

# You need this beast of a machine on your team



*When managing grass fires, the Stihl BR 800 C-E can remove and reduce the fuelload, reducing the risk of the spread of fire*

**A**fter the wet year it's been, there's a heavy fuelload that makes burning firebreaks even more challenging. It's vital to have a well-equipped crew that can make light work of this critically-important, time-consuming and labour-intensive task.

The Stihl BR 800 C-E is the most powerful Stihl backpack blower to date, delivering a maximum air throughout of more than 2 000m<sup>3</sup>/h of air volume and a maximum air speed of 97m/s.

It is an important machine because:

- It can quickly and effectively clear hard-to-reach areas of potentially flammable organic material like leaves and grass
- It is estimated that a powerful blower is equivalent to eight people with handheld beaters
- It helps to create a very hot fire that burns and clears firebreaks faster and more efficiently
- It's far more comfortable to use for extended periods than handheld tools, with an excellent power-to-weight ratio and an anti-vibration system for reduced user fatigue
- It is easy to start: the Stihl BR 800 C-E features side-start technology so operators don't have to remove the backpack to restart

and it also has Stihl ErgoStart technology that cuts the effort required to start the tool by half. The starter cord can be pulled at just one third of the normal force.

- The Stihl BR 800 C-E can blow the fire back on itself in controlled burning where the fuelload is light
- When managing grass fires, the Stihl BR 800 C-E can remove and reduce the fuelload, reducing the risk of the spread of fire.

Blowers have been used by the United States Forest Service to help fight wildfires since the late 1960s and are an integral piece of equipment used by Australian fire fighters. While no blower is a stand-alone fire management tool, they are an important addition to any fire management team. Get your Stihl BR 800 C-E in time for this fire season.

Note that proper training, especially focusing on fire behaviour, is essential when preparing to use a blower for fire management purposes. ⚠

