



Accredited Provider
The Skills College for Development and Training (Pty)Ltd.

National Certificate: Plant Production

Qualification ID 20288– NQF 2; 120 Credits

INTRODUCTION

This qualification has been developed for the fast food and restaurant industry. It brings together elements of food and drink preparation, service and supervision. This qualification will professionalise the industry and is applicable mainly to the fast food and restaurant sector, but would be transferable to another hospitality environment. The qualification provides articulation with Gaming, Travel and other Tourism industries.

PURPOSE AND RATIONALE OF THE QUALIFICATION

A learner assessed as competent against this qualification will be able to perform the necessary technical skills within the context of either agronomy, horticulture or animal husbandry as applicable to the agricultural commodity. The learner will be able to operate as part of the operational team.

In the case of the farm owner, the learner will be able to execute basic business skills and develop as a Small, Micro and Medium Enterprise.

In addition they will be well positioned to extend their learning and practice into other areas of agricultural commodities, or to strive towards agricultural standards and practice at higher levels.

Competent qualifying learners in this qualification will produce quality agricultural products whereby enhancing the overall agricultural process and gain opportunities to access local, national and international agricultural markets.

Rationale for the qualification:

The range of typical learners that will enter this qualification will vary and includes:

School leavers wishing to enter the primary agricultural sector;

Complete novices wishing to enter the primary agricultural sector, i.e. individuals who are beneficiaries of the land reform processes;

Learners in possession of different levels of practical experience in farming operations, which will be assessed through Recognition of Prior Learning; and

Learners may come from both genders.

The learner will engage in all farming activities relevant to farming operations within a specific context, namely horticulture, agronomy and animal husbandry. The farming activities will be determined by the agricultural commodity, which is produced.

National processes such as the land reform processes and the acquisition of land by individuals who were previously excluded from such land ownership created a huge need in terms of relevant training. Individuals will benefit from such learning as they will receive entrance into a career path where they will be enabled to generate their own income either by establishing their own farming operation or be employed as farm operators.

In many cases, communities will benefit from such endeavours as agricultural commodities will be available within a specific community. Furthermore, the opportunity to trade commodities in joining SADC countries, could be explored.

LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE

It is assumed that a learner entering a programme leading to this qualification has achieved numeracy, literacy and technical skills pertaining to agricultural activities equivalent to NQF 1.

Recognition of Prior Learning:

This qualification may be achieved in part or in whole through the recognition of prior learning. Credit will be given to learning, which has already been acquired, through the appropriate process of assessment.

For example:

Learners who have acquired skills and competencies in this qualification through for instance experience in the industry will be assessed against the unit standards the qualification comprises of prior to entering learning. Credits will be allocated to those unit standards and exit level outcomes in which the learner is found competent. The outstanding unit standards will then be sequenced according to an appropriate learning programme.

Should a new entrant into the industry wish to enter this learning programme, recognition will be given to all appropriate learning acquired through the schooling system.

In terms of fundamental unit standards, competencies could be acquired through life experience.

Any learner wishing to be directly assessed may arrange to do so, without attending further training or education. The assessor and learner will decide together on the most appropriate assessment route to take.

EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES

On achieving this qualification the learner will be able to:

1. Compile and implement a basic business plan with a short-term focus, which includes a basic sales plan and basic budgeting plan. This plan will be specific to his/her own context of operation and agricultural commodities, whether horticulture, agronomy or animal husbandry.
2. Utilise unsophisticated and/or manual technology and solve problems within a specific context (either horticulture, or agronomy, or animal husbandry) and appropriate to a commodity(ies) of own choice.
3. Understand and apply operational safety and hygiene standards applicable to the industry and market, taking into account the level of operational requirements.
4. Be aware of and apply applicable legislation.
5. Distinguish between different production systems appropriate to a specific commodity.
6. Monitor and support disaster management and conservation management.
7. Collect data and information.

8. Demonstrate a basic understanding of and apply basic principles of communication within the farm operations.
9. Work effectively with others and operate as part of a team by applying basic teamwork principles.
10. Understand and apply basic ethical principles, values, and norms applicable to the workplace with specific reference to relationships with co-workers, clients, him- or herself as well as the environment.
11. Identify and access basic resources.
12. Apply basic principles of entrepreneurship (should the learner choose to include this elective in the learning programme).

TIME PERIOD

This Learnership can be presented over a period of 12 months

A SELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING UNIT STANDARDS WILL BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO REACH 120 CREDITS:

UNIT STANDARDS:

	ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	PRE-2009 NQF LEVEL	NQF LEVEL	CREDITS
Core	12621	Collect, use and communicate data that relate to farming	Level 2	NQF Level 02	2
Core	12618	Demonstrate a basic understanding of agricultural production systems	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Core	12615	Demonstrate a basic understanding of the primary agricultural industry	Level 2	NQF Level 02	2
Core	8494	Demonstrate an understanding of HIV/AIDS and its implications	Level 2	NQF Level 02	4
Core	12619	Identify pest and diseases relevant to an agricultural commodity learner is associated with	Level 2	NQF Level 02	4
Core	12617	Maintain hygiene measures	Level 2	NQF Level 02	3
Core	8493	Maintain occupational health and safety	Level 2	NQF Level 02	2
Core	8420	Operate in a team	Level 2	NQF Level 02	4
Core	12646	Perform quality checks	Level 2	NQF Level 02	3
Core	12616	Operate and perform routine maintenance on equipment and tools	Level 3	NQF Level 03	5
Fundamental	12537	Identify personal values and ethics in the workplace	Level 1	NQF Level 01	4
Fundamental	8963	Access and use information from texts	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Fundamental	9009	Apply basic knowledge of statistics and probability to influence the use of data and procedures in order to investigate life related problems	Level 2	NQF Level 02	3
Fundamental	7480	Demonstrate understanding of rational and irrational numbers and number systems	Level 2	NQF Level 02	3

Fundamental	9008	Identify, describe, compare, classify, explore shape and motion in 2-and 3-dimensional shapes in different contexts	Level 2	NQF Level 02	3
Fundamental	8962	Maintain and adapt oral communication	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Fundamental	7469	Use mathematics to investigate and monitor the financial aspects of personal and community life	Level 2	NQF Level 02	2
Fundamental	9007	Work with a range of patterns and functions and solve problems	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Fundamental	8964	Write for a defined context	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Fundamental	8973	Use language and communication in occupational learning programmes	Level 3	NQF Level 03	5
Elective	13999	Demonstrate an understanding of basic accounting practices	Level 1	NQF Level 01	4
Elective	13995	Demonstrate an understanding of contracts and their sources	Level 1	NQF Level 01	2
Elective	14001	Demonstrate an understanding of managerial expertise and administrative capabilities	Level 1	NQF Level 01	4
Elective	13998	Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of supply and demand, and the concept: production	Level 1	NQF Level 01	2
Elective	13994	Identify and discuss different types of business and their legal implications	Level 1	NQF Level 01	4
Elective	13996	Identify, discuss, describe and compare major economic systems, with emphasis on the South African economy	Level 1	NQF Level 01	2
Elective	12623	Control weeds	Level 2	NQF Level 02	7
Elective	7547	Operate a personal computer system	Level 2	NQF Level 02	6
Elective	12622	Perform routine maintenance on farm installations	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Elective	12630	Support disaster and conservation management	Level 2	NQF Level 02	5
Elective	12631	Apply basic entrepreneurial principles to farming	Level 3	NQF Level 03	7