



RHS use only			
A	B	C	Total

RHS Level 3 Certificate in Plant Growth, Garden Planning and Applied Propagation

UNIT 2

Thursday 13 February 2025

09:30 - 11:30

Candidate Name:

Candidate Number:

Centre Name:

Instructions

This paper contains three sections which may be answered in any order. Candidates should answer:

- **Section A** – all questions (20 marks)
- **Section B** – all questions (50 marks)
- **Section C** – only **TWO** from **FOUR** questions (30 marks).

Place a cross (X) in the box identifying the two Section C questions you have answered.

C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please note:

- The duration of this paper is **120** minutes.
- Write all answers legibly in the spaces provided and use black or blue ink only.
- Use **METRIC** measurements only.
- Where plant names are required, they should include genus, species and where appropriate, cultivar.
- Where a question requires a specific number of answers, only the first answers given will be marked regardless of the number of answers offered.
- Please note, when the word '**distinct**' is used within a question, it means that the items have different characteristics or features.

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RHS Level 3 Certificate in Plant Growth, Garden Planning and Applied Propagation

UNIT 2

Candidate Name:

Centre Name:

Candidate Number:

SECTION A
RESPONSE GRID

Instructions

Place a cross (X) in the box you believe is the correct answer. If you make a mistake, score through the box and place a cross in the correct box as follows:

1

A
X

B

C
X

D

Question	Answer			
	A	B	C	D
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Candidate name

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Section A

Answer all questions in this section.

This section is worth 20 marks and each question is worth 1 mark.

Question 1

A visitor had an accident in a garden, and all supervisors were asked to attend a training session.

During the course they were told:

...“that is where ACOPs can help. They illustrate what words like ‘suitable’ and ‘sufficient’ mean in particular circumstances.”

What is an ACOP?

- a) Approved Code of Practice
- b) Authorised Code of Practice
- c) Approved Control of Process
- d) Authorised Control of Project

Question 2

A garden employs a member of staff who works in all weathers, including heavy rain. They have asked for a raincoat as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to protect them from the weather.

Under The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations the garden should:

- a) insist the employee provides their own raincoat when working in the rain
- b) risk assess the situation and if it is required, provide the raincoat as PPE
- c) pay a reasonable proportion of the cost of the raincoat, usually 25%
- d) provide the employee with a raincoat to motivate them even though it is not PPE

Question 3

One of the volunteers you supervise has been reading up on productive crops and has found this plant on the RHS website:

× *Sorbopyrus auricularis*

Bollwyller pear

Synonyms

× *Sorbopyrus irregularis*

They have asked you what the 'x' means in the image above.

- a) The x means the plant is out of stock on the RHS website
- b) The x means the plant is an inter specific hybrid
- c) The x means the fruit of the plant is poisonous to pets
- d) The x means the plant is an intergeneric hybrid

Question 4

A new person has joined the team you manage and you are going through the induction pack with them.

You ask them, what the word 'equality' means.

Which of the following answers they give you is **incorrect**?

- a) Everyone must behave in the same way
- b) Everyone has equal rights under the law
- c) No one is discriminated against because of their identity
- d) No one is prevented from achieving their potential

Question 5

This question relates to discrimination and the negative impacts of poor practice.

Garden staff who experience discrimination are more likely to:

- a) feel disempowered. They can feel a lack of control at work and at home.
- b) be cautious. They are more likely to raise concerns and to admit mistakes.
- c) be prone to accidents. A loss of concentration can lead to accidents.
- d) have low confidence. They often seek reassurance from others.

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Question 6

Pulhamite is most typically found in which garden style?

- a) Rock gardens
- b) Prairie gardens
- c) Woodland gardens
- d) Productive gardens

Question 7

This question relates to the impacts of climate change on alpine and rock gardens.

Which of these statements is **incorrect**?

- a) Alpine plants are adapted to grow in cool conditions and often have metabolic systems that are unable to withstand high temperatures.
- b) Alpine plants are adapted to grow at high altitudes in mountainous regions, they often decline when placed in cooler shade to avoid heat stroke.
- c) Alpine plants from the Himalayas experience cool summer monsoon rains, and overheat in our hotter drier summers leading to death from heat stroke.
- d) Alpine plants that suffer from heat stroke should be moved to lower areas of the garden, especially if sheltered, and air movement is minimal.

