



**QQI**

Quality and Qualifications Ireland  
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

## Certificate Specification NFQ Level 4

### Horticulture 4M1994

#### 1. Certificate Details

<b>Title</b>	Horticulture
<b>Teideal as Gaeilge</b>	Gairneoireacht
<b>Award Type</b>	Major
<b>Code</b>	4M1994
<b>Level</b>	4
<b>Credit Value</b>	90
<b>Purpose</b>	The purpose of this award is to enable the learner to work as a general operative in horticulture, using knowledge, skill and competence to select, establish, grow and maintain a range of plants under supervision.
<b>Statements of Knowledge, Skill and Competence</b>	Learners will be able to:
<b>Knowledge</b>	
<i>Breadth</i>	Acquire a broad range of knowledge in the selection, growth, care and maintenance of plants.
<i>Kind</i>	Demonstrate understanding of the basic horticultural concepts and theory.
<b>Know How &amp; Skill</b>	
<i>Range</i>	Demonstrate a range of skills in the selection, growth, care and maintenance of plants and the use of equipment and safe horticultural practices.
<i>Selectivity</i>	Select appropriate techniques, equipment and procedures in working as an horticultural operative.

## Competence

<i>Context</i>	Use horticultural knowledge and skills in a wide range of horticultural settings.
<i>Role</i>	Operate appropriate safety procedures under supervision to create and maintain a safe working environment.
<i>Learning to Learn</i>	Demonstrate capacity to take responsibility for own learning within a supervised environment.
<i>Insight</i>	Participate effectively as a team member.

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 90. 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>			
4N1186	Plant Identification, Care and Maintenance	4	10
4N0719	Safe Horticultural Practice	4	10
<b>A minimum credit value of 30 from the following components</b>			

4N1168	Work Experience	4	15
4N0689	Communications	4	15
4N1125	Information Technology Skills	4	10
4N1131	Personal and Interpersonal Development	4	10
4N1132	Personal Effectiveness	4	10
4N1169	Teamworking	4	10
4N1989	Customer Service	4	10
4N1170	Work Practice	4	15

**A minimum credit value of 40 from the following components**

4N0682	Horticultural Science	4	10
4N1990	Plant Propagation	4	10
4N0683	Horticultural Tools and Equipment	4	10
4N0667	Establishing Turfgrass	4	10
4N0666	Establishing Trees and Shrubs	4	10
4N0662	Establishing Ornamental Flowering Plants	4	10
4N0668	Growing Fruit	4	10
4N0671	Growing Vegetables	4	10
4N0681	Hard Landscape Construction	4	10
4N2429	Sports Surfaces Maintenance	4	10

### 3. Supporting Documentation

None

### 4. Specific Validation Requirements

There are no specific validation requirements for this award

### 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
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

Independence is the hallmark of this level. Learning outcomes at this level correspond to a growing sense of responsibility for participating in public life and shaping one's own life. The outcomes at this level would be associated with first-time entry to many occupational sectors.

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 moderate range of practical and cognitive skills and tools
	Selectivity	Select from a range of procedures and apply known solutions to a variety of predictable problems
Competence	Context	Act in familiar and unfamiliar contexts
	Role	Act with considerable amount of responsibility and autonomy
	Learning to Learn	Learn to take responsibility for own learning within a supervised environment
	Insight	Assume partial responsibility for consistency of self-understanding and behaviour

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

