



Certificate Specification

Level 4

Horticulture

4M1994

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1. Introduction

The Further Education and Training Awards Council is the single national awarding body in further education and training in Ireland. It is responsible for determining the standards for named awards at levels 1 to 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications. All named awards are devised in line with the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland's determinations and guidelines.

2. The National Framework of Qualifications

The National Framework of Qualifications comprises 10 levels ranging from initial learning (level 1) to the most advanced levels of learning (level 10).

At each level there are one or more award types. An award type is a grouping of awards that share similar features. The National Qualifications Authority of Ireland has determined Award Type Descriptors for each award type. See www.nqai.ie. The Award Type Descriptor identifies the key strands and sub-strands of knowledge, skill and competence for that award type.

3. Guide to Level

Independence is the hallmark of this level. Learning outcomes at this level correspond to a growing sense of responsibility for participating in public life and shaping one's own life. The outcomes at this level would be associated with first-time entry to many occupational sectors.

| Strand | Sub-strand | Nature of learning |
|------------------|-------------------|--|
| Knowledge | Breadth | Broad range of knowledge |
| | Kind | Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant depth in some areas |
| Know How & Skill | Range | Demonstrate a moderate range of practical and cognitive skills and tools |
| | Selectivity | Select from a range of procedures and apply known solutions to a variety of predictable problems |
| Competence | Context | Act in familiar and unfamiliar contexts |
| | Role | Act with considerable amount of responsibility and autonomy |
| | Learning to Learn | Learn to take responsibility for own learning within a supervised environment |
| | Insight | Assume partial responsibility for consistency of self-understanding and behaviour |

Extract from 'Determinations for the Outline National Framework of Qualifications': NQAI (www.nqai.ie)

4. FETAC Awards

FETAC makes four types of awards: major, minor, special purpose and supplemental.

A **major award** is the principal class of award made at each level. It represents a significant volume of learning outcomes. A major award will prepare learners for employment, participation in society and community and access to higher levels of education and training.

A **Certificate** will be awarded to all learners who successfully complete the major award requirements at levels 1-5 and an **Advanced Certificate** will be awarded at level 6.

All major awards comprise a combination of minor and/or special purpose awards. The learner must successfully achieve all the stated requirements in order to achieve the major award.

Learners may accumulate the appropriate minor and special purpose awards over time to achieve the major award.

A **minor award** is an award that is derived from and must link to, at least one major, special purpose or supplemental award. Minor awards are smaller than their parent award(s). Achievement of a minor award provides for recognition of learning that has relevance and value in its own right. A minor award is referred to as a **Component**.

A **Component Certificate** will be awarded to all learners who successfully complete one or more components (i.e. minor awards) but not the full or particular requirement for the Certificate.

A **special purpose award** is made for specific and relatively narrow purposes. All special purpose awards comprise one or more components. The learner must successfully achieve all the stated requirements in order to achieve the special purpose award.

A **Specific Purpose Certificate** will be awarded to all learners who successfully complete the award requirements.

A **supplemental award** is an award which recognises learning which involves updating/up-skilling and/or continuing education and training with specific regard to occupations. All supplemental awards comprise one or more components. The learner must successfully achieve all the stated requirements in order to achieve the supplemental award.

A **Supplemental Certificate** will be awarded to learners who successfully complete the award requirements.

5. Award Specifications

FETAC determines the standards for all awards in partnership with relevant stakeholders. This award was developed in line with the Council policy on Standards Development published in September 2005.

Standards are published in the form of Award Specifications. A Specification is devised in respect of each named award. Each Specification provides a comprehensive description of the features, characteristics and standards of the award.

A **Certificate Specification** is published for each named **major award**.

A **Component Specification** is published for each named **minor award**. Please note that each component (i.e. minor award) is associated with one or more Certificates (i.e. major, special purpose or supplemental award).

A **Specific Purpose Specification** is published for each **special purpose award**.

A **Supplemental Specification** is published for each **supplemental award**.

Standards are expressed in terms of **learning outcomes** i.e. concise statements of what the learner is expected to know or be able to do in order to achieve that award.