Question 8

A new patio area is to be laid in a garden you manage. You have specified the use of reclaimed/recycled materials.

Which of the following responses from the landscaper is **incorrect**?

- a) Reclaimed paving is much less durable and more likely to split and crack
- b) You cannot issue a warranty against recycled paving splitting or cracking
- c) Reclaimed materials are best used in informal areas, such as cottage gardens
- d) Reclaimed paving materials are uniquely weathered adding to the aesthetic of the garden.

Question 9

When applying for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) to be placed on a tree, which of the following pieces of information is **not** required by the local authority?

- a) Photographs of the tree
- b) Whether the tree is highly visible
- c) Arborists certification of species
- d) Location of the tree, and ownership

Question 10

You are preparing a cropping programme for a productive garden and you are selecting which cultivars to grow.

Which of the following statements is **incorrect**?

- a) Select crops for maximum pest and disease resistance
- b) Select cultivars that have an Award of Garden Merit
- c) Select cultivars based on flavour and fruit quality
- d) Select cultivars that are clones for continuity of supply

Question 11

Hot foam is used as a weed management system.

Which of the following is **not** a benefit of using hot foam?

- a) Hot foam weeding is more time efficient than chemical-based weed control
- b) Hot foam provides superior performance when compared to glyphosate
- c) Hot foam resolves a range of control issues with herbicide-resistant weeds
- d) Hot foam kills weeds, fungal spores and seeds on the surface of the soil

Question 12

The following information above is taken from the AHDB website:

“The (AHDB) is a statutory levy board, funded by farmers, growers and others in the supply chain to help the industry succeed in a rapidly changing world. We want to create a world-class food and farming industry, inspired by and competing with the best.”

What does AHDB stand for?

- a) Agriculture and Horticulture Development Blog
- b) Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board
- c) Agriculture and Horticulture Development Bureau
- d) Agriculture and Horticulture Development Business

Question 13

The path to _____ starts with the publication of research findings. These are then thoroughly evaluated prior to being implemented and becoming adopted as recognised professional techniques.

Which of the following words correctly completes the above sentence?

- a) Best Practice
- b) Visitor Management
- c) Cost Control
- d) Volunteer Management

Question 14

In ‘The Achieving Society’, the author identified three motivators that he believed we all have: a need for achievement, a need for affiliation, and a need for power. People will have different characteristics depending on their dominant motivator.

Which motivational theory is defined above?

- a) Maslow’s hierarchy of needs
- b) Skinner’s Incentive theory of motivation
- c) Herzberg’s Two-factor theory
- d) McClelland’s Need/Human Motivation Theory

Question 15

Poorly maintained horticultural equipment can lead to which of the following:

- a) increased fuel efficiency
- b) increased performance
- c) decreased emissions
- d) decreased power

Question 16

You are responsible for planning a project within a garden.

Which of the following statements is **not** a formal project planning principle?

- a) Create a risk management plan
- b) Define goals and objectives
- c) Engage all staff in the process
- d) Identify roles and responsibilities

Question 17

Which of the following statements is **not** part of a formal social media engagement strategy used by gardens?

- a) Understand your target audience
- b) Know the best time of day to post
- c) Include funny facts and funny statistics
- d) Place the post on multiple platforms

Question 18

This question relates to horticultural therapy.

Which of the following statements relating to the outcomes of horticultural therapy is **incorrect**?

- a) An increase in participants making informed healthier lifestyle choices
- b) An increase in connection to others reducing feelings of isolation
- c) An increase in connection to nature, which benefits mental health
- d) An increase in participants physical health through exercise and mobility

Question 19

This question relates to customer care of visitors in a sensory garden.

The people who most benefit from sensory gardens, often have additional needs, these can include being wheelchair users, or those who use walking aids.

Which of these statements relating to paths is **incorrect**?

- a) Paths should be 3m wide to allow for 2 wheelchairs to pass side by side
- b) Paths should have a maximum gradient of 1:20 for safety of all users
- c) Paths should have regular passing places and where appropriate seating
- d) Paths close to buildings should be designed to account for open windows

Question 20

A garden management journal article states:

This type of feedback is unscheduled and often unexpected. It does not require written procedures to initiate or govern it. It is not part of a regular cycle and, in some cases, it can be unwarranted or unwelcome.

What type of feedback is being referred to?

