



Sprayer Operator of the Year 2019

LANDSCAPE AND INDUSTRIAL USING HAND HELD & TRACTOR MOUNTED EQUIPMENT

Category Winner
Ian Millward, Millward Forestry



Who is Ian Millward?

My background is forestry and I did a three-year forestry course at Newton Rigg College in Cumbria from 1982-85. Following that I worked for two large forestry companies before setting up on my own in 1991. Back then our major work was tree planting for the likes of Hanson Aggregates, RMC, The Woodland Trust and The Crown Estates amongst many others. This was where my pesticide experience started. Millward Forestry Ltd began trading in 1991 so we are 28 years old! The name is a bit of a misnomer nowadays as we do very little 'traditional' forestry work and have diversified significantly!

We are still a small company. I run it day to day and do all the paddock spraying, my partner Susie handles all the administration and accounts and I use teams of tried, tested and reliable contractors as and when I need them. We have looked to expand our contracting side, I did employ a contracts manager for a while, but kept running up against the age-old problem of getting the right contractors who would work to the standards both my clients and I wanted. In the end I decided to keep it small and simple

Why did you enter the awards this year?

I entered the awards this year to see if a small business would be able to compete with the large ground maintenance contractors out there with large workforces and budgets.

My day always begins with...

Being greeted by my very affectionate Golden Retriever, Remi, when I go downstairs to make coffee

Typical activities for my day include...

There really aren't any typical activities as work is very seasonal and varied. It can range from going out to client's premises to spray horse paddocks, to running pesticide or chainsaw training courses, quoting for work, Christmas tree wholesaling, to being in the office catching up on paperwork

My favourite part of the day is...

Finishing work at the end of a long day and looking forward to a glass of wine!

I can't get through the day without...

Strong, freshly brewed coffee in the morning.

The Amenity Forum would like to thank Ian for supporting the 2019 awards. We wish him well at the overall Sprayer Operator of the Year award ceremony at BTME on the 21 January 2020 and hope that you will be inspired to apply in 2020.