

1. JOB AND TASK IDENTIFICATION

For loosening, digging, aerating, or preparing the soil in agricultural and gardening tasks.

2. RISK ASSESSMENT

2.1. Risk Identification

Cut and Amputation Hazards

- Possibility of serious cuts or amputations when handling blades, cutting edges, or sharp edges during use, transport, or maintenance.
- Risk of cuts, punctures, or abrasions from contact with metal edges, tips, thorns, or abrasive surfaces.
- Hazard of injury when sharpening or replacing components without proper protection.

Impact and Projection Hazards

- Accidental striking of nearby persons or objects with the handle, head, or moving tool.
- Projection of particles, wood or metal fragments, or vegetation that may cause eye injuries.

Ergonomic, Postural, and Repetitive Motion Hazards

- Muscle fatigue or pain in the back, shoulders, and arms due to prolonged use.
- Injuries caused by awkward postures when working bent over or squatting.
- Chafing or irritation on hands due to repeated friction.

Slip, Trip, and Loss of Control Hazards

- Slips or trips when working on wet, uneven, or sloped surfaces.
- Loss of control of the tool due to poor grip or a damaged handle.

Hazards Due to Poor Condition or Improper Use

- Tools in poor condition (loose head, splintered or broken handle) increasing the risk of accidents.
- Improper use of the hoe (excessive force impact or using it as a lever) that may cause injury or damage the tool.

Chemical and Environmental Contact Hazards

- Possible skin irritation from prolonged contact with wet soil or plants.
- Low risk of allergic reactions due to contact with sap or thorns.

This manual is intended to **guide the user** in the safe and efficient use of this product.

2.2. Evaluación de riesgos

Hazard	Consequence	Probability	Severity	Risk
Cut and Amputation	Serious cuts / amputations	Medium	High	High
Impact and Projection	Bruises; eye injuries	Medium	Medium	Medium
Ergonomic, Postural, and Repetitive Motion	Back, shoulder, and arm pain/fatigue	High	Medium	High
Falls and Loss of Control	Trips; loss of control	Medium	Medium	Medium
Condition or Improper Use	Accidents due to damaged blade/handle	Medium	High	High
Chemical / Environmental	Skin irritation or dust exposure	Low	Low	Low

2.3. Preventive Measures for Identified Risks

1. Cut and Amputation Hazards

- Wear protective gloves to reduce the risk of cuts.
- Wear safety footwear to protect feet.
- Maintain a balanced posture and avoid sudden movements.
- Keep the blade in good condition and properly sharpened.
- Do not use hoes with loose, defective, or worn blades.

2. Impact and Projection Hazards

- Wear safety goggles to protect eyes from fragments or particles.
- Maintain a safe distance from other people.

3. Ergonomic, Postural, and Repetitive Motion Hazards

- Take regular breaks to prevent muscle fatigue.
- Apply ergonomic techniques to reduce strain on the back and shoulders.
- Wear appropriate gloves to reduce hand friction.

4. Slip, Trip, and Loss of Control Hazards

- Maintain a stable posture, with feet shoulder-width apart.
- Work on firm and clean surfaces.
- Keep the work area tidy and free of obstacles.

5. Hazards Due to Poor Condition or Improper Use

- Inspect the hoe before each use.



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- Replace damaged handles or heads immediately.
- Do not use the hoe for purposes other than those intended.
- Transport the tool safely, with the blade facing downward or properly covered.

6. Chemical and Environmental Contact Hazards

- Wear appropriate gloves when frequently handling wet soil or plants.
- Avoid prolonged direct contact with sap or thorns.

2.4. Corrective Measures in Case of Accident

1. Cuts or Amputations

- Apply first aid: apply direct pressure to the wound, disinfect, and bandage.
- In case of serious injuries, seek immediate medical attention at an emergency facility.
- Inspect the tool before using it again to ensure it is in proper condition.

