



Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Council



**Occupational Standards
of Competence**

Amenity Horticulture

Level 2

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Landscaping

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NVQ in Amenity Horticulture - Level 2

Qualification Overview

Amenity horticulture is the growth, design, planning, creation, care, maintenance and management of the amenity landscape which includes – recreational areas and green spaces (parks and historic gardens to planning of domestic gardens), sports grounds, ornamental plantings and managed landscapes (which will in some instances include the interiors of buildings).

The purpose is to plan, develop and manage diverse landscape (plants and soils) for sporting, aesthetic, leisure and commercial purposes in the most efficient and environmentally safe manner. This document focuses on Landscaping, Sports Turf and Nursery although Amenity Horticulture involves other activities such as Interior Landscaping and Cemeteries and Graveyards.

Landscaping

The Landscape Industry is a diverse horticultural industry where there is a wide range of landscape operations across the sector with a key division between those who focus on hard-scape construction, which is often linked to the construction industry, and soft-scape development with a more eclectic approach to plant use and landscape development.

The work undertaken by those employed in the Landscape sector can comprise the following:

- construction and maintenance of domestic and commercial landscapes,
- design of gardens and commercial landscapes,
- rehabilitation and maintenance of urban bushland,
- construction and installation of amenity and recreational landscape structures,
- provision of technical advice and forward estimates on landscape development proposals.

Nursery

The Nursery Industry is a specialist horticultural industry where there is a wide diversity of enterprises that comprise the Nursery sector with the major distinction being between production, wholesale and retail nurseries. Some nurseries are involved in two or three sectors.

The work undertaken by those employed in the nursery sector can comprise the following:

- propagation, production and maintenance of plants for sales and/or hire,
- wholesaling and retailing of plants and associated products,
- provision of advice on plant selection and garden design,
- marketing and promotion of plant products and services.

Turf

The Turf Industry is a horticultural industry that comprises the growth, care and management of turf.

The work undertaken by those employed in the Turf Industry can comprise the following:

- establishing and maintenance of commercial and recreational turf,
- design and preparation of sports turf playing surfaces,
- domestic mowing and turf maintenance operations,
- management of recreational and sport turf facilities,
- provision of technical advice on turf irrigation, pest and disease control and turf management practices.

Turf management work is associated with golf courses, wicket and pitch preparation, racing clubs, institutional and recreational playing fields and mowing contractors.

Who the qualification is for

This qualification is for a skilled individual working in amenity horticulture activities for example:

- Landscaper
- Groundsman
- Nursery assistant
- Gardener
- Golf course employee
- Greenhouse employee
- Sports Turf employee
- Recreational area employee
- Certain Categories of farm employees
- Plant Shop employee

This list is not exhaustive and only serves to illustrate the breadth of the qualification.

How is it structured

The candidate must achieve three (3) mandatory units plus five (5) optional units. If all five optional units are chosen from the same option group (e.g. A), the certificate will display the occupational route chosen (e.g. Amenity Horticulture (Nursery)'). If optional units are chosen from a variety of option groups, the certificate will display 'Amenity Horticulture'

What it covers

The mandatory units cover:

- Health and Safety
- Developing and improving personal performance
- Maintaining effective working relationships
- Establishing effective relationships with customers
- Positively promoting yourself and your organisation

The optional units cover:

- Transporting Supplies
- Maintaining grass surfaces
- Maintaining Structures and Surfaces
- Equipment Maintenance
- Propagation of Plants from Seed and Vegetative Methods
- Identifying and Controlling pests and diseases
- Preparation of growing media
- Installing and Maintaining Drainage Systems
- Preparing and Operating a tractor with attachments
- Maintaining plants outdoors
- Operating Specialised Plant Machinery

APPROVED NATIONAL VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE

AMENITY HORTICULTURE – LEVEL 2 – A007-02

The candidate must achieve the three (3) mandatory units plus five optional (5) units

If all five optional units are chosen from the same option group (e.g. A), the certificate will display the occupational route chosen (e.g. ‘Amenity Horticulture (Nursery)’)

If optional units are chosen from a variety of option groups, the certificate will display ‘Amenity Horticulture’

MANDATORY UNITS (All must be completed)

TVETC Number

1	Monitor and maintain health and safety	U15702
1.1	Monitor and maintain health, safety and security in the workplace	
1.2	Maintain good standards of health and safety for self and others	
2	Develop personal performance and maintain working relationships	U15802
2.1	Maintain and develop personal performance	
2.2	Establish and maintain working relationships with others	
3	Give customers a positive impression of yourself and your organisation <i>(Developed by the Customer Service Lead Body)</i>	U09602
3.1	Establish effective relationships with customers	
3.2	Respond appropriately to customers	
3.3	Communicate information to customers	

