

LANH53 SQA Unit Code H53A 04

Co-ordinate post-harvest operations

Overview

This standard covers co-ordinating the post-harvest operations to prepare a harvested crop for transfer to customer or storage. It includes activities such as selection, cleaning, drying, pre-storage treatments, grading, quality control, packing and labelling. The types of preparation activities will depend on the crop involved and the production specifications.

This standard covers the coordination of your own work load, it may in some instances involve coordinating the work of teams.

The term 'specification' is used to refer to customer, market and organisational requirements.

This is relevant to individuals who have significant personal responsibility in carrying out these activities.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 assess the risks associated with the site and proposed activity
- P2 ensure the work methods for post-harvest activities are established and clearly communicated
- P3 select suitable post-harvest activities in accordance with production specifications
- P4 identify and establish the availability of resources required to carry out the post-harvest activities
- P5 ensure equipment is used and maintained in a safe, clean and effective condition throughout
- P6 establish relevant measures to maintain hygiene and biosecurity during post-harvest operations
- P7 identify harvested crops that do not meet specifications and take the appropriate action
- P8 ensure the harvested crop is handled in a way which maintains product quality and prevents damage
- P9 ensure activities are carried out in line with specifications
- P10 ensure quality assurance requirements are met
- P11 identify where the crop requires storage prior to dispatch and ensure this is carried out in accordance with production specifications
- P12 establish and implement measures for the recycling or disposal of waste from post-harvest operations in accordance with specifications
- P13 ensure appropriate records are completed as required by relevant legislation and the organisation
- P14 ensure that environmental and health and safety policies and risk assessment requirements are put into practice across your area of responsibility

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K2 how to interpret risk assessments
- K3 suitable post-harvest activities for the crop to meet production specifications
- K4 the resources required to carry out the post-harvest activities
- K5 the equipment required for the job and how to ensure that it is used and maintained in a safe and effective condition
- K6 quality assurance requirements in relation to the harvested crop
- K7 how to identify harvested crops that do not meet specifications and the appropriate action to take
- K8 why it is important to maintain suitable levels of hygiene and biosecurity during post-harvest operations and the methods for achieving this
- K9 relevant methods of storing produce prior to dispatch
- K10 suitable methods for the recycling or disposal of waste created by the post-harvest activities
- K11 appropriate methods for completing records and their significance
- K12 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational policy

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Glossary

Post-harvest operations:

- selection
- grading
- trimming
- packing/containering
- labelling
- cleaning
- drying
- pre-storage treatments
- quality control

Prepare harvested crops for:

- immediate transfer to customer
- short-term storage
- long-term storage

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines. Instructions: verbal or written.

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Suite Horticulture

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