

Bandit 1890XP Brute in the Bushfire cleanup

Mick and Samantha Brennan and the team from Brennan Contracting are based at Seville in Victoria, right on the edge of the areas devastated by the recent Victorian bush fires. Brennan Contracting are a leader in their area and employ over 50 staff to ensure their works are performed to the highest standards. To help cope with the volume of fire cleanup work required, Mick and Samantha have added to their large fleet of Bandit chippers with the recent delivery of a Bandit 1890XP "Brute" - Bandit's 19" (485mm) capacity drum chipper.

Mick takes up the story – "As a result of the fires we have a lot of whole trees to remove and we needed a big chipper to get it done fast. Bandit Tree Equipment loaned us an 1890XP for the few weeks immediately after the fires and we were so happy with it that we bought one. We feed our Bandit Brute all day long with a 10 tonne excavator and the chipper has not missed a beat. Most of the time we knick the larger branches with a saw then pick up the whole tree with the excavator and feed it through. The chipper has a huge infeed opening and the pulling power to drag in most trees without hang ups. Usually we can fill an 18 cubic meter truck in less than 15 minutes."

Brennan's 1890XP Bandit is fitted with a 6 cylinder, 180hp CAT turbo diesel and a large capacity single axle for easy towing. The infeed opening at the drum is huge; 20.5" (520mm) wide X 26" (660mm) high and the drum is very close to the feed rollers to help process difficult, forked branches. The hydraulic winch, the top roller hydraulic lift and crush, hydraulic discharge swivel and Auto Feed Plus system are all standard features on the 1890XP Brute. Importantly the machine weighs in at less than 4,500kg so it is relatively light and very easy to tow.

Mick continued - "The six cylinder CAT engine has plenty of power and torque to get through the work, and we specially like the easy access to all maintenance points on the chipper. The engine cover has big removable doors for easy access to the engine service points. Because of the dusty conditions in the areas we are working in we make sure we clean out the air cleaner after every load of chips; this is easy to do with the Bandit set up. Changing blades is quick and fast. Overall this is an easy chipper to own and maintain and I would have to say that the whole experience with our new Bandit has been very, very good."

