

The Use of Machinery and Equipment

Applying for this course:

This course is targeted at those learners who would like to work as a Gardener, Landscaper, Farmer or Horticulturalist. To successfully complete this course, learners need to learn about the various tasks and methods used in this field of work. This course is aimed at those individuals who wish to work in this profession for the very first time, or for those persons who are already working in this line of profession but wish to further enhance their existing skills.

Individuals who are interested to apply need to have completed compulsory schooling up to 65 years of age, have an MQF Level 1 school leaving certificate and an MQF level 2 qualification in Award in Principles of Gardening and Landscaping or other similar qualifications including the Certificate of Competence for Gardener and Horticulturalist.

Course Duration

This course is of 21 hours duration and consists of one Module - (including 2-hours assessment).

General pedagogical guidelines and procedures for this course:

The delivery of this Course will be mainly held through a series of discussions, hands-on exercises and fieldwork. The trainer will also be holding lessons with the learners which will consist of various presentations. Since this course will be pegged to MQF level 3, learners will be expected to do further research on the topics dealt with during the classroom activities.

General assessment policy and procedures for this course:

The assessment will vary from one module to the other. The learner will be assessed through written assessments that will take place by the end of each module, to assess and consolidate the learning being covered. Assessments include written assessments, case studies, and projects.

Ongoing assessments will also take place throughout each module. These do not have a weighting on the total mark obtained.

For this module, the learner will be assessed through a written assessment.

Module 8 Learning Outcomes – The Use of Machinery and Equipment

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Develop and implement maintenance schedules to ensure the efficient and long-lasting operation of agricultural machinery.✓ Diagnose and perform basic repairs and adjustments to restore the functionality of agricultural equipment.✓ Comply with safety protocols to manage hazards and prevent accidents while operating agricultural machinery.✓ Advise on the basic components and operating principles of key farm equipment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Carry out routine maintenance schedules for farm equipment.✓ Diagnose and troubleshoot common machinery issues and malfunctions.✓ Explore recent innovations in agricultural machinery, including automation and precision agriculture.✓ Implement sustainable practices to minimize fuel consumption and emissions.✓ Explore eco-friendly alternatives, such as renewable energy-powered equipment. |
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✓ Compare traditional and modern machinery in terms of efficiency and application.	
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Module 8 Assessment:

Learners will be assessed through ongoing assessment by way of oral exercises and practical/hands-on sessions throughout the entire course. The Ongoing Assessment will not have a weighting on the total mark obtained.

Learners will be assessed through a written assessment with multiple choice questions and short answer questions. It is 2 hours long and the pass mark is that of 45%.

The Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) deems this certificate to be at Level 3 of the Malta Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning. This course comprises study modules to which a total of 28 ECTS points are assigned.