

# LANAgC5 SQA Unit Code H50D 04

## Harvest crops by mechanical means

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### Overview

This standard covers the harvesting of crops by mechanical means. Harvesting methods will depend on the type of crop involved and the production requirements.

You will be working in accordance with instructions and specifications.

When working with machinery you will need to be appropriately trained in line with current legislation, and hold a relevant award where appropriate.

You must carry out your work in a way which will consider any impact on the natural environment and enhance its nature and conservation.

This standard is suitable for anyone who carries out the harvesting of crops by mechanical means.

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### Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 select, prepare, use and maintain harvesting equipment and machinery in a safe, clean and effective condition throughout
  - P2 ensure harvesting equipment and machinery is fit for use and properly set up prior to undertaking activity
  - P3 use equipment and machinery to harvest crops in accordance with instructions and specifications
  - P4 harvest crops in a way which maintains quality and minimises damage to the crop
  - P5 identify and carry out adjustments to the equipment and machinery to improve the process where appropriate in accordance with specifications
  - P6 maintain suitable levels of hygiene and biosecurity during harvesting
  - P7 maintain the security of equipment and machinery on site
  - P8 follow organisational and industry environmental good practice to minimise environmental damage
  - P9 deal with waste safely and correctly in accordance with legislation
  - P10 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
  - P11 keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 types of equipment and machinery required for harvesting crops and how to prepare, maintain and use this safely and effectively
- K2 the stages of plant development
- K3 safe operation of harvesting equipment and machinery
- K4 how weather conditions will influence harvesting decisions
- K5 how to recognise crops which do not meet specifications
- K6 how to recognise crop damage and how to prevent damage to crops
- K7 how harvesting methods vary according to the type of crop and the required use e.g. straw for thatching / straw for animal bedding
- K8 how to make adjustments to the harvesting process and why these may be required
- K9 the importance of carrying out the activity in accordance with specifications
- K10 problems which may arise during harvesting and the actions to take
- K11 the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security during harvesting, and the methods for achieving this
- K12 why it is important to maintain the security of equipment and machinery when on site
- K13 the potential impact of your work on the environment and how this can be minimised
- K14 methods for the recycling or disposal of waste created by the harvesting process
- K15 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K16 the records which need to be maintained

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### Glossary

Specifications: schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers guidelines customer requirements, crop requirements

Instructions: verbal or written.

Records: manual or computerised

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**Developed by** Lantra

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**Originating organisation** Lantra

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**Original URN** LANAgC7

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**Relevant occupations** Nursery Worker; Fruit and Vegetable Production Worker; Agricultural Machinery Operator; Tractor Driver; Farmer

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**Suite** Agricultural Crop Production; Horticulture

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**Key words** harvest; crops; mechanical