

Field Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Registration of skill standards and review of *Agricultural Vehicles and Machinery* unit standards

Subfield	Domain	ID
Agriculture	Agricultural Vehicles and Machinery	19054, 19055, 24538, 24539, 24558-24563, 27604

The Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board has registered five skill standards and reviewed the unit standards listed above.

Date new versions published

July 2026

Planned review date

December 2031

Summary

Muka Tangata – People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council reviewed the Agricultural Vehicles and Machinery unit standards as part of the Agriculture Qualification Development Project to confirm continued fitness for purpose, alignment with current industry expectations, and consistency with contemporary approaches to vehicle operation and safety in agribusiness contexts. The review identified opportunities to improve clarity, progression, and transferability of learner outcomes across vehicle types while retaining alignment with agribusiness operational requirements.

The review was undertaken between September 2025 and May 2026 to confirm technical accuracy, industry relevance, and alignment with expected learner capability for the safe operation of agribusiness vehicles in workplace contexts. Initial consultation with the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) was undertaken between September 2025 and November 2025 to review the scope, structure, and intent of the standards.

The Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board assumed standard-setting responsibility in January 2026 and continued the review process, undertaking public consultation on draft standards between March 2026 and May 2026. Providers, assessors, industry representatives, and subject matter experts (SMEs) were invited to provide feedback on technical accuracy, industry relevance, consistency across vehicle types, learner expectations, and alignment with contemporary agribusiness vehicle operation and safety practices.

As a result of the review, a suite of new agribusiness vehicle skill standards was developed for use within programmes leading to the New Zealand Certificate in Farm Skills (Level 3) [Ref: 5678], and to replace existing unit standards. The revised suite improves consistency of structure and language across vehicle types, clarifies learner expectations and observable performance requirements, and supports progression from foundational vehicle preparation and route planning through to safe vehicle operation in complex operating conditions. The overall intent of supporting safe and effective agribusiness vehicle operation was retained while improving coherence, usability, and alignment with industry practice.

Main changes

- Eleven agribusiness vehicle unit standards were replaced by new skill standards to align with current agribusiness vehicle operation practice and learner expectations.
- Five new skill standards were developed to support clearer progression in learner capability, including pre-start vehicle checks, route planning, and safe vehicle operation in complex operating conditions.

- Vehicle operation skill standards were developed to improve consistency of structure, terminology, and learner expectations across motorcycles, quad bikes, light utility vehicles (LUVs), and tractors.
- Learning outcomes and assessment criteria were developed to better reflect observable learner actions, workplace safety expectations, and contemporary agribusiness vehicle operation practices.
- Assessment specifications and indicative content were developed to support consistent assessment, improve clarity of learner expectations, and align with workplace application and vehicle-specific operating contexts.

Category C unit standards will expire at the end of December 2028

Impact on existing organisations with consent to assess

Current consent for			Consent extended to		
Nature of consent	Classification or ID	Level	Nature of consent	Classification or ID	Level
Standard	24558, 24560, 24562	3	Standard	41344	3
Standard	19054, 19055	3	Standard	41345	3
Standard	24559, 24561, 24563	3	Standard	41346	3
Standard	24538, 24539, 27604	3	Standard	41347	3

Detailed list of unit standards – classification, title, level, and credits

All changes are in **bold**.

Key to review category	
A	Dates changed, but no other changes are made - the new version of the standard carries the same ID and a new version number
B	Changes made, but the overall outcome remains the same - the new version of the standard carries the same ID and a new version number
C	Major changes that necessitate the registration of a replacement standard with a new ID
D	Standard will expire and not be replaced

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ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
19054	Operate a motorcycle on rolling terrain under limited supervision	3	3	C
19055	Operate a motorcycle with mounted equipment or a load under limited supervision	3	3	C
41345	Operate a motorcycle safely in complex riding conditions	3	7	
24538	Describe tractor stability and the dynamics of tractors and attached implements	3	4	C
24539	Maintain and use a power take off (PTO) driven implement attached to a tractor under limited supervision	3	4	C
27604	Operate a tractor with an attached implement on rolling terrain under limited supervision	3	4	C
41347	Operate a tractor safely in complex driving conditions	3	12	

ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
24558	Operate a light utility vehicle (LUV) on rolling terrain under limited supervision	3	4	C
24560	Operate a light utility vehicle (LUV) with trailed equipment under limited supervision	3	3	
24562	Operate a light utility vehicle (LUV) with mounted equipment or a load under limited supervision	3	3	
41344	Operate a light utility vehicle (LUV) safely in complex driving conditions	3	7	
24559	Operate a quad bike on rolling terrain under limited supervision	3	4	C
24561	Operate a quad bike with trailed equipