwear, and Gloves)

Thorn-proof mitts (Welding Gloves are fine, from hardware stores)

Proper Hedging Mitts

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Safety glasses / Goggles / Visor (Hardware Stores)

Close fitting, tough work-clothes

Useful

Knee Pads (Hardware Stores)



Tools

Essential

- **Chain Saw**

A saw with a short bar (12" or less) is generally more adaptable, a bit safer and less likely to have the chain damaged inadvertently.

Chain saw suppliers will advise on mandatory safety/ protective gear.

- **Billhook**

Can be picked up second hand (e-bay is a good source for those with internet access) but will usually need refurbishing. Old Pierce tools are good quality.

The Woodsmiths Store Stock a good range of billhooks and axes

<http://www.woodsmithstore.co.uk/shop/> email: enquiries@woodsmithstore.co.uk
tel: + 44 (0) 191 252 4064 (between 3:00pm and 7: 00pm Mon to Fri)

Timeless Tools have a large collection of Billhooks, Slashers, and edge tools, available to buy on line.
www.timelesstools.co.uk or email at timelesstools@tiscali.co.uk

- **Axe**

Bahco (formerly Sandvik) do a large range of hatchets and axes. From their latest Pruning Tools catalogue I would suggest

FGS-1.8-810 (axe) or HUP-1.0-650 (hatchet)

Bahco Tools are distributed by

Contact	Mr Eddie Walsh
Address	38 Carrick Strand, Strabane, Co. Tyrone, BT82 9RN
Telephone	048 71 884453 / 087-2433040
Email	eddie.walsh@ssaurope.com
Website	www.bahco.com

- **Slasher or Slash hook**

Most hardware stores and creameries carry a Pierce slash hook. They are not ideal but are easy to get hold of. Chose ones with good straight grain in the ash handle, they won't break as easily.

- **Sharpening stone/s/File**

Bahco do a range of sharpening stones of varying quality and price.

I suggest the LS-6160-23 (for fine sharpening), LS-PIERRE-FAUX (for coarse sharpening)

A Nicholson or Sandvik Mill File is very useful for taking out dints and initial shaping (most new tools are supplied with a ground edge, unsharpened and will require some initial shaping to put the correct bevel on them). (Hardware Store/Creamery)



- **Small Saw**

A 21" bow saw available from many hardware stores (or Bahco) will do or probably better is to get a pruning saw. I use a Silky Fox - Zubat model, very good, but expensive.

Silky Fox saws are available in Ireland from Eltjo van der Laan (071) 9644436. Their web site shows the tools (www.mystworld.com/silkyfox/).

Tree Care Ireland, The Stables Workshop, Lisnavagh, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow, 059 91 61899
086 8286573 info@treecareireland.com

Stock a range of pruning saws and PPE equipment

Bahco, Garden centres and some hardware stores may stock something cheaper.

Useful

- **Mallet**

For driving stakes. Can be home-made, a heavy lump hammer or small sledge can be used.

- **Loppers**

Bypass action, heavy duty, good quality, should be available from a Garden Centre, Hardware Store or Creamery. Bahco do a good range.

- **Rope**

- **Hook-on-a-pole**

A long stick (2-4m) with a natural hook on the end is useful when working on tall hedges. Can be cut from a hedge.

- **Long handle Pruning Saw**

Similar to the Small Saw above, but fitted on a long (often telescopic) handle – used to free tangled trees. Silky Fox do high quality pruning saws. Something cheaper can be brought from Bahco or Garden Centres

- **Fencing pliers/Hammer** - for removing wire and staples

- **Pitchfork/Rake** - for moving brash (and fire control)

- **Spade/ Mattock** - for planting work and/or grubbing out

Other Sources

Chain Saw equipment distributors often carry a small range of some of the above hand tools, or can order them from suppliers.

Dick Tools

www.dick.biz

extensive range of woodworking tools