

2022 NCEA Assessment Report



Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Subject: Agricultural and Horticultural Science

Level: 3

Standards: 91530, 91531, 91532

Part A: Commentary

Candidates generally selected primary products that allowed them to answer all parts of the examination. The availability of primary products' supporting data for this course allowed candidates to gain higher levels of achievement. Candidates who had completed field trips to primary producers often referred to this knowledge gained in their responses and got to higher levels of achievement.

Candidates must read the question carefully to ensure they are writing responses that answer the question. Some candidates spend too much time rewriting the question or writing superfluous information. Candidates who gained higher levels of achievement generally wrote more accurate responses.

Candidates who have current knowledge of primary products, in relation to the assessments, were able to attain higher levels of achievement.

Part B: Report on standards

91530: Demonstrate understanding of how market forces affect supply of and demand for New Zealand primary products.

Examination

This examination had one question with parts A, B, and C. Candidates were required to have knowledge of selected market forces affecting supply of or demand for their chosen primary product and the significance of the market forces.

Observations

Many candidates came with an understanding of a range of market forces and how they affect the supply of and demand for two primary products. The choice of significant primary products allowed for better quality responses as they often had supporting data. Many students demonstrated they had researched their primary product well and had prepared responses prior to the examination. Students that had researched well, were able to use supporting data and other material throughout their responses.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- answered all parts of the examination, but with brief responses
- had a basic understanding of how market forces affected the supply of and demand for their chosen primary products
- wrote answers that lacked supporting data.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- did not answer all parts of the examination and provided confused or poorly written responses.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- provided a well-written response, using paragraphs
- provided supporting data or other evidence in their response.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- wrote a well-reasoned response that showed a deep understanding of how consumer preferences affected their primary product
- wrote answers in paragraphs with one idea expanded per paragraph
- provided supporting data as necessary throughout their response.

91531: Demonstrate understanding of how the production process meets market requirements for a New Zealand primary product(s)

Examination

This examination had one question with parts A, B and C. Candidates were required to demonstrate an understanding of the requirements that a chosen market has for their chosen primary product. Candidates were then required to demonstrate understanding of the management practices that are carried out by producers to meet those market requirements. For Part C candidates were required to demonstrate understanding of the most significant market requirement that producers must meet to maximise profitability.

Observations

A wide range of primary products were selected and answered to a high level. Candidates needed to demonstrate an understanding of the key market requirements and link them to management practices. Candidates who had been on field trips and used information gathered, including quotes and data from farmers, orchardists, crop growers, demonstrated a good overall understanding of their selected primary product. Some candidates were able to give excellent information about their chosen primary product but did not link it to a management practice, or they gave good detail about a management practice but did not write about the relevant market requirements for their chosen primary product.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- understood the essential management practices
- provided general information on the production process of the chosen product and described market requirements in general terms
- linked a management practice to a market requirement
- understood the term market requirements and how they related to their product.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- provided very little or no information about market requirements for their chosen product
- gave a partial explanation of the effect of a management practice on the market requirement of their chosen product
- did not link management practices with market requirements.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- used specific detail / data when explaining market requirements
- explained production using data or specific detail
- showed in-depth understanding of the management practices selected.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- were able to justify a management practice which had the largest overall impact on maximising profitability by meeting market requirements
- produced logical reasoning using correct data or specific detail
- provided specific details and data for their justification made in their discussion.

91532: Analyse a New Zealand primary production environmental issue

Examination

This examination had one question with parts A, B and C. Candidates were required to show understanding of the environmental impacts on freshwater from producing their primary product. They were also required to understand the economic outcomes from producing their primary product. Finally, the candidates were required to show what the primary producer was doing next to reduce their negative impact on freshwater while still allowing for sustainable production.

Observations

Many candidates demonstrated understanding of the environmental impacts of producing their primary product but had little knowledge of the economic benefits of producing their primary product. Some candidates did not demonstrate an awareness of courses of action that will “further prevent environmental impacts” instead candidates continued to use courses of action that have been used in examinations from previous years.

Grade awarding

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement** commonly:

- understood the environmental issue associated with freshwater and the economic benefits of producing their chosen product but lacked specific details
- chose a course of action and briefly explained how it might help prevent impacts on freshwater.

Candidates who were awarded **Not Achieved** commonly:

- did not explain the environmental issue and more commonly did not give economic benefits of producing their chosen product
- had explained their chosen course of action in insufficient detail or it or was not current or relevant.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Merit** commonly:

- explained the environmental issue in detail with correct details or figures
- explained the economic benefit in detail with correct figures
- explained how their course of action would help prevent the environmental issue, linking to social or economic benefits but lacked specific details or logical argument as to why it was the best choice.

Candidates who were awarded **Achievement with Excellence** commonly:

- explained the environmental issue in detail with correct details or figures
- explained the economic benefit in detail with correct figures
- discussed a course of action to help prevent the environmental issue and provided positive economic and social outcomes along with a good argument as to why it was the best course of action.