

# ORCHARD LADDERS **D**

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## **437-004-0350 Orchard Ladders.**

### **Definition.**

**Orchard Ladder.** A self-supporting portable tripod ladder of fixed length. It has two front side rails and a single back support leg.

**(1) Application.** This covers the maintenance, use and care of orchard ladders.

### **(2) Maintenance.**

**(a)** Each step of wooden orchard ladders must have these reinforcements:

**(A)** A steel rod not less than 0.160-inch in diameter, that passes through metal washers big enough to prevent pressing into the side rails, and through a truss block between the rod and the center of each step, or;

**(B)** A metal angle brace on each end firmly secured to the steps and side rails, or;

**(C)** Construction of equivalent strength and safety.

**(b)** If the ladder has rod reinforcement, the bottom step must also have a metal angle brace on each end securely attached to the bottom step and side rails.

**(c)** All steps 27 inches or longer must have a metal angle brace at each end securely attached to the step and rail.

**(d)** The minimum width between side rails at the highest step for standing, inside to inside, is 9 1/2 inches. From top to bottom the side rails must spread at least an average of 2 1/2 inches for each foot of ladder length.

**(e)** All orchard ladders must have a top with tightly secured wood or metal brackets or fittings, side rails and back leg. The back leg must swing freely without excessive play or wear at the joints.

**(f)** There must be no dents, breaks or bends in the side rails or rungs.

### **(3) Training.**

**(a)** Prior to assigning an employee to work with orchard ladders, the employer must assure that they have the necessary skills and knowledge to use the ladder safely, or;

**(b)** The employer must train new employees about the requirements of this standard and the special procedures and cautions associated with using an orchard ladder.

### **(4) Use and care.**

**(a)** Do not use orchard ladders longer than 16 feet.

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- (b) Do not use the top as a step.
- (c) Do not allow more than one person at a time on ladders.
- (d) Do not step or jump between two or more erected ladders.
- (e) Do not use ladders to gain additional height from already elevated surfaces like scaffolds, truck beds, vehicle bodies, tractor scoops or boom truck buckets.
- (f) Inspect ladders before each use. Do not use any with defects, loose, warped, bent or broken parts. Tag these ladders, "Dangerous, Do Not Use" until they are fixed.
- (g) Do not use metal ladders or wood ladders with vertical metal parts for electrical work or where they may contact electric conductors. This type ladder must have markings reading "WARNING – do not use around energized electrical equipment" or words of equal meaning.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(4).

Stats. Implemented: ORS 654.001 through 654.295.

Hist: OR-OSHA Admin. Order 4-1998, f/8/28/98, ef. 10/1/98.

## 437-004-0360 Fixed Ladders.

### (1) Definitions. Fixed ladder terms mean:

**Cage.** A guard sometimes referred to as a basket guard that is an enclosure fastened to the side rails of a fixed ladder or to a structure to encircle the climbing space of the ladder.

**Cleats.** Ladder cross-pieces of rectangular cross-section placed on edge on which a person may step when climbing up or down.

**Fastenings.** A device to attach a ladder to a structure, building, or equipment.

**Fixed ladder.** A ladder permanently attached to a structure, building, or equipment.

**Grab bars.** Individual handholds adjacent to or as an extension above ladders to provide access beyond the limits of the ladder.

**Individual-rung ladder.** A fixed ladder with each rung individually attached to a structure, building, or equipment.

**Ladder.** A device with steps, rungs or cleats between rails, for people to climb up or down.

**Ladder safety device.** Any device, other than a cage or well, designed to eliminate or reduce the possibility of accidental falls, that may use life belts, friction brakes, and sliding attachments.