

Special Purpose Specification NFQ Level 6

Farming 6S20487

1. Certificate Details

Title	Farming
Teideal as Gaeilge	Feirmeoireacht
Award Class	Special Purpose
Code	6S20487
Level	6
Credit Value	50
Purpose	The purpose of this award is to enable the learner with skill and competence to understand key farm management systems, transfer of farm property, apply technical knowledge and techniques in farm business planning and farm performance measurement
Statements of Knowledge, Skill and Competence	Learners will be able to:
Knowledge	
<i>Breadth</i>	Demonstrate conceptual, technical and factual knowledge of the requirements and processes associated with farm management, transfer of property, business planning and performance benchmarking.
<i>Kind</i>	Demonstrate a technical knowledge in identified aspects of agriculture production
Know How & Skill	
<i>Range</i>	Apply key knowledge and understanding in regard to safe farm management, transfer of property, farm business planning and farm performance benchmarking processes.
<i>Selectivity</i>	Using technical knowledge and skill devise strategies to safely augment a given farming situation.
Competence	

<i>Context</i>	Using technical knowledge, prepare a farm business plan, calculate costs of transferring ownership of property and conduct a farm performance benchmarking exercise.
<i>Role</i>	Prioritise resources and schedule actions to achieve stated goals.
<i>Learning to Learn</i>	Comprehend farm management, farm planning, farm performance measurement and technical farm practice
<i>Insight</i>	Adapt and customise knowledge and concepts to the learner's individual farming situation

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 must successfully complete Level 5 Certificate in Agriculture.

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 50. This will be achieved by completing:

Award Code	Title	Level	Credit Value
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All of the following component(s)

6N20462	Farm Management and Business Planning	6	10
6N20463	Sustainable Farming in the Environment	6	10

6N1947	Work Practice	6	15
6N3005	Farm Performance Measurement	6	5
A minimum credit value of 10 from the following components			
6N3525	Applied Livestock Breeding	6	5
6N20468	Crop Production Management	6	10
6N20472	Grassland Management	6	5

3. Supporting Documentation

None

4. Specific Validation Requirements

To access this award, providers must have the following in place

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

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)

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