



**QQI**

Quality and Qualifications Ireland  
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

## Certificate Specification NFQ Level 6

### Agriculture 6M20486

#### 1. Certificate Details

<b>Title</b>	Agriculture
<b>Teideal as Gaeilge</b>	Talmhaíocht
<b>Award Type</b>	Major
<b>Code</b>	6M20486
<b>Level</b>	6
<b>Credit Value</b>	120
<b>Purpose</b>	The purpose of this award is to enable the learner to safely work independently in agriculture, supervising and managing the operation of a range of farming practices and/or to progress to further or higher education.
<b>Statements of Knowledge, Skill and Competence</b>	Learners will be able to:
<b>Knowledge</b>	
<i>Breadth</i>	Demonstrate knowledge of a range of agriculture policies, procedures and farming practices that enable the safe management of a farm or agriculture business
<i>Kind</i>	Demonstrate a significant depth of knowledge of the principles, theories, legislation, regulations and technologies pertinent to agriculture.
<b>Know How &amp; Skill</b>	
<i>Range</i>	Apply a comprehensive range of interpersonal, personal and technical skills in the effective management of a farm or agriculture business.

*Selectivity* Manage an agriculture business safely, responding appropriately to challenges and adapting to personal, social, environmental, legislative and economic changes

## **Competence**

*Context* Demonstrate the ability to work effectively and safely in an agriculture context, supervising a range of farming operations

*Role* Demonstrate autonomy and take responsibility for the work of others and the allocation of resources in a farming context, dealing effectively with a range of external organisations and individuals.

*Learning to Learn* Take responsibility for own professional development and or assist others in identifying their own professional development needs.

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.

To access this award the learner shall have successfully completed Level 5 Certificate in Agriculture or equivalent qualification

## **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.

Successful completion of this award will allow the learner to apply for the UCD/Teagasc Professional Diploma in Dairy Farm Management

## **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

## 2. Certificate Requirements

**The total credit value required for this certificate is 120. This will be achieved by completing:**

<b>Award Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credit Value</b>
<b>All of the following component(s)</b>			
6N20462	Farm Management and Business Planning	6	10
6N20463	Sustainable Farming in the Environment	6	10
6N20464	Capstone for Agriculture	6	15
6N1947	Work Practice	6	15
<b>A minimum credit value of 15 from the following components</b>			
6N1948	Team Leadership	6	15
6N1949	Personal and Professional Development	6	15
6N1950	Communications	6	15
6N2104	Supervisory Skills	6	15
6N2191	Leadership	6	15
6N1941	Entrepreneurship	6	15
<b>A minimum credit value of 45 from the following components</b>			
6N0235	Managing Crop Nutrition	6	10
6N0305	Managing Ruminant Nutrition	6	10
6N2242	Crop Production Equipment	6	15
6N2243	Farm Equipment Fabrication	6	10
6N2252	Energy Crop Management	6	5
6N3005	Farm Performance Measurement	6	5
6N3525	Applied Livestock Breeding	6	5
6N20465	Beef Husbandry Management	6	15
6N20466	Sheep Husbandry Management	6	15
6N20467	Pig Husbandry Management	6	15
6N20468	Crop Production Management	6	10
6N20469	Crop Markets and Management	6	5
6N20470	Maintenance of Farm Machinery	6	10
6N20471	Dairy Husbandry Management	6	15
6N20472	Grassland Management	6	5
6N20473	Liquid Biofuel Marketing Management	6	5
6N20474	Electrical Principles of Vehicles	6	15
6N20475	Mechanical Maintenance of Vehicles	6	15
6N20476	Milking Process Technique	6	5
6N20477	Agricultural Land Drainage	6	10

6N20478	Managing Pig Nutrition	6	10
6N20479	Pig Equipment Management	6	10
6N20480	Applied Pig Reproduction	6	10
6N20481	Managing Poultry Nutrition	6	10
6N20482	Poultry Equipment Management	6	10
6N20483	Poultry Management	6	15
6N20484	Applied Poultry Reproduction	6	10
6N20485	Grazing Platform Designs	6	5

The remaining credit value of 10 can be obtained by using relevant component(s) from level 6. A maximum of 15 credits may be used from level 5.

### 3. Supporting Documentation

1. Publications from: The Health and Safety Authority of Ireland
2. Publications from: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
3. Publications from: Teagasc, The Agriculture and Food Development Authority

### 4. Specific Validation Requirements

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

1. Access to a farm with appropriate animal and crop housing and handling facilities in compliance with health and safety requirements
2. Access to a farm with appropriate skills demonstration space in compliance with health and safety requirements
3. Access to a farm of sufficient scale to ensure that all learners have access to animals and equipment and crops required to practice and achieve learning outcomes
4. Stated policies and procedures by the provider to deal with potential bio-security risks
5. Stated Specific Validation Requirements on individual component awards

### 5. Europass Certificate Supplement

The Europass Certificate Supplement for this award can be accessed at: [www.qqi.ie](http://www.qqi.ie).

### 6. 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](http://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 QQI awards are contained within the associated specifications:

AWARD CLASS	STANDARDS	AWARDS
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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.

## 7. 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 comprehensive range of skills which may be vocationally-specific and/or of a general supervisory nature, and require detailed theoretical understanding. The outcomes also provide for a particular focus on learning skills. The outcomes relate to working in a generally autonomous way to assume design and/or management and/or administrative responsibilities. Occupations at this level would include higher craft, junior technician and supervisor.

Strand	Sub-strand	Nature of learning
Knowledge	Breadth	Specialised knowledge of a broad area

	Kind	Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant underpinning theory
Know How & Skill	Range	Demonstrate a comprehensive range of specialised skills and tools
	Selectivity	Formulate responses to well defined abstract problems
Competence	Context	Act in a range of varied and specific contexts involving creative and non-routine activities; transfer and apply theoretical concepts and/or technical or creative skills to a range of contexts
	Role	Exercise substantial personal autonomy and often take responsibility for the work of others and/or for the allocation of resources; form and function within, multiple and complex heterogeneous groups.
	Learning to Learn	Learn to evaluate own learning and identify needs within a structured learning environment; assist others in identifying learning needs
	Insight	Express an internalised, personal world view, reflecting engagement with others.

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

