



QQI is currently developing its corporate brands and policies for awards and standards. Until this process is completed an interim format will be used for new QQI certificate/component specifications for the Common Awards System.

Certificate Details

Title: Herd Recording in Pig Production

Irish Title: Taifeadh Tréad i dTáirgeadh Muc

Award Class: Minor

Level: 5

Credit Value: 5 FET Credits

Code: 5N2406

Purpose: The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to maintain accurate farm production and financial records for a pig farm enterprise, interpret records and to keep records in accordance with current legislation.

The learner should be able to:

NFQ level Indicators

The learner should be able to:		NFQ level Indicators	
1	Describe the benefits of accurate herd records.	Knowledge	Breadth Broad range of knowledge
2	Describe the principles of on-farm herd recording including records required for management and legislative requirements.		Kind Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant depth in some areas
3	Outline current pig herd recording tools available.		
4	Benchmark and interpret individual herd performance figures and financial data to current national and European key performance indicators and outlining appropriate corrective action.	Know-how and skill	Range Demonstrate a broad range of specialised skills and tools Selectivity Evaluate and use information to plan and develop investigative strategies and to determine solutions to varied unfamiliar problems

5	Perform tasks associated with herd recording including inputting data on herd performance and financial records.	Competence	Context Act in a range of varied and specific contexts, taking responsibility for the nature and quality of outputs; identify and apply skill and knowledge to a wide variety of contexts
		Competence	Role Exercise some initiative and independence in carrying out defined activities; join and function within multiple, complex and heterogeneous groups
			Learning to learn Learn to take responsibility for own learning within a managed environment
			Insight Assume full responsibility for consistency of self-understanding and behaviour

Assessment Requirements

Details of QQI's assessment requirements are set out in [QQI's current Assessment Guidelines](#). Assessment is criterion referenced. Successful achievement of the award is based on learners attaining the required standards of knowledge, skill or competence.

The techniques set out below are considered the optimum approach to assessment for this component. In exceptional circumstances providers may identify alternative assessment techniques through the provider's application for programme validation which are **reliable** and **valid** but which are more appropriate to their context.

Assessment of a number of components may be integrated across programmes for delivery, provided that the learning outcomes of each minor award are assessed.

Group or team work may form part of the assessment, provided each learner's achievement is separately assessed.

All providers are required to submit an assessment plan as part of their application for programme validation. Assessment Plans will include information relating to scheduling and integration of assessment. See [QQI's current policy on programme validation](#).

Assessment Techniques

In order to demonstrate that they have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence identified in all the learning outcomes, learners are required to complete the assessment(s) below.

The assessor is responsible for devising assessment instruments (e.g. project and assignment briefs, examination papers), assessment criteria and mark sheets, consistent with the techniques identified below and QQI's assessment requirements.

Programme validation will require providers to map each learning outcome to its associated assessment technique. See [QQI's current policy on programme validation](#).

All learning outcomes **must** be assessed and achieved before the award may be made.

Examination – Theory 60%

Skills Demonstration 40%

Description

Skills Demonstration

A skills demonstration is used to assess a wide range of practical based learning outcomes including practical skills and knowledge. A skills demonstration will require the learner to complete a task or series of tasks that demonstrate a range of skills.

The assessor will devise a skills assessment to include: Using pig management software to record all aspects of production

Examination Theory

An examination provides a means of assessing a learner's ability to recall and apply knowledge, skills and understanding within a set period of time and under clearly specified conditions.

A theory-based examination assesses the ability to recall, apply and understand specific theory and knowledge.

Grading

Pass 50% - 64%

Merit 65% - 79%

Distinction 80% - 100%

Specific Validation Requirements

The provider must have all of the following in place to offer this award:

1. Access to a pig farm or pig production unit with appropriate animal and crop housing and handling facilities in compliance with health and safety requirements
2. Access to a farm or pig unit with appropriate skills demonstration space in compliance with health and safety requirements
3. Access to a pig farm or pig unit of sufficient scale to ensure that all learners have access to animals and equipment required to practice and achieve learning outcomes to include:
 - Suitable sized pig herd
 - Complete pig unit with modern herd recording equipment
4. Stated policies and procedures by the provider to deal with potential bio-security risks
5. Access to a pig farm or pig unit in compliance with current hygiene regulations

Supporting Documentation

None

Access Statement

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.