
The second season for destruction procedure started in September 2014 when the most intense period of elm disease inventory was completed.

Measures have been taken to reduce costs for chipping and transports as arose 2013-14. This measure resulted in about 20 000-euro lower cost 2014-2015 compared to season 2013-2014 for chipping and transports in action C3. This was achieved by following actions: 1), destruction started already in September 2014, thereby the risk for destruction work getting delayed was significantly decreased. 2), the contracting company, Åkericentralen, have been able to use a new method that enables both chipping and transporting of elm wood with the same vehicle. 3), renegotiating a higher price on wood chips.

3206 DED infected trees, 404 risk trees (risk tree=contagion through roots), and many thin stems (<10 cm Ø) was found during summer inventory 2014 on 372 properties (Action C2). All these trees, and also the 950 trees from first season which did not been taken down before July 2014, have been felled and destroyed before July 2015 when second season ended.

The method for felling was done as 2013-2014 (first season). Trees thicker than 10 cm was felled down with saw chains and the thinner trees even with brush saws. The Elm wood was transported to a roadside with a forwarder from the place where the trees were felled.

The operator of the forwarder talking to SFA officers in May 2015.

After that, a new method was used this second season and it works like this: The entrepreneur uses a truck with a crane, a wood chipper and a container. With the crane, the machine operator can lift the Elm wood (which the forwarder has been transported to the roadside) to the wood chipper. The chips are blown down into the container. When the container is full of chips, the machine operator drives the truck with the whole combination of equipment, from roadside to a storage area where the Boiler is. The chips can easily be lifted in to the Boiler where it will be burned and deliver heat to the remote heating network in Visby. There was about 500 m³ of the Elm wood which was too thick and therefore could not be chipped by this new combined machine. The wood was first cracked to smaller pieces by another machine before it could be chipped with the combined machine. Second season, 2014-2015, The Elm wood generated

about 5387 m³s chips (biofuel).

The truck with a crane, a wood chipper and a container.
SFA: s temporary staff was felling the trees and also burning the Elm wood on site when necessary (when conditions have prevented forwarders transporting elm wood to the roadside for chipping). They worked in teams, normally with 2-4 people together/team and 2-7 teams at the time. They travel in company cars (normally one team/car) from SFA office in Visby or Hemse to the sites. They have work shelters near the places where they work (they are warmed with gasoline) and there they eat food, take off workwear and keep equipment. SFA officer had the responsibility to lead the work and also keep in contact with landowners and contractors transporting the elm wood (they who drive forwarders and trucks). The people working with felling, got maps on each property with GPS-points for the trees. When the work is finished on each site, the workers leave the map back to SFA officer which means that the work was finished at that place.

There have been a few places were the DED infected trees was placed near houses and the felling could not be done in the normally way with chainsaws. In these cases, SFA used a Skylift to reach the trees.