

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. |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <i>Role</i> | 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. |
| <i>Learning to Learn</i> | Take responsibility for own professional development and or assist others in identifying their own professional development needs. |
| <i>Insight</i> | 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