



SAQA ID 48977
NATIONAL
CERTIFICATE

Mixed Farming Systems
NQF Level 2
120 Credits | 12 Months

Purpose & Rationale of the Qualification

PURPOSE

The purpose of this qualification is to allow Junior Personnel and elected candidates to progress towards a position of farm labourers (operators) with specific reference to Mixed Farming systems

Qualified learners will be able to:

- ✔ Participate as part of a working team, performing the agricultural processes as applicable to both Plant- and Animal Production in an established and familiar context under general supervision.
- ✔ Perform directed activities and take responsibility for the guiding others at lower level within a Mixed Farming context.
- ✔ Gain competency in a combination of the sub-fields of Plant and Animal Production as specified under Areas Of Specialization (i.e. Small Stock, Large Stock as well as Vegetables, Fruit Production, Hydroponics, etc.)
- ✔ Take responsible decisions within a familiar range based on a sound understanding of the basic principles of agri-business and good agricultural practices, in meeting the set objectives and targets within the broader farm plan which includes the economical application of general resources, agricultural production and technical knowledge and skills, all in Mixed Farming context.
- ✔ Carry out familiar procedures in a limited environment and will be able to adhere to the relevant safety, quality, hygiene and technical standards as applicable within the industry.
- ✔ Be well positioned to extend learning and practice into other sub-fields such as Plant Production and Animal Production, since such efforts will only require additional learning within the elective scope of other qualifications at this level.
- ✔ Be well positioned to progress towards higher levels of Management and Technical production practices as defined by qualifications at the next level.
- ✔ Enable learners to actively participate in the Primary Agricultural Sector through the production of quality agricultural products, enhancing the overall agricultural process and gain opportunities to access local, national and international agricultural markets.
- ✔ Allow qualifying learners to become economically active in farming practices that will have a direct impact on Local Economic Development through the production of food, the improvement of household food security and access to mainstream agriculture.
- ✔ Guide and direct others in terms of the implementation of smaller development projects within Mixed Farming context.

Purpose & Rationale of the Qualification

RATIONALE

The learner will engage in supervision and operational activities relevant to Plant Production. Requests and expressions of need for this qualification, coming from the broad, but also specific farming communities forms the basis for the development of this qualification. This qualification will form the basis for learners to extend their learning into more specialized areas of plant- and animal production and provides the basis of the establishment of sustainable farming operations through the inclusion of a wide spectrum of competencies required by farmers in South Africa.

Whilst technical production orientated competencies are ensured, other aspects such as agri-business and good agricultural practices are included in the range of competencies required by farmers in order to enable them to strive towards agricultural management standards and practices at higher levels.

Competent qualifying learners in this qualification will oversee quality agricultural products in mixed farming systems whereby enhancing the overall agricultural process and gain opportunities to access local, national and international agricultural markets.

LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE:

Entry Requirements:

A learner entering a programme leading to this qualification has achieved numeracy, literacy and communication equivalent to NQF 1 and technical skills pertaining to agricultural activities equivalent to NQF 1.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

This qualification may be achieved in part or in whole through the recognition of prior learning. Credit will be given to learning, which has already been acquired, through the appropriate process of assessment.

For example:

- Learner who have acquired skills and competencies in this qualification through for instance experience in the industry will be assessed against the unit standards the qualification comprises of prior to entering learning. Credits will be allocated to those unit standards and exit level outcomes in which the learner is found competent. The outstanding unit standards will then be sequenced according to an appropriate learning programme.
- Should a new entrant into the industry wish to enter this learning programme, recognition will be given to all appropriate learning acquired through the schooling system.
- In terms of fundamental unit standards, competencies could be acquired through life experience.

Purpose & Rationale of the Qualification

ARTICULATION OPTIONS:

A learner will be able to progress horizontally from one category to another, namely small stock, large stock or pig production, organic systems, perma culture systems, vegetable production.

Horizontal Progression:

- National Certificate in Animal Production – NQF 2
- National Certificate in Plant Production – NQF 2

This qualification allows access to the agricultural sector and gives access to the relevant agricultural qualification at NQF 3, namely:

- National Certificate in Animal Production – NQF 3
- National Certificate in Plant Production – NQF 3

In terms of competencies, the learner will progress from farming operation skills to basic managerial skills to managerial skills.

The learner will also be able to move to the secondary agricultural field.

EXIT LEVEL OUTCOMES

Exit Level Outcomes are divided into five categories of competencies, namely:

- Fundamental Competencies.
- Agri-business
- Good Agricultural Practices
- Plant Production
- Animal Production

Minimum Credits: 120

LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Unit Standards

Learning Programme 1

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
8963	Access and use information from texts	2	5
8962	Maintain and adapt oral communication	2	5
8967	Use language and communication in occupational learning programmes	2	5
8964	Write for a defined context	2	5

Total Number of Credits: 20

Learning Programme 2

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
9009	Apply basic knowledge of statistics and probability to investigate life problems	2	3
7480	Demonstrate understanding of rational and irrational numbers and number systems	2	3
12444	Measure, estimate, and calculate physical quantities and describe 2D geometry	2	3
116080	Monitor, collect and collate agricultural data	2	2
7469	Use mathematics to investigate and monitor financial aspects	2	2
116064	Recognise and identify basic functions of the ecological environment	2	4
9007	Work with patterns and functions and solve problems	4	5

Total Number of Credits: 22

Learning Programme 3

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
116125	Apply crop protection and animal health products effectively responsibly	2	4
116127	Apply layout principles for conservation and infrastructure	2	5

LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Unit Standards

116126	Apply marketing principles in agricultre	2	2
116128	Apply plant manipulation methods	2	4

Total Number of Credits: 15

Learning Programme 4

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
116121	Apply sustainable farming practices to conserve the ecological environment	2	5
116122	Control inputs and stock in agribusiness	2	2
116124	Control pests, diseases and weeds on all crops effectively and responsibly	2	2

Total Number of Credits: 9

Learning Programme 5

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
116115	Define and understand production systems and production management	2	2
116113	Explain principles of human resources management in agriculture	2	2
116081	Identify factors influencing agriculture enterprise selection	2	2
116083	Illustrate and understand basic layout of financial statements	2	2

Total Number of Credits: 8

Learning Programme 6

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
116079	Monitor the establishment of a crop	2	4

LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Unit Standards

116077	Monitor water quality	2	3
116070	Operate and support food safety and quality management system	2	2

Total Number of Credits: 9

Learning Programme 7

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
116063	Respond correctly to control defensive behaviour in animals	2	4
116055	Understand animal nutrition	2	7
116053	Understand basic soil fertility and plant nutrition	2	5
116060	Perform minor repair and maintenance tasks on implements and infrastructure	2	5

Total Number of Credits: 21

Learning Programme 8

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
8347	Control problem animals	2	4
116647	Demonstrate understanding of the feedlot environment	3	10
116638	Mix and deliver feedlot feed to bunker	2	4

Total Number of Credits: 18




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