



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Horticultural Fence Construction

Unit code: H1JG 11

Superclass: SL

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Summary

This Unit is intended as a general Unit which covers the planning, construction and maintenance of horticultural fencing. Candidates will develop the practical skills necessary to plan, construct and maintain a range of horticultural fence types commonly used within the horticulture industry.

Outcomes

- 1 Plan and cost the construction of a fence.
- 2 Contribute to the construction of fences.
- 3 Carry out fence repair and maintenance.

Recommended entry

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 5: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5*)

**SCQF credit 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 SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Horticultural Fence Construction

Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

Complete Core Skill	None
Core Skill component	Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5 Planning and Organising at SCQF level 4

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Horticultural Fence Construction

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 SQA.

Outcome 1

Plan and cost the construction of a fence.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Measure and produce a simple plan for the fencing area.
- (b) Identify a range of different fence types.
- (c) Select an appropriate fence type for the given situation.
- (d) Calculate and cost the materials required.
- (e) Plan the fence construction taking account of sequence, planning requirements and risk assessment.

Outcome 2

Contribute to the construction of fences.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Mark out area to be fenced from the plan.
- (b) Prepare the area to be fenced.
- (c) Contribute to the construction of the fence.
- (d) Comply with all relevant health and safety requirements.

Outcome 3

Carry out fence repair and maintenance.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the range of repairs and maintenance required for fencing.
- (b) Carry out repairs and maintenance to a fence.
- (c) Comply with all relevant health and safety requirements.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Horticultural Fence Construction

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

For Outcome 1 the candidate will be required to produce a simple plan for two areas to be fenced, work out materials required including costs, and ensure fence construction will conform to all relevant health and safety and planning restrictions and requirements. The candidate will produce a risk assessment on a pro forma for both fencing tasks.

For Outcome 2 the candidate is required to construct, or if working as part of a team to make a significant contribution to the construction of two fences. The fence types should be chosen from:

- ◆ Post and wire
- ◆ Post and rail
- ◆ Slatted
- ◆ Panel
- ◆ Hit and miss
- ◆ Ranch

The finished fences should be within acceptable industry tolerances and all relevant health and safety requirements must be adhered to at all times.

For Outcome 3 the candidate is required to carry out a minimum of two repair or maintenance tasks from the list below:

- ◆ Replacement of broken posts
- ◆ Broken slats
- ◆ Re-tensioning of wire
- ◆ Replacement of a panel
- ◆ Application of preservative

All relevant health and safety requirements must be adhered to at all times.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Horticultural Fence Construction

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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit should be taught as a general introduction to fence construction. Candidates should achieve a level of competence which would enable them to construct a fence to a high standard either individually or be able to make a significant contribution as part of a team.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

This Unit is primarily a practical Unit which gives candidates excellent opportunities to experience and participate in all aspects of fence construction. Theory topics should be covered in as practical a setting as possible. An opportunity to visit and inspect a range of fence types would be useful. Visits to local fencing suppliers to see the variety of materials, tools and equipment that are available would also be advantageous.

The Unit requires candidates to construct and maintain a total of two different fence types. This should be carried out in groups ensuring that each candidate has ample time to become proficient at each task. Candidates should be under the supervision of the tutor at all times who will demonstrate each stage of the construction and rectify any errors as they arise. The difficulty of the task must match the capabilities of the candidates and must be as realistic as possible given the time restrictions associated with the delivery of this Unit.

Safe working practices should be emphasised at all stages. Appropriate personal protective equipment should be worn throughout the Unit.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

A highly practical approach should be taken to the assessment of this Unit. Outcome 1 could be assessed through the production of plans for fencing two given areas.

Outcomes 2 and 3 could be assessed through observation of the candidate carrying out the required tasks, recorded by observation checklist. There are clear opportunities to integrate the assessment of Outcome 1 and Outcome 2, where the plans produced in Outcome 1 are implemented in Outcome 2.

Where this Unit is delivered as part of the NC in Horticulture at SCQF Level 5 or related awards it may be possible to integrate the assessment of this Unit with other practical Units, for example *Horticultural Machinery: Operation and Maintenance* or *Use of Hand Tools in Horticulture*.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Horticultural Fence Construction

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

Given the practical nature of this Unit it does not lend itself to e-assessment.

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit, however there may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication*, *Numeracy*, *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others* at SCQF Level 4.

This Unit has the Critical Thinking and Planning and Organising components of Problem Solving embedded in it. This means that when candidates achieve the Unit, their Core Skills profile will also be updated to show they have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5 and Planning and Organising at SCQF level 4.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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