



## Work Safety Alert Attacked by Bees/ Wasps

1. **Date of Accident :** May 2023
2. **Place of Accident :** A country trail
3. **Summary :**

A worker was attacked and stung by a swarm of bees/ wasps while carrying out tree planting work at a country trail. The worker passed away on the same day.

### 4. **Work Safety Alert for Contractors/ Employers :**

To prevent any workers/ employees engaged in planting work from being attacked and stung by bees/ wasps, the responsible contractors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work taking into account the nature of work and the work environment;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, and following the requirements of safety legislation and safety guidelines to minimise the risks to the workers/ employees being attacked or stung by bees/ wasps;
- staying away from the combs of bees/ wasps;
- providing all workers/ employees with suitable personal protective equipment (“PPE”), such as thick long-sleeved clothing, gloves and beekeeper's veil and ensuring the use of PPE if working near the habitat of bees/ wasps cannot be avoided;



- providing all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the working environment, safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference:

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)<sup>1</sup>

\*\*\*\*\*

### DISCLAIMER

This Work Safety Alert (“the Alert”) is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as Managers and Supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Labour Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.

Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.

<sup>1</sup> Click to view document