- a) Formal feedback
- b) Informal feedback
- c) Formative feedback
- d) Irregular feedback

End of section A.

Please continue to Section B.

Candidate name

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Section B

Answer all questions in this section.
This section is worth 50 marks.

Question 1 (4 marks)

A community allotment has asked you to advise them on community engagement. They have been allocated sufficient funding to put on an event.

- a) Suggest a suitable community engagement event.

MARKS

1

- b) Explain how your suggested event will help them to engage with their local community.

3

Total Mark

Candidate name

Candidate number

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Question 2 (6 marks)

Discuss the factors that garden managers should take into account when setting maintenance standards.

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MARKS

6

MARKS

Your job description states:

You are starting to develop the maintenance schedule by producing a list of actions, as follows:

1. What equipment do we have on site?
2. Is the equipment 'high use, critical machines', 'moderate use essential machines', or 'low use non-critical machines'?

4

Total Mark

Question 4 (8 marks)

This question relates to Productive Growing systems.

The RHS website states:

“Healthy plants depend on healthy soil. No-dig gardening cares for soil by cutting out the need for cultivation. So put away your spade and gain the benefits of improved soil health that will allow all your plants to thrive. No-dig growing is often less work and can benefit the environment.”

a) How does minimal cultivation (no-dig gardening) improve soil health?

4

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b) How does minimal cultivation (no-dig gardening) benefit the environment?

4

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Total Mark

Question 5 (8 marks)

Explain **FOUR** distinct impacts that trees can have on garden visitors.

8

Question 6 (8 marks)

MARKS

This question relates to modernist gardens.

Modernism became the single most important new style or philosophy of architecture and design, starting in 1918 and being developed until the 1950s.

a) Name **ONE** designer associated with modernist gardens.

1

b) Name **ONE** example of a modernist garden.

1

c) What are the key design criteria that define modernist gardens?

6

Total Mark

Candidate name

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MARKS

Question 7 (6 marks)

Analyse how discrimination law impacts on the recruitment of staff within a garden.

6

Total Mark

Candidate name

Candidate number

Centre name

Question 8 (6 marks)

The debate about the use of peat in horticulture started in the 1980s.

As recently as 2024, Liberal Democrat MP Sarah Dyke's 10-minute rule motion on prohibiting sales of horticultural peat was heard in parliament. The key outcome of this debate was that the horticulture industry should be considered and consulted before any legislation is introduced.

Summarise the key arguments relating to the ban of horticultural peat from a productive growing perspective.

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Total Mark

Section C

There are **FOUR** questions in this Section. You must only answer **TWO** questions.

Please write your answers on the following pages.

Each question is worth 15 marks. This section is worth 30 marks.

NOTE:

You **MUST** indicate which question you are answering by placing a cross in the appropriate box on the **FRONT** of this exam paper.

please turn over.....

Candidate name

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Centre name

Question C1

The image below shows the final stages in the installation of the hard landscaping in the Oudolf Landscape, at RHS Garden Wisley.



If you were responsible for this project, how would you ensure that the hard landscaping represents current thinking with regards to sustainability?

15 marks

Total Mark

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Candidate name

Candidate number

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Candidate name

Candidate number

Centre name

Question C2

This question relates to productive growing.

The introduction to this Topic in the Qualification Specification states that “productive growing involves careful planning and scheduling of crops for continuity of supply”.

Discuss how the principles stated above can be applied in a productive garden.

15 marks

Question C2

This question relates to productive growing.

The introduction to this Topic in the Qualification Specification states that “productive growing involves careful planning and scheduling of crops for continuity of supply”.

Discuss how the principles stated above can be applied in a productive garden.

15 marks

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Discuss how the principles stated above can be applied in a productive garden.

15 marks

Candidate name	Candidate number	Centre name
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Candidate name	Candidate number	Centre name
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Candidate name	Candidate number	Centre name
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Question C3

A local garden, which has certified organic status, has asked you to produce a Garden Management Plan.

Discuss the key areas that should be included in the plan.

15 marks

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15 marks

Total Mark

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Candidate number

Centre name

Question C4

The owner of a garden is considering opening their garden to the public.

They have asked you to advise them on how to welcome and manage their visitors. They have particularly asked you what they need to do to ensure compliance with all relevant Health and Safety legislation.

Summarise the key points that you consider to be relevant.

15 marks

Total Mark

Centre name