OPTIONAL UNITS

Optional Group A - Nursery

4	Maintain the condition of plants and other resources during transportation	U15902
4.1	Prepare plants and other resources for transportation	
4.2	Transport plants and other resources	
5	Propagate plants by vegetative methods	U16002
5.1	Collect propagation material	
5.2	Prepare propagation material	
5.3	Establish propagation material in a growing environment	

AMENITY HORTICULTURE – LEVEL 2 – A007-02

<u>Optional Units – Group A – Nursery/Continued</u>		<u>TVETC Number</u>
6	Propagate plants from seed	U16102
6.1	Prepare materials and sow seeds	
6.2	Provide aftercare for seedlings	
7	Prepare growing media	U16202
7.1	Obtain and position materials	
7.2	Prepare growing media	
8	Monitor environmental conditions for plants	U16302
8.1	Monitor and record environmental conditions for plants	
8.2	Monitor and maintain watering systems	
9	Identify, collect and prepare plants for dispatch	U16402
9.1	Identify and collect plants for dispatch	
9.2	Prepare plants for dispatch	
<u>Optional Group B - Landscaping</u>		
10	Prepare sites for landscaping	U16502
10.1	Clear Sites	
10.2	Level and clear sites for landscaping	
10.3	Prepare soil for planting, seeding and turfing	
11	Establish plants outdoors	U16602
11.1	Prepare ground for establishing plants	
11.2	Establish plants in soil	
12	Maintain general amenity turf	U16702
12.1	Maintain the health of general amenity turf	
12.2	Maintain the condition of general amenity turf	
13	Establish and develop decorative amenity areas	U16802
13.1	Establish decorative amenity areas	
13.2	Develop the appearance of decorative amenity areas	

AMENITY HORTICULTURE – LEVEL 2 – A007-02

<u>Optional Units – Group B – Landscaping .../Continued</u>		<u>TVETC Number</u>
4	Maintain the condition of plants and other resources during Transportation <i>(Also in Option Group A)</i>	U15902
4.1	Prepare plants and other resources for transportation	
4.2	Transport plants and other resources	
14	Install and maintain drainage systems	U16902
14.1	Install drainage systems	
14.2	Maintain drainage systems	
15	Use and maintain equipment and machines	U17002
15.1	Use equipment and machinery	
15.2	Carry out routine maintenance to equipment and machinery	
16	Construct and maintain water features	U17102
16.1	Construct water features	
16.2	Maintain water features	
17	Prepare and operate a tractor with attachments	U17202
17.1	Prepare a tractor with attachments for operation	
17.2	Operate a tractor and its attachments	
18	Construct and maintain boundaries and paths	U17302
18.1	Construct and maintain boundaries	
18.2	Construct and maintain paths	
19	Maintain and repair structures and surfaces	U17402
19.1	Maintain structures and surfaces	
19.2	Repair structures and surfaces	
20	Construct new structures and surfaces	U17502
20.1	Prepare for the construction of new structures and surfaces	
20.2	Construct new structures and surfaces	

AMENITY HORTICULTURE – LEVEL 2 – A007-02

<u>Optional Units – Group B – Landscaping/Continued</u>		<u>TVETC Number</u>
21	Maintain plants outdoors	U17602
21.1	Maintain the health of plants outdoors	
21.2	Remove unwanted plant growth	
22	Operate specialised plant machinery to performance requirements	U17702
22.1	Prepare and set up plant and machinery	
22.2	Operate plant and machinery to meet work requirements	
22.3	Shut down and secure plant and machinery	
<u>Optional Group C – Sports Turf</u>		
11	Establish plants outdoors <i>(Also in Option Group B)</i>	U16602
11.1	Prepare ground for establishing plants	
11.2	Establish plants in soil	
23	Maintain the health of sports turf	U17802
23.1	Monitor the health of sports turf	
23.2	Maintain the health of sports turf	
24	Present, maintain and repair sports turf surfaces for play	U17902
24.1	Present and maintain sports surfaces and facilities for play	
24.2	Renovate and repair sports turf surfaces	
25	Present, maintain and repair artificial playing surfaces for play	U18002
25.1	Maintain the condition of artificial playing surfaces	
25.2	Repair and renovate artificial playing surfaces	
15	Use and maintain equipment and machines <i>(Also in Option Group B)</i>	U17002
15.1	Use equipment and machinery	
15.2	Carry out routine maintenance to equipment and machinery	
17	Prepare and operate a tractor with attachments <i>(Also in Option Group B)</i>	U17202
17.1	Prepare a tractor with attachments for operation	
17.2	Operate a tractor and its attachments	