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## Overview

This standard describes the work associated with controlling the environmental conditions for protected crops. It is relevant to individuals who are working with crops that are grown in protected conditions. You will have considerable responsibility in relation to climate control. This will involve setting up environmental conditions and adjusting these conditions as necessary.

Environmental conditions include: temperature, humidity, carbon dioxide levels, light and shade. You will need to have knowledge and understanding of the relationship between environmental conditions and crop growth.

**Performance criteria**

**You must be able to:**

- P1 ensure the working methods for adjusting environmental conditions are established and clearly communicated
- P2 ensure environmental conditions for the plants are prepared in accordance with specifications
- P3 confirm that equipment for achieving and maintaining environmental conditions is working in accordance with manufacturers' instructions
- P4 ensure environmental conditions are monitored in accordance with specifications
- P5 ensure adjustments to environmental conditions are carried out in accordance with specifications
- P6 ensure appropriate records are completed
- P7 ensure that environmental and health and safety policies and risk assessment requirements are put into practice across your area of responsibility

**Knowledge and understanding**

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the correct environmental conditions required to achieve optimum plant growth
- K2 the effects of temperature, humidity, carbon dioxide levels, ventilation, light and shade on the growth and development of the plants
- K3 the safe and correct use of equipment for maintaining environmental conditions for protected plants
- K4 correct methods for preparing environmental conditions
- K5 procedures and methods for monitoring and adjusting environmental conditions
- K6 the indications that environmental conditions require adjustment
- K7 the use of technology to monitor and maintain environmental conditions
- K8 the importance of ensuring that the activity is completed in accordance with specifications
- K9 the importance of maintaining effective communication with those involved in the work
- K10 conventions and ways in which information relating to environmental conditions must be recorded
- K11 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies

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## Glossary

Environmental conditions:

- temperature
- humidity
- light and shade
- carbon dioxide levels

Specifications:

- drawings
- schedules
- method statements
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- manufacturers' guidelines

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