2. Impacts or Projections

- If particles enter the eyes, rinse thoroughly with clean water and do not rub.
- Seek medical attention if pain persists or vision is affected.
- Inspect the tool and the work area before continuing.
- If a blow to the head occurs, stop working and seek medical attention in case of dizziness or severe pain.

3. Ergonomic, Postural, or Overexertion Injuries

- Stop the task if pain or numbness appears in the arms, shoulders, or back.
- Perform gentle stretching exercises and rest.
- Consult a doctor if pain persists.

4. Falls, Trips, or Loss of Control

- If a fall occurs, stop the activity and check for possible fractures.
- Request assistance if unable to move safely.
- Clean and organize the work area before resuming work.

5. Accidents Due to Poor Condition or Improper Use

- Stop using the tool if damage, looseness, or excessive wear is detected.
- Repair or replace defective parts.
- Store the tool in a safe and dry place before using it again.

6. Accidents Due to Environmental Contact

- In case of skin irritation, wash with soap and water.
- Avoid further contact with plants or wet soil causing the reaction.
- Consult a doctor if symptoms persist.
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2.5. Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Measures

- The effectiveness of these measures shall be evaluated by verifying that, after their implementation, the situation has been safely controlled, the user has received the necessary assistance, and the tool has been inspected or repaired before work is resumed.
- It is also recommended to periodically inspect the condition of the tool and ensure compliance with safety regulations, adapting the measures if new risks arise in the work environment.

3. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

3.1. Aspects to Consider Before Use

- Keep the work area free of people, animals, and obstacles.
- Verify that the hoe is in good condition (secure blade, handle free of splinters or cracks).
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, safety glasses, safety footwear).
- Work on a clear, firm, and stable surface.
- Avoid distractions, fatigue, or working under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Select the appropriate tool according to the type of soil and task.
- Keep a first aid kit available.
- Keep the blade covered with protective guard until ready for use.

3.2. Aspects to Consider During Use

- Always maintain a stable and secure posture.
- Hold the hoe firmly with both hands.
- Avoid using the tool with wet hands or on slippery surfaces.
- Use the hoe only for its intended purposes.
- Do not force the tool; allow it to work according to its weight and design.
- Take regular breaks to prevent fatigue.
- Stay focused on the task and avoid distractions.
- Always direct blows away from your body.
- If the hoe becomes stuck, never handle the cutting edge; release it using gentle movements.

3.3. Warnings

- This tool is dangerous; improper use may cause accidents and result in legal liability.
- Keep out of reach of children or untrained persons.
- Do not use the tool under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication.
- Do not use the tool in conditions of inadequate visibility.
- Sharp edge.
- Wear safety footwear.
- Wear protective gloves.
- Wear eye protection.
- Keep other persons away from the work area.
- Refer to the instruction manual.



4. MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

4.1. Cleaning

- Clean the blade after each use to remove soil and material residues.
- Thoroughly dry metal parts to prevent corrosion.
- Apply protective oil to the blade.

4.2. Condition Inspection

- Check that the blade is not chipped, loose, or cracked.
- Ensure that the handle is secure and free from splinters.
- Inspect the joints between the handle and the head.

4.3. Storage

- Store in a clean, dry place.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- Hang or store on appropriate supports to prevent falls.

4.4. Specific Maintenance

- Check the cutting edge before each use and sharpen if necessary.
- Use suitable files or sharpening stones.

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- Sharpen while wearing protective gloves and on a stable surface.
- Replace the handle if it shows wear, cracks, or looseness.

4.5. Recycling and Environment

- When the tool is no longer functional, dispose of it in accordance with local waste regulations.
- Separate metal and wood components for recycling.
- Deposit metal parts at authorized collection points.
- Do not discard the tool in the natural environment.

5. CONTACT AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or require additional assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our customer service department:

- **Email:** comercial@bellota.com
- **Telephone:** 0034 943 73 90 00
- **Website:** www.bellota.com

We appreciate your trust in our products and are committed to ensuring your safety and satisfaction.