

Component Specification

Finfish Ongrowing Operations

NFQ Level 5

5N5286

1. Component Details

Title	Finfish Ongrowing Operations
Teideal as Gaeilge	Oibríochtaí i gcás lasc Eite ag Dul i Méid
Award Class	Minor
Code	5N5286
Level	5
Credit Value	15
Purpose	The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to work under supervision and with others to carry out routine operations of ongrowing finfish.
Learning Outcomes	<p>Learners will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Comment on why fish are starved prior to transfer 2 Summarise the procedures used to help get juvenile fish off to good start after transfer to an on-growing facility 3 Discuss the relative merits of different types of ponds, tanks, ropes, cages, moorings, nets, auto feeders, graders and water treatment systems used in aquaculture 4 Interpret the harvest code of practice 5 Explain the relevant quality and certification standards

- 6 Discuss the importance of the disinfection routine prior to and post handling of Finfish
- 7 Review the relevant monitoring regulations and their enforcement bodies
- 8 Examine the affect of handling techniques during harvesting
- 9 Prepare a cage for fish transfer
- 10 Check mesh size and quality of nets
- 11 Record accurately details of fish transfer
- 12 Repair a damaged net/tank
- 13 Form the most common knots and splices used in aquaculture
- 14 Coil and uncoil correctly new and used ropes
- 15 Assist in a net change
- 16 Assist in filling of a feed barge
- 17 Comment on good feeding practices for ongrowing finfish
- 18 Carry out routine batch weights
- 19 Assist in sampling of condition factor and index
- 20 Plan a potential finfish farm to include preparation for licence application
- 21 Assist during harvesting
- 22 Assist in removing stock from a cage/tank
- 23 Interpret charts
- 24 Apply the principles of meteorology
- 25 Recommend the correct sea-lice treatment
- 26 Calculate stocking density, feed rate, food conversion ratio and treatment dosages
- 27 Handle chemicals correctly and safely and fill in a chemical log
- 28 Plan the procedure to deploy and adjust sea cage moorings

- 29 Plan a weekly/monthly/annual finfish farm work programme
- 30 Hand feed fish and feed using automatic feeders correctly
- 31 Identify the major threats to fish health
- 32 Exercise initiative in maintaining fish health.

Assessment

General Information

Details of FET assessment requirements are set out in [Assessment Guidelines for Providers](#).

All FET 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 current FET validation guidelines at www.qqi.ie.

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 FETAC's assessment requirements.

Programme validation will require providers to map each learning outcome to its associated assessment technique. See current FET validation guidelines at www.qqi.ie.

All learning outcomes **must** be assessed and achieved

Skills Demonstration	70%
Examination - Theory	30%

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.

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.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Learners may be assessed on the basis of their prior knowledge and experience. Providers must be specifically quality assured to assess learners by this means. To do so they must complete B10, see Provider's Quality Assurance Guidelines and be included on the Register of RPL approved providers. See RPL Guidelines at www.fetac.ie for further information and registration details.

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:

Classroom teaching facilities On-line computer facilities

1. Passenger workboat
2. Access to fish farm and research facilities (land based and marine)
3. Sampling equipment (underwater camera, weighing scales, measuring board, water analysis equipment)

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. A space suitably equipped for the construction, repair and maintenance of fish farming equipment 5. Public liability insurance 6. A Health & Safety Statement 7. Personal protection equipment for all students
Supporting Documentation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legislation relevant to finfish 2. Examples of existing finfish licences 3. Aquaculture reference materials (books, journals etc.) 4. Current Safety and Health at Work legislation 5. Notes relating to each of the skills to be undertaken
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	Successful completion of this component award enables the learner to transfer to programmes leading to other certificates where this component is a mandatory or an elective requirement.

2. FET Award Standards

QQI award standards are determined within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), <http://www.nfq-qqi.com>. QQI determines standards for the education and training awards that it makes itself and that are made by providers to whom it has delegated authority to make an award. Providers offering programmes leading to QQI awards **must** have their programme(s) validated in accordance with current validation policy (see www.qqi.ie).

Award standards are designed to be consistent with the NFQ's award classes i.e. major, special purpose, supplemental and minor awards. They 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 a particular award. Learning outcomes for FET awards are contained within the associated specifications:

AWARD CLASS	STANDARDS	AWARDS
Major Award	Certificate Specification	Certificate (Levels 1 to 5) Advanced Certificate (Level 6)
Supplemental Award	Supplemental Specification	Supplemental Certificate (Level 3 to 6)
Special Purpose	Specific Purpose Specification	Specific Purpose Certificate (Levels 3 to 6)
Minor Award	Component Specification	Component Certificate (Levels 1 to 6)

Award standards are thresholds, they describe standards of knowledge, skill or competence to be acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by a learner before an award may be made.

Award standards will be reviewed from time to time as necessary. Minor changes may be made by the QQI executive outside the review cycle where necessary. Changes to standards are published on QQI's website. Providers with validated programmes and providers with delegated authority to make awards are responsible for monitoring relevant standards and making necessary responses to changes.

3. FET Credit

Every FET certificate and component specification includes an FET credit value (Table 1). FET credit is quantified in multiples of 5 FET credits (up to 50 hours of learner effort). Learner effort is based on the time taken by typical learners at the level of the award to achieve the learning outcomes for the award. It includes all learning time involved including: guided learning hours, self-directed learning and assessment.

Table 1: FET Credit Values

NFQ Level	Major Awards Credit Values	Default Credit Values Minor Awards	Other Permitted Minor Award Credit Values	Special Purpose and Supplemental Award Credit Value Ranges
1	20	5	10	
2	30	5	10	
3	60	10	5,20	>5 and <60
4	90	10	5,15,20	>5 and <90
5	120	15	5,10,30	>5 and <120
6	120	15	5,10,30	>5 and <120

Guide to Level

Learning outcomes at this level include a broad range of skills that require some theoretical understanding. The outcomes may relate to engaging in a specific activity, with the capacity to use the instruments and techniques relating to an occupation. They are associated with work being undertaken independently, subject to general direction.

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 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
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
	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

Extract from 'Determinations for the Outline National Framework of Qualifications': NQAI