



## STRATHMORE LADDER COMPANY

"Quality and Dependability Since 1936."

### Safety, Use, & Warranty Information

Updated March 1st, 2008

Our orchard ladders are designed for specific applications and have certain use limitations. We have done our best to build a ladder that is safe, durable, and practical for a variety of applications. No matter what some ladder companies may claim, there is no single ladder that is right for every job. Below are a few suggestions on what type of jobs are appropriate, and suggestions on how to accomplish them safely. This is not intended to be a complete guide to safety, but merely contains warnings and instructions about the more common misuses. **COMMON SENSE SHOULD ALWAYS PREVAIL! IF YOU ARE IN DOUBT ABOUT THE SAFETY OF YOUR LADDER, OR A PROPOSED ACTIVITY, DON'T DO IT!**

**PROPER USE:** When you receive the ladder, inspect it for shipping damage and missing hardware. Also, check before each use to make sure that the joints are tight, the steps are clean of mud or foreign material, and that there is no damage to the steps, side rail, or braces. The main thing to remember is **never use a broken or damaged ladder!** Our ladders are commonly used on a soil type surface for outdoor applications such as tree pruning, fruit harvesting, or general landscape maintenance to name a few. **Never use a ladder on a hard surface** such as cement, pavement, etc.. Always face the ladder while standing on it or climbing it. Always use the center portion of the steps. If you stand higher than the fourth step from the top, or your belt buckle, you may cause the ladder to tip. If you need to get higher, use a taller ladder! Always use the ladder for the purpose it was intended, if it is not the right tool for the job get another tool! The ladder should be erected so that the steps are level, or horizontal, from left to right and from front to back. You should always stand in a manner that would allow your buckle to stay centered between the two side rails of the ladder. If you cannot reach your intended work area using this guideline, get down and move the ladder to where you can reach it safely! **Before you let anyone else use the ladder, require them to read these guidelines.** All of this information is useless unless it is passed along to the person actually using the ladder. **Remember, the owner of the ladder is ultimately responsible for it's maintenance, and the safety of those who use it.**

**IMPROPER USE:** **Never use the ladder near live electrical wiring or during an electrical storm.** Aluminum is one of the best conductors of electricity there is. Never use the ladder for anything but a ladder. It was not designed to be a bridge, a prop, or a workbench. It was also not designed to accommodate more than one person at a time. **Never attempt to "Walk" "Jog" or otherwise move the ladder while still on it!** Never use a ladder that has been exposed to extreme heat or a strong chemical. The metal may have been greatly weakened without showing any visible signs of damage. Never leave the ladder set up and unattended where children may be present! Never sit or take a break while on a ladder. Never climb a ladder if you are physically impaired, afraid of heights, tire easily, are prone to fainting or dizziness, or are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Most of this information is also available on the warning labels that come on every ladder.

#### OUR LIMITED WARRANTY

The manufacturer warrants to the consumer that this ladder is free from defects in material and workmanship. All express and or implied warranties expire 30 days after the date of purchase of the ladder. Repair or replacement will be made at no charge upon return of the ladder within 20 days of the breach of warranty to the manufacturer. All consequential damages which result from the breach of an express or implied warranty are hereby excluded.

**What do I do if I receive a damaged or defective ladder?** If you detect the damage within 30 days, simply return it and we will replace it or repair it free of charge. If the ladder was damaged as a result of shipping by a third party, our warranty does not apply. In these instances, you must file a claim directly with the freight carrier.

**What happens after 30 days?** If the product has been purchased within the last year, and has defects which we feel are clearly due to materials or workmanship, and not improper use, freight or equipment damage, then in most cases we will correct the problem for no charge.

**What if I am not sure how the ladder was damaged?** We can usually determine if the ladder was defective, or was damaged by heavy equipment or improper use.

**Out of state customers read this:** A majority of our ladders are sold to customers who reside out of state. If you purchased the ladder through a dealer you may return it to them for inspection. If there is no dealer in your area we can help you arrange shipping to our factory. Upon receipt and inspection of your ladder, we will determine if it is indeed a warranty problem. If it is, we will repair or replace your ladder free of charge. If it is not a warranty issue, **you will be responsible for all repair charges that may apply.** **Our warranty does not cover shipping charges to and from our factory.** If you have any questions about this, contact us at: 1-800-393-5233

**Please remember, even though we use the finest materials available, ladders still require repair or replacement from time to time as does any other piece of equipment used on a daily basis.**