

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Care and Identification of Plants, Cut Flowers and Foliage
(Intermediate 2)

NUMBER D94V 11

COURSE

SUMMARY

This unit is designed to enable the candidate to develop his/her skills in identifying a range of commercially available plants and cut plant material and inspecting them for quality and condition.

It is aimed at those continuing their career in commercial floristry, at the assistant florist level, while receiving complementary commercial experience.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Identify commercially available plants, cut flowers and foliage.
- 2 State the individual care requirements of plants.
- 3 Identify pests and diseases which may affect the saleable quality of commercially available plants, cut flowers and foliage.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Access to this unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, it may be beneficial for the candidate to have attained national unit E9KX 10 Pot Plants (Intermediate 1).

Administrative Information

Superclass: SE

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at Intermediate 2.

**SCOTCAT points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCOTCAT points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

CORE SKILLS

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, publication code BA0906).

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Identify commercially available plants, cut flowers and foliage.

Performance criteria

- a) The identification of commercially available plants by common and botanical name is correct.
- b) The identification of commercially available cut flowers by variety and colour is correct.
- c) The identification of commercially available foliage by common name is correct.

Evidence requirements

Written and/or oral evidence of the candidate's ability to answer short answer questions to test the knowledge required to identify commercially available plants, cut flowers and foliage.

The exercise will consist of 60 short answer questions allocated as follows:

Performance Criterion (a)	(20)
Performance Criterion (b)	(30)
Performance Criterion (c)	(10)

Satisfactory achievement of the outcome will be based on the candidate producing correct responses as follows:

- i) 15 out of 20
- ii) 25 out of 30
- iii) 8 out of 10

OUTCOME 2

State the individual care requirements of plants.

Performance criteria

- a) The statement of the method of watering of plants is appropriate to the plant.
- b) The statement of the temperature requirement of individual plants is appropriate to the plant.
- c) The statement of the method of feeding of individual plants is appropriate to the plant.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence requirements

Written and/or oral evidence of the candidate's ability to answer questions to test the knowledge required for the individual care requirements of plants.

The exercise will consist of 5 short answer questions subdivided into 3 parts to cover temperature, watering and feeding.

The 5 questions will be allocated to the following plant groups:

- i) 1 on flowering;
- ii) 1 on foliage;
- iii) 1 on bulbous;
- iv) 1 on succulents
- v) 1 on ferns.

OUTCOME 3

Identify pests and diseases which may affect the saleable quality of commercially available plants, cut flowers and foliage.

Performance criteria

- a) The identification of pests by common name is correct.
- b) The identification of diseases by common name is correct.

Evidence requirements

Written and/or oral evidence of the candidate's ability to answer questions to test the knowledge required to identify 5 common pests and 5 diseases which can affect the saleable quality of commercially available plants, cut flowers and foliage.

The exercise will consist of 5 short answer questions which will be allocated as follows:

Performance criterion (a)	5
Performance criterion (b)	5

Satisfactory achievement of the outcome will be based on the candidate producing correct responses as follows:

- i) 4 out of 5
- ii) 4 out of 5.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

Corresponding to Outcomes 1 – 3:

Outcome 1

Candidates should be referred to trade booklets such as those issued by the Dutch Flower Council which will provide a suitable range of commonly used cut flower and foliage material as well as plants. The lecturer should aim to extend the candidate's knowledge when selecting species.

Emphasis should be placed on the candidate's ability to name plant materials by common name, but also on his/her ability to identify material when supplied with the botanical name.

Seasonal bedding plants are not included in this national unit.

Outcome 2

Candidates are expected to be able to know watering methods eg. pot plunging, foliar misting, watering only when compost almost dry etc. in order to state a suitable method for particular plants.

Temperature requirements should be given in terms such as "Require a cool temperature", "Needs warm greenhouse or conservatory temperatures". An appropriate range of temperature given in Fahrenheit or Celsius is equally acceptable.

Feeding methods will normally consist of liquid feeds via the roots or foliage at the intervals or stages recommended by the label or resource book.

Outcome 3

Pests could include:

Aphids; fungus gnat fly; Mealy bugs; Scale insects; White fly; Red spider mite; Vine weevil; Leaf miners.

Infectious diseases may include:

Rust; Botrytis grey mould; Powdery mildew; viruses.

Wherever possible affected specimens should be provided for candidate inspection. Where this is not possible colour slides or textbook illustrations may be suitable substitutes.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

A practical approach should be attempted at all times within the limits of availability of live material. Candidates could be provided with a comprehensive list of all specimens covered within the unit and introduced to them gradually, a few specimens on several occasions. Candidate-centred activities would allow the acquisition of the required information which could be held in the candidate's notebook. Maintaining specimens for a period of time is one possibility.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Assessment guidance is covered in the evidence requirements of each outcome.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements* (SQA, publication code AA0645).