



**SAQA ID 48972**  
**NATIONAL**  
**CERTIFICATE**

**Plant Production**  
**NQF Level 1**  
**120 Credits | 12 Months**

# Purpose & Rationale of the Qualification

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this qualification is to allow new entrants access to the Primary Agricultural Sector with specific reference to Plant Production

### Qualified learners will be able to:

- ✓ Have the necessary competence to participate as part of a working team, performing the agricultural processes as applicable to Plant production in a closely defined context and under close supervision.
- ✓ Gain competency in any of the specialized sub-fields of Plant Production as specified under Areas of Specialization (i.e. Vegetables, Fruit Production, Hydroponics, etc.)
- ✓ Take responsible decisions within a limited 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 an Plant Production context.
- ✓ Carry out repetitive procedures in a predictable 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 Mixed Farming, 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.
- ✓ 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.

## RATIONALE

The learner will engage in 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 Requests and expressions of need for this qualification, coming

# Purpose & Rationale of the Qualification

from the broad, but also specific farming communities (Plant Production) forms the basis for the development of this qualification.

This qualification will form the basis for learners to extend their learning into more specialised areas of plant 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 to enable them to strive towards agricultural management standards and practices at higher levels.

Competent qualifying learners in this qualification will participate in the production of quality agricultural products in Plant Production 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 ABET 3.

## RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

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

- Learners 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.

## ARTICULATION OPTIONS:

A learner will be able to progress horizontally from one category to another, namely small stock, large stock or pig production, etc. (Please refer to the list mentioned under "Areas of Specialisation") He/she will be able to do this without re-doing the whole qualification, but by only completing the necessary elective unit standards.

# Purpose & Rationale of the Qualification

## Horizontal Progression:

- National Certificate in Animal Production – NQF 1
- National Certificate in Mixed Farming Systems – NQF 1

This qualification allows access to the agricultural sector and gives access to the relevant agricultural qualification at NQF 2, namely:

- National Certificate in Plant Production – NQF 2

In terms of competencies, the learner will progress from farming operation skills to basic managerial skills to managerial skills. The scope of practice will also increase.

The learner will be able to articulate with other occupations within the agricultural pharmaceutical operations such as laboratory assistant, assistance in the marketing and selling of agricultural pharmaceutical products and fertilisers.

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**

## Core Modules

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
116158	Apply basic agricultural enterprise selection principles	1	2
116166	Apply basic food safety practices	1	1
116160	Apply basic human resource a managemnet principles and practices applicable in an agricultural environment	1	2
116172	Apply elementary farm layout and infrastructure	1	2
116156	Collect agricultural data	1	2
116165	Define production and understand the basic activities of production/ conversion in the agri-business environment	1	2
116199	Demonstrate a basic understanding of the structure and function of a plant in relation to its environment	1	4
116157	Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of sustainable farming system	1	4
116164	Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of marketing	1	2
116206	Fertilise soil and attend to basic plant nutrition	1	5
116163	Handle inputs and stock in agri-business	1	2
116201	Harvest agricultural crops	1	5
116159	Identify the need for capital and understand the need for the recording of the income and different costs in an agri-business	1	2
116168	Maintain basic water quality	1	1
116203	Manipulate plants	1	5
116202	Operate and maintain irrigation systems	1	2
116200	Plant the crop under supervision	1	4
116205	Propagate plants	1	4
116204	Recognise pests, diseases and weeds on crops	1	5
116167	Select, use and care for hands tools and basic equipment and infrastructure	1	4
116169	Understand how sustainable farming systems conserve natural resources	1	4

**Total number of credits for Core Modules: 64**

## Fundamental Modules

UNIT STANDARD	UNIT STANDARD TITLE	NQF Level	No of credits
7464	Analyse cultural product and processes as representations of shape, space and time	1	2
13356	Assess the influence of the environment on sustainable livestock production	1	4
7451	Collect, analyse, use and communicate numerical data	1	2
7449	Critically analyse how mathematics is used in social, political and economic relations	1	2
14084	Demonstrate an understanding of and use the numbering system	1	1
7463	Describe and represent objects and the environment in terms of shape, space, time and motion	1	2
12462	Engage in a range of speaking and listening interactions for a variety of purposes	1	6
12471	Explore and use a variety of strategies to learn (revised)	1	5
12469	Read and respond to a range of text types	1	6
7461	Use maps to access and communicate information concerning routes, location and direction	1	1
7447	Working with numbers in various contextx	1	6
12470	Write for a variety of different purposes	1	6
116209	Demonstrate an understanding of agri/ecotourism as a system at micro level	1	5
116150	Identify and explain permaculture principles	1	8
116148	Perform basic routine operations in a defined hydroponic context	1	5
116149	Understand organic market requirements	1	3

**Total number of credits for Fundamental Modules: 88**



# ENROLL **TODAY!**

 [www.edupowersa.co.za](http://www.edupowersa.co.za)

 [info@edupowersa.co.za](mailto:info@edupowersa.co.za)

 +27 31 396 7124

 Durban-based, serving learners across South Africa and beyond!