



Skills England

Draft Preview

DRAFT APPRENTICESHIP ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE CROP TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP

ST0018/V2

APPRENTICESHIP REFERENCE NUMBER	LEVEL OF THIS APPRENTICESHIP	INTEGRATION
ST0018	3	None

Assessment Plan

Assessment details

Introduction

This Apprenticeship Assessment Plan (AAP) sets out the requirements for the assessment of the level 3 crop technician apprenticeship. It should be read in conjunction with the General Requirements for Apprenticeship Assessment. Where there is conflict between this AAP and the General Requirements, this AAP takes precedence. Assessment organisations must also comply with the relevant regulatory framework for apprenticeship assessment.

It is important that the assessment of apprentices is proportionate, valid, and provides reliable evidence of an apprentice's attainment of the relevant knowledge and skills. As such, assessment organisations must design assessments to ensure:

- employers have confidence that the apprentice has reached the expected performance standard
- apprentices are sufficiently secure in their knowledge and skills, so that they could demonstrate their competence in different contexts, for example, a different workplace

Assessment Outcomes

The assessment outcomes group and summarise the knowledge and skills that must be demonstrated in assessments. All assessment outcomes must be assessed.

Assessment organisations must ensure all the core assessment outcomes and the assessment outcomes for one of the following options are assessed for each apprentice:

- Option 1: soil based systems crop technician
- Option 2: container based systems crop technician

Knowledge and skills statements in **bold** are mandatory and must be assessed in every version of the assessment that is made available.

Knowledge and skills statements which offer opportunities to develop functional English and maths are identified with an asterisk.

Core Assessment Outcome	Mapping
AO1 Health, safety, biosecurity and environmental compliance Applies health, safety, environmental and biosecurity procedures to maintain compliant crop production operations. Manages workplace risks, maintains hygiene and biosecurity standards, and applies organisational and legislative requirements when carrying out operational activities.	K1*, K2*, K3, K4, K6*, K13*, K15, K16 S1, S8*, S13*, S25
AO2 Crop establishment and sustainable crop growth Establishes and maintains crops to support crop growth and sustainable production. Applies knowledge of crop and growing conditions when managing crop establishment and ongoing crop requirements.	K7*, K8, K9, K10*, K12 S4*, S5*, S9*, S15, S16
AO3 Crop protection and plant health management Monitors crop health and applies integrated pest management approaches to support crop growth and quality requirements.	K11* S7*, S11*
AO4 Harvesting, crop quality and post-harvest operations Carries out harvesting and post-harvest activities using appropriate methods to maintain crop quality and meet specification requirements.	K14 S10*, S12, S14
AO5 Operational support, equipment use and continuous improvement Uses equipment and workplace systems to support crop production operations. Maintains records, manages work activities and contributes to continuous improvement and professional development.	K5*, K19 S2*, S3, S6*, S26, S27, S28
Option 1: soil based systems crop technician	Mapping
AO6 Soil-based production and soil management Carries out soil-based production activities by setting and operating machinery and equipment in line with crop, soil and environmental conditions. Monitors soil	K17 S17*, S18*, S19, S20

condition and machinery impact to support sustainable crop establishment and growth.

Option 2: container based systems crop technician

Mapping

AO7 Container-based growing systems and environment Management

K18

S21*, S22, S23, S24

Maintains container-based growing systems and environmental conditions to support sustainable crop production. Selects growing media and carries out system maintenance and waste management to support production requirements.

Assessment requirements

Assessment organisations must set apprenticeship assessments. Assessment organisations should consider how technology and digital tools can support innovation and efficiency.

Assessment organisations must design apprenticeship assessments to include at least one independently assessed in person **observation** conducted by the assessment organisation.

Any additional assessment, or assessments, must be selected from the following list of methods, to ensure the assessment outcomes are met in full. Assessments available in the list may be used more than once:

- additional observation
- professional discussion
- question and answer
- portfolio
- project

Apprentices may be assessed at any appropriate point during their apprenticeship programme.

Assessments may be designed to allow a centre or training provider to mark assessments. The assessment organisation is responsible for ensuring all assessments are sufficiently reliable and valid, and for the accuracy of any centre or training provider marking.

Performance descriptors

Performance descriptors describe the level of performance required to achieve a pass or distinction grade. Assessment organisations must design assessments that align with these descriptions.

Performance Category	Pass	Distinction
Applied Knowledge	Applies sound application of factual, procedural, and theoretical crop production knowledge in a broad range of varied work activities, performed in a variety of contexts, most of which are complex and non-routine.	Applies thorough application of factual, procedural, and theoretical crop production knowledge in a broad range of varied work activities, performed in a variety of contexts, most of which are complex and non-routine.
Applied Skills	Selects and applies crop production skills, methods, and procedures consistently in a broad range of varied work activities and a variety of contexts, most of which are complex and non-routine. Solves well defined problems, which may be complex and non-routine, with sound judgement.	Integrates using crop production skills, methods, and procedures proactively and resourcefully in a broad range of varied work activities and a variety of contexts, most of which are complex and non-routine. Solves well defined problems, which may be complex and non-routine, that improve outcomes.
Regulatory and Procedural Awareness	Interprets and evaluates health and safety legislation, regulations, guidelines and procedures relevant to the role, with minimal noncritical errors, and with some depth of insight and adaptability.	Applies evaluation of health and safety legislation, regulations, guidelines and procedures relevant to the role, with minimal noncritical errors, and with greater depth of insight and adaptability.
Communication and Collaboration	Participates effectively in team environments and applies effective	Communicates clearly and confidently in team environments, adapting

	communication and customer service approaches, supporting daily operations.	communication and customer service approaches, supporting effective daily operations.
Information Use and Decision Making	Interprets and evaluates crop production information relevant to the role, from a variety of sources, supporting decisions and actions with sound judgement.	Applies evaluation of crop production information from a variety of sources, relevant to the role, with insight, supporting conclusions that improve outcomes.
Responsibility and Autonomy	Takes responsibility for initiating and completing crop production tasks and procedures including, where relevant, taking responsibility for supervising or guiding others. Exercises responsibility, autonomy and judgement within limited parameters.	Takes responsibility for initiating and completing crop production tasks and procedures with confident autonomy and sound judgement within limited parameters. Proactively manages own work, confidently, recognising when to refer issues beyond their responsibility.

Additional qualification

The qualifications detailed in the occupational standard must be completed before the end of the apprenticeship.

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