

41286 Operate specialist agribusiness machinery for an arable farming activity

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is intended for people working in arable farming systems. They will be able to calibrate and operate specialist agribusiness machinery to carry out an arable farming activity, under limited supervision. This skill standard aligns with the New Zealand Certificate in Arable Farming (Level 3) [Ref: 5679].

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Calibrate specialist agribusiness machinery for an arable farming activity.	a. Load machinery according to job specifications.
	b. Conduct pre-operational calibration and pre-operational checks of machinery.
2. Operate specialist agribusiness machinery to carry out an arable farming activity.	a. Plan the activity according to field conditions and job specifications.
	b. Establish and use the AB line for the activity.
	c. Conduct and report on visual checks of machinery during and following operation.
	d. Operate specialist agribusiness machinery in accordance with job specifications.
	e. Monitor and adjust machinery performance during operation.
	f. Report and record operation outcomes in accordance with workplace procedures.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

All activities must be carried out in accordance with workplace health and safety requirements, workplace procedures, and manufacturer's specifications.

Providers must give due consideration to embedding ngā kaupapa (principles) o Te Tiriti o Waitangi when designing delivery activities relevant to this standard. These principles are outlined in [Guidelines for Providers: Embedding Tirohanga Māori](#).

Providers must give due consideration to the needs and values of Pacific peoples and other cultural groups when designing delivery activities relevant to this standard, ensuring practices are inclusive and equitable.

Ākonga/learners should be assessed against this standard in a real-life context using naturally occurring evidence. A verifier's checklist with appropriate comments confirming competency is acceptable if accompanied by evidence that includes examples from the learner's performance.

Definitions

Arable farming activity refers to a field-based farming operation involving the use of specialist agribusiness machinery to establish, manage, or harvest crops, including cultivation, planting, nutrient application, and crop protection.

Specialist agribusiness machinery refers to machinery and implements used to carry out specific agricultural tasks that require configuration, calibration, or operational control. This includes mounted, trailed, or self-propelled machinery, for example sprayers, seed drills, and cultivation equipment.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Prepare and calibrate specialist agribusiness machinery

- target rate vs actual rate
- test weight (seed weight)
- target plant population, plants per m², seed weight per hectare
- pre-operational calibration and checks e.g. machine settings, safety systems, machine readiness.

Operate specialist agribusiness machinery

- arable farming activities e.g. paddock preparation and cultivation (ploughing, harrowing, mole ploughing), crop establishment (seed drilling, precision planting), nutrient and agrichemical application, harvesting operations (mowing)
- safety requirements and safe operating procedures for machinery
- establishing and using the AB line for the activity
- planning the activity according to field conditions and job specifications
- seed depth and seed spacing
- actual vs target rate of application
- monitoring and adjusting machinery performance during operation
- monitoring during operation e.g. row spacing, seed drop, machine behaviour, maintaining target application rates and quality of work
- conducting and reporting visual checks before, during, and following operation, including faults, or issues identified, and reporting requirements e.g. safety guards, nuts and bolts, PTO covers, lubrication, fuel levels, safety systems, blockages, wear and tear, animal incursions.

Reporting and recording operation outcomes

- recording operation outcomes, e.g. field performance data, application rates, machine settings, job completion records
- reporting operation outcomes in accordance with workplace procedures e.g. field maps, operation logs, seed usage records.

Rauemi | Resources

- [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015](#).
- Manufacturer's specifications.
- Farm-specific Standard Operating Procedures.

Pārongo Whakaū Kouna | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries > Agriculture > Agricultural Vehicles and Machinery
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0052

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	30 July 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	N/A		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2031		

Please contact the Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board at info@foodandfibreisb.nz to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.