
Statement of Qualification Purpose

RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Plant Growth, Health and Applied Propagation

Qualification Number: 601/0353/X

Level: 3

Overview

The RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Plant Growth, Health and Applied Propagation provides a route to employment in professional horticulture by assessing knowledge of the scientific principles underpinning horticultural practices, and supports career development for those already working in the profession. It also provides a foundation for further learning or training in the field of horticulture.

Content

The qualification consists of four mandatory units which cover the following topics:

- Plant taxonomy, structure and function
- Plant nutrition and growing systems
- The management of plant health
- Applied plant propagation

The qualification is theory-based and is assessed by written examination.

Who is the qualification intended for?

The qualification is intended for those wishing to work in professional horticulture in a variety of roles. It is designed to provide an understanding of the scientific knowledge underpinning horticultural practices. It is suitable for those wishing to enter horticultural employment for the first time; for those who are already working in horticulture who want to develop their knowledge further; and for those who wish to progress to further horticultural study at level 4. The units in the qualification are designed for part-time study so it is particularly suitable for those who are working in the industry and wishing to study part-time in order to advance their careers or prepare for further study at level 4. It is also suitable for those who wish to enter horticulture as a change of career and are seeking to gain the necessary knowledge.

The qualification builds on the knowledge covered in the RHS Level 2 Certificate in the Principles of Plant Growth, Propagation and Development. Although there are no formal pre-requisites for entry to the qualification, it is strongly recommended that students have studied

the content covered by the Level 2 Certificate or an equivalent level 2 qualification in horticulture.

The qualification is suitable for candidates aged over 18.

What can the qualification lead to?

If you achieve this qualification, you will have gained a wide range of horticultural knowledge relevant to employment in various roles in the horticultural sector, such as a head gardener or supervisor in private, public, or botanic gardens or parks and urban green spaces. The qualification is also suitable for those currently working in, or seeking to be employed in, commercial plant production.

The qualification supports progression to further learning on level 4 courses in horticulture or entry onto various horticultural training programmes.

Who supports the qualification?

The qualification is supported by Lantra, the Sector Skills Council for the Environmental and Land-based Sector, by the Chartered Institute of Horticulture, the professional body representing all sectors of horticulture in the UK, by major employers in horticulture, such as the National Trust and the City of London, and by a number of specialist land-based colleges.

Related qualifications

The RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Plant Growth, Health and Applied Propagation is a standalone qualification that focuses on the scientific principles underpinning all sectors of horticulture. It forms part of a suite of three complementary qualifications which together provide broad coverage of the principles and practices of horticulture.

Related qualifications:

RHS Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Garden Planning, Construction and Planting

RHS Level 3 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

Further Information

More detailed information on the qualification structure and content is provided in the Qualification Specification available from the RHS website:

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/Education-Learning/Qualifications-and-Training/RHS-qualifications/Level-3/Certificate-in-the-Principles-of-Plant-Growth,-Hea>