



Certificate Specification

Level 6

Agriculture

6M2254

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1. Introduction

The Further Education and Training Awards Council is the single national awarding body in further education and training in Ireland. It is responsible for determining the standards for named awards at levels 1 to 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications. All named awards are devised in line with the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland's determinations and guidelines.

2. The National Framework of Qualifications

The National Framework of Qualifications comprises 10 levels ranging from initial learning (level 1) to the most advanced levels of learning (level 10).

At each level there are one or more award types. An award type is a grouping of awards that share similar features. The National Qualifications Authority of Ireland has determined Award Type Descriptors for each award type. See www.nqai.ie. The Award Type Descriptor identifies the key strands and sub-strands of knowledge, skill and competence for that award type.

3. 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 depth in some areas
Know How & Skill	Range	Demonstrate a comprehensive range of specialised skills and tools
	Selectivity	Formulate responses to well defined abstract problems
Competence	Context	Utilise diagnostic and creative skills in a range of functions in a wide variety 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 take responsibility for own learning within a managed environment.
	Insight	Express an internalised, personal world view, reflecting engagement with others.

Extract from 'Determinations for the Outline National Framework of Qualifications': NQAI (www.nqai.ie)

4. FETAC Awards

FETAC makes four types of awards: major, minor, special purpose and supplemental.

A **major award** is the principal class of award made at each level. It represents a significant volume of learning outcomes. A major award will prepare learners for employment, participation in society and community and access to higher levels of education and training.

A **Certificate** will be awarded to all learners who successfully complete the major award requirements at levels 1-5 and an **Advanced Certificate** will be awarded at level 6.

All major awards comprise a combination of minor and/or special purpose awards. The learner must successfully achieve all the stated requirements in order to achieve the major award.

Learners may accumulate the appropriate minor and special purpose awards over time to achieve the major award.

A **minor award** is an award that is derived from and must link to, at least one major, special purpose or supplemental award. Minor awards are smaller than their parent award(s). Achievement of a minor award provides for recognition of learning that has relevance and value in its own right. A minor award is referred to as a **Component**.

A **Component Certificate** will be awarded to all learners who successfully complete one or more components (i.e. minor awards) but not the full or particular requirement for the Certificate.

A **special purpose award** is made for specific and relatively narrow purposes. All special purpose awards comprise one or more components. The learner must successfully achieve all the stated requirements in order to achieve the special purpose award.

A **Specific Purpose Certificate** will be awarded to all learners who successfully complete the award requirements.

A **supplemental award** is an award which recognises learning which involves updating/upskilling and/or continuing education and training with specific regard to occupations. All supplemental awards comprise one or more components. The learner must successfully achieve all the stated requirements in order to achieve the supplemental award.

A **Supplemental Certificate** will be awarded to learners who successfully complete the award requirements.

5. Award Specifications

FETAC determines the standards for all awards in partnership with relevant stakeholders. This award was developed in line with the Council policy on Standards Development published in September 2005.

Standards are published in the form of Award Specifications. A Specification is devised in respect of each named award. Each Specification provides a comprehensive description of the features, characteristics and standards of the award.

A **Certificate Specification** is published for each named **major award**.

A **Component Specification** is published for each named **minor award**. Please note that each component (i.e. minor award) is associated with one or more Certificates (i.e. major, special purpose or supplemental award).

A **Specific Purpose Specification** is published for each **special purpose award**.

A **Supplemental Specification** is published for each **supplemental award**.

Standards 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 that award.

Learning outcomes for all awards (i.e. major, special purpose, supplemental awards) are contained within the associated Component Specifications.

6. Navigating the Certificate Specification

Section 7 of this Certificate Specification outlines the details and requirements for this award. The details and requirements for the associated **components** can be found at www.fetac.ie.

7. Certificate Details

Title	Agriculture
Teideal as Gaeilge	Talmhaíocht
Award Type	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.

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

8. 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

6N2235	Beef Management	6	15
6N3525	Applied Livestock Breeding	6	5
6N3526	Grazing Platform Organisation	6	5
6N3005	Farm Performance Measurement	6	5
6N4733	Vehicle Electrical Principles	6	15
6N4734	Vehicle Mechanical Maintenance	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 relevant component(s) from level 6. A maximum of 15 credits may be used from level 5.

9. Supporting Documentation

None

10. 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. Facilities outlined in the specific validation requirements in the associated component specifications

11. Europass Certificate Supplement

The Europass Certificate Supplement for this award can be accessed at: www.fetac.ie.