Learning outcomes for all awards (i.e. major, special purpose, supplemental awards) are contained within the associated Component Specifications.

6. Navigating the Certificate Specification

Section 7 of this Certificate Specification outlines the details and requirements for this award.. The details and requirements for the associated **components** can be found at www.fetac.ie.

7. Certificate Details

| | |
|--|---|
| Title | Horticulture |
| Teideal as Gaeilge | Gairneoireacht |
| Award Type | Major |
| Code | 4M1994 |
| Level | 4 |
| Credit Value | 90 |
| Purpose | The purpose of this award is to enable the learner to work as a general operative in horticulture, using knowledge, skill and competence to select, establish, grow and maintain a range of plants under supervision. |
| Statements of Knowledge, Skill and Competence | Learners will be able to: |
| Knowledge | |
| <i>Breadth</i> | Acquire a broad range of knowledge in the selection, growth, care and maintenance of plants. |
| <i>Kind</i> | Demonstrate understanding of the basic horticultural concepts and theory. |
| Know How & Skill | |
| <i>Range</i> | Demonstrate a range of skills in the selection, growth, care and maintenance of plants and the use of equipment and safe horticultural practices. |
| <i>Selectivity</i> | Select appropriate techniques, equipment and procedures in working as an horticultural operative. |
| Competence | |
| <i>Context</i> | Use horticultural knowledge and skills in a wide range of horticultural settings. |
| <i>Role</i> | Operate appropriate safety procedures under supervision to create and maintain a safe working environment. |
| <i>Learning to Learn</i> | Demonstrate capacity to take responsibility for own learning within a supervised environment. |
| <i>Insight</i> | Participate effectively as a team member. |
| | The learning outcomes associated with this award are outlined in the |

associated Component Specifications.

Access To access programmes leading to this award the learner should have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence associated with the preceding level of the National Framework of Qualifications. This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experience.

Transfer Achievement of this award will enable the learner to transfer to other appropriate programmes leading to awards at the same level of the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression Achievement of this award will enable the learner to progress to other appropriate programmes leading to awards at the next or higher levels of the National Framework of Qualifications.

Progression Awards Learners who successfully complete this award may progress to a range of different awards.

Grading Pass
Merit
Distinction

The grade achieved will be determined by the grades achieved on the components

8. Certificate Requirements

The total credit value required for this certificate is 90. This will be achieved by completing:

| Award Code | Title | Level | Credit Value |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|

All of the following component(s)

| | | | |
|--------|--|---|----|
| 4N1186 | Plant Identification, Care and Maintenance | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0719 | Safe Horticultural Practice | 4 | 10 |

A minimum credit value of 30 from the following components

| | | | |
|--------|--|---|----|
| 4N1168 | Work Experience | 4 | 15 |
| 4N0689 | Communications | 4 | 15 |
| 4N1125 | Information Technology Skills | 4 | 10 |
| 4N1131 | Personal and Interpersonal Development | 4 | 10 |
| 4N1132 | Personal Effectiveness | 4 | 10 |
| 4N1169 | Teamworking | 4 | 10 |
| 4N1989 | Customer Service | 4 | 10 |
| 4N1170 | Work Practice | 4 | 15 |

A minimum credit value of 40 from the following components

| | | | |
|--------|--|---|----|
| 4N0682 | Horticultural Science | 4 | 10 |
| 4N1990 | Plant Propagation | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0683 | Horticultural Tools and Equipment | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0667 | Establishing Turfgrass | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0666 | Establishing Trees and Shrubs | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0662 | Establishing Ornamental Flowering Plants | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0668 | Growing Fruit | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0671 | Growing Vegetables | 4 | 10 |
| 4N0681 | Hard Landscape Construction | 4 | 10 |
| 4N2429 | Sports Surfaces Maintenance | 4 | 10 |

9. Supporting Documentation

None

10. Specific Validation Requirements

There are no specific validation requirements for this award

11. Europass Certificate Supplement

The Europass Certificate Supplement for this award can be accessed at: www.fetac.ie.