

LANLP20 SQA Unit Code H5AK 04

Identify and maintain soil nutrients for grassland and forage crops

Overview

This standard covers identifying and maintaining soil nutrients for grassland and forage crops.

Forage production is an essential part of most livestock production systems. This role requires taking soil samples and interpreting the results, applying nutrients in a safe manner in accordance within instruction and legislative requirements.

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you 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 those who identify and maintain soil nutrients for grassland and forage crops.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 select, prepare and use tools, equipment and materials that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
 - P2 identify condition of the soil in accordance to forage crop production requirements
 - P3 carry out soil sampling
 - P4 identify the appropriate grass and forage crop based on soil type and
 - P5 identify the appropriate nutrients for the grass and forage crops
 - P6 apply nutrients if required in accordance with any requirements for crop growth and relevant environmental legislation requirements
 - P7 remove all waste and surplus materials and dispose of them as specified
 - P8 keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation
 - P9 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and animal health and welfare legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
 - P10 seek appropriate advice and guidance when required

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 different types of soils
- K2 different methods of examining soil structure and factors that can affect the structure
- K3 methods to improve soil structure
- K4 different soil sampling techniques
- K5 how to interpret a soil analysis and relevant action to be taken
- K6 the importance of soil pH
- K7 high risk soil types
- K8 types of nutrients, which may be applied
- K9 grassland and forage crop production requirements in relation to nutrients
- K10 different methods of applying nutrients and when they should be applied
- K11 the relationship between crop growth and development, and use of nutrients
- K12 the provision of nutrients in line with relevant environmental legislation requirements
- K13 correct methods of disposing of waste and excess material
- K14 appropriate records to be kept and their significance
- K15 sources of information and advice
- K16 ways of minimising environmental damage during work activities
- K17 your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and company policies

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Glossary

Production requirement is used to describe the production of a forage which meets the production requirements of a named group of livestock.

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