# **Introduction to Organic Farming**

## Applying for this course

This course is targeted at those learners who wish to learn more on organic farming. Either emerging organic farmers who would like to further enhance their existing skills or individuals who are passionate about organic produce and would like to find a related job. Eligible individuals would be **persons who completed compulsory schooling** up to 64 years of age, who know how to communicate in Maltese or English.

#### **Course Duration**

This course is of 14 hours duration and consists of one Module.

## General pedagogical guidelines and procedures for this course:

The delivery of this course will be mainly held through a series of presentations and discussions.

### General assessment policy and procedures for this course:

The learner will be assessed through an ongoing assessment in the form of discussion, oral questions, multiple choice questions, assignments and/or case studies depending on the learners' ability. The ongoing assessment does not carry any marking but rates the performance of the learner in class.

## Module 1 Learning Outcomes – Introduction to Organic Farming

- ✓ Define organic farming and describe the principles of organic farming
- Understand the basic history of farming and how it evolved in Malta
- ✓ Differentiate between conventional and organic farming
- ✓ Describe the food chain structure
- ✓ Describe the climate change and its impact
- ✓ Explain the benefits of growing chemical free produce

- Explain the importance of organic farmers in society and describe the negative externalities of unsustainable agriculture practices
- ✓ Understand the conversion period and the conversion process
- ✓ Describe the importance of applied health and safety; PPE when using machinery or solutions, precautions when mixing solutions or using machinery, following instructions and recognising different labels

#### Module 1 Assessment: There is no assessment for this module.

This course was designed in collaboration with MCCAA, MOAM and various organic farmers. This course is not accredited through MFHEA and hence it is not pegged at an MQF level. Learners who attend at least 80% of the course, will receive a confirmation of attendance. This confirmation of attendance can be used to eventually apply for the certificate of achievement once all modules of the *Organic Farming* course are complete.