

Certificate Specification NFQ Level 6

Agriculture 6M2254

1. Certificate Details

Title	Agriculture
Teideal as Gaeilge	Talmhaíocht
Award Class	Major
Code	6M2254
Level	6
Credit Value	120
Purpose	The purpose of this award is to enable the learner to work independently on a farm, supervising the operation of a range of farming practices and or to progress to further or higher education.
Statements of Knowledge, Skill and Competence	Learners will be able to:
Knowledge	
<i>Breadth</i>	Demonstrate knowledge of a range of agriculture policies, procedures, and farming practices that enable the management of an farm.
<i>Kind</i>	Demonstrate a significant depth of knowledge of the principles, theories, legislation, regulations and technologies pertinent to agriculture.
Know How & Skill	
<i>Range</i>	Apply a comprehensive range of interpersonal, personal and technical skills in the effective management of a farm.
<i>Selectivity</i>	Manage a farm responding appropriately to challenges and adapting to personal, social, environmental and economic changes.
Competence	
<i>Context</i>	Demonstrate the ability to work effectively in a farming 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.

Insight Reflect critically on personal and professional practice to inform understanding and contribute to the professional development of self and others.

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

2. Certificate Requirements

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

Award Code	Title	Level	Credit Value
All of the following component(s)			
6N2232	Farm Management	6	10
6N2233	Farm Business Planning	6	10
6N1947	Work Practice	6	15

A minimum credit value of 15 from the following components

6N1950	Communications	6	15
6N1949	Personal and Professional Development	6	15
6N1948	Team Leadership	6	15
6N2191	Leadership	6	15

A minimum credit value of 55 from the following components

6N3005	Farm Performance Measurement	6	5
6N3525	Applied Livestock Breeding	6	5
6N3526	Grazing Platform Organisation	6	5
6N4733	Vehicle Electrical Principles	6	15
6N4734	Vehicle Mechanical Maintenance	6	15
6N0723	Milking Process Routine	6	5
6N2235	Beef Management	6	15
6N2237	Sheep Management	6	15
6N2247	Dairy Management	6	15
6N2239	Pig Management	6	15
6N2240	Crop Management	6	15
6N2242	Crop Production Equipment	6	15
6N2243	Farm Equipment Fabrication	6	10
6N2244	Farm Machinery Maintenance	6	10
6N0305	Managing Ruminant Nutrition	6	10
6N0235	Managing Crop Nutrition	6	10
6N2248	Environmental and Sustainable Farming	6	10
6N2249	Applied Cattle Breeding	6	5
6N2250	Grass Management	6	5
6N2252	Energy Crop Management	6	5
6N2253	Liquid Biofuel Production	6	5

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

3. Supporting Documentation

None

4. Specific Validation Requirements

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

- 1.
- 2.
3. Access to a farm with appropriate animal and crop housing and handling facilities in compliance with health and safety requirements
- 4.
5. Access to a farm with appropriate skills demonstration space in compliance with health and safety requirements
- 6.
7. 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

- 8.
9. Stated policies and procedures by the provider to deal with potential bio-security risks
- 10.
11. Facilities outlined in the specific validation requirements in the associated component specifications

5. Europass Certificate Supplement

The Europass Certificate Supplement for this award can be accessed at: 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).

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
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