

BIG WOOD? SAM SOLVES THE PROBLEM

“Big wood, big wood, what we gunna do...” This little tune is played out in the minds of tree contractors around Australia every day of the week. Sam Apps thinks he’s found the answer.



Sam owns and operates Sam’s Tree Services in south east Queensland and like most tree crews he has an ever growing problem processing the large volume of tree waste his crew generates every day.

Sam recently bit the bullet and purchased a new Bandit 19XP drum chipper, this one fitted with the 213hp 6 cylinder CAT turbo diesel. So far things are running well. We ran a quick Q&A session with Sam and here is what he had to say about his latest investment.

How do you find the new Bandit 19XP is fitting into your business?

“We really like the new machine. It’s a great fit for our team and came at a busy time. It’s been a real asset so far. Love it.”

What is the biggest advantage of making the change to the new Bandit?

“Processing time is so much faster and we spend a lot less time on the saw before we chip. Apart from being quicker, it’s safer as we do a lot less saw work.”



How do you find the hydraulic winch on the chipper?

“The thing is a beast. Much more powerful than other winch set ups we have used. We can drag in some big sections and chip them whole. We have less blocking the wood up, less lifting and handling and less saw work. Overall heaps quicker with this winch.”

What improvements have you found came with the upgrade to the Bandit 19XP?

“Well apart from the obvious – it does bigger wood – we figure we now have reduced maintenance time too. Daily inspections are quick and easy and knife changes are simple compared to other machines we have used.”

So how have you found running costs like fuel burn and knives compared to your last chipper?

“For sure the new six cylinder motor is bigger but I really think it is actually using less diesel. It’s just cruising all the time,

not running hard and burning a ton of fuel to get the jobs done. I got a month out of the first set of knives working on road clearing jobs; very happy with that. Running costs are great.”

How do you find towing the larger chipper around?

“It tows really nice. Coming from a dual axle chipper I was a bit concerned about the single axle but it tows really well and the air brake stops great. It’s all very manoeuvrable. No issues.”

Has the larger chipper changed your demographic of work?

“Not yet, but we are definitely getting through the jobs quicker, so I can get more jobs done in a day and still get home earlier.”

Are there any negatives to the Bandit 19XP?

“Yeah, my beer expenses have gone up as I am home for the first drink at 1:00pm instead of 4:00pm!”



For more information on the Bandit 19XP Chipper contact Bandit Tree Equipment on 1800 681 733 or visit www.banditchippers.com.au