

## Hedge Laying Tools & Equipment (and suppliers) updated September '12

### 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

Email: [mike\\_pam@talktalk.net](mailto:mike_pam@talktalk.net)  
Mike East, 21, Brynderwen, Talgarth, Powys. LD3 0DH. Telephone: 0044 1874 711944

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 (approx.12") 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.

<http://www.woodsmithstore.co.uk/shop/> email: [enquiries@woodsmithstore.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodsmithstore.co.uk)

Telephone: + 44 (0) 191 252 4064 (between 3:00pm and 7:00pm Mon to Fri).

##### **Olivemead Forge**

<http://www.beavis608.bbtinternet.co.uk/>

##### **Timeless Tools**

Have a large collection of Billhooks, Slashers, and edge tools, available to buy on line.

[www.timelesstools.co.uk](http://www.timelesstools.co.uk) or email at [timelesstools@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:timelesstools@tiscali.co.uk)

- **Axe**

Old Elwell axes 5lb -7lb are very suitable. Bahco (formerly Sandvik) do a large range of hatchets and axes. Two suitable models are,

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](mailto:eddie.walsh@ssaurope.com)  
Website [www.bahco.com](http://www.bahco.com)

- **Slasher or Slash hook**

Good quality old slashers can be sourced on the internet. Most hardware stores and creameries carry a Pierce slash hook. They are not ideal but are easy to get hold of. Choose ones with good straight grain in the handle, they won't break as easily.

- **Sharpening stone/s/File**

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

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, but a better option is to get a pruning saw. I use a Silky Fox - Zubat model, very good, but expensive. Samurai Saws are good value.

**Silky Fox** saws are available in Ireland from Eltjo van der Laan (071) 9644436. Their web site shows the tools.

<http://www.silkysawsireland.com>

**Tree Care Ireland**, Kilcoole, Rathoe, Co. Carlow, 059 91 48678.

[info@treeclimber.ie](mailto:info@treeclimber.ie)      <http://www.treecareireland.com>

Stock a range of pruning saws and PPE equipment; Chain Saw Training; NPTC Assessment Centre  
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 Centers.
- **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.

**Buxtons**      [www.buxtons.net](http://www.buxtons.net)

Have a catalogue of Forestry and Arboricultural Tools and Equipment.

**Dick Tools**      [www.dick.biz](http://www.dick.biz)

Extensive range of woodworking tools.