



RHS Qualifications

RHS Level 4 Diploma in Horticultural Practice

Qualification Specification

September 2024

1. RHS Qualifications Contact Details

3.9 Grading

The qualification is graded using marks and weighting. The qualification is graded as:

Fail 0 . 49.9%
Pass 50 . 59.9 %
Merit 60 . 69.9 %
Distinction 70+ %

Although the work-based learning element of the qualification must be successfully completed in order to pass the qualification, the grading is derived from the assessment tasks set within the components

4.

10.	Qualification Components	
Horticultural Management		
Component Level: 4		
Component Overview: This component covers some of the requirements of how to successfully manage a garden throughout the year. This component covers business practices, people management, health and safety, the environment and various further skills increasingly necessary for the successful running of a public garden.		
Learning Outcomes The learner will:		Assessment Criteria The learner can:

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- 3 Be able to document, analyse and interpret horticultural information and apply understanding to the**

Horticultural Taxonomy, Botany and Plantsmanship II

Component Level: 4

Component Overview:

Further knowledge of horticultural taxonomy and botany including a more in-depth look at plant families including phenotypes and genetics. The component also covers the problems of alien species, and the purpose and future of herbariums and seed banks.

Learning Outcomes

The learner will:

Assessment Criteria

The learner can:

1	Be able to interpret horticultural information and apply understanding of nomenclature and taxonomy in the naming of plants.	1.1	Apply the botanical naming system of plants, using specialist vocabulary.
		1.2	Develop and apply understanding of the role of the scientific/ horticultural community in validating new knowledge.

Plant Health II

Component Level: 4

Component Overview:

3	Be able to interpret scientific information and regulatory requirements in order to apply plant health management to a public garden context.	3.1	Interpret and apply specific care requirements for plant collections to anticipate and keep pace with changing threats.
		3.2	Develop and apply knowledge and understanding of how stresses caused by climate and changes in land use can increase the risk of pest, disease and establishment, spread and impact.
		3.3	Apply requirements of quarantine within a public garden context.
		3.4	Apply international/ national requirements, biosecurity and plant health regulations in the protection of plants for a public garden context.
		3.5	Develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the effect of legislation changes on the use of chemicals and plant protection products.
4	Understand the potential hazards and risks associated with the management of plant health in a public garden context.	4.1	Promote environmental good practice.
		4.2	Work in a way which maintains health and safety

Propagation and Protected Growing Environments

Component Level: 4

Component Overview:

Further propagation techniques covering growing plants under glass, including technology and specimen management.

Learning Outcomes

The learner will:

- 1 **Be able to apply knowledge and understanding of managerial operations and processes within protected growing environments.**

Assessment Criteria

The learner can:

- 1.1 Develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the management requirements of a range of

4	Understand and manage the potential hazards and risks associated with propagation and protective growing environments in a public garden context.	4.1	Define risks associated with the selected operations.
		4.2	Assess the hazards associated with the selected operations and implement appropriate actions to minimise risks.
		4.3	Promote environmental good practice.
		4.4	Work in a way which promotes health and safety and is consistent with current legislation, codes of practice and any additional requirements.

Ornamental Planting

Component Level: 4

Component Overview:

This component covers different styles of ornamental planting and the issues associated with each.
This component covers how to design planting

		2.3	Assess how historical perspectives within science and technology have shaped garden function and design.
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Landscape Construction and Surveying

Component Level: 4

3	Understand the potential hazards and risks associated with landscape construction operations in a public garden context.	3.1	Define risks associated with the selected operations.
		3.2	Assess the hazards associated with the selected operations, and implement appropriate actions to minimise risks.
		3.3	Promote environmental good practice.
		3.4	Work in a way which promotes health and safety and is consistent with current legislation, codes of practice and any additional requirements.

Research Project
Component Level: 4
Component Overview: This component consists of learning around an approved subject area of choice. The product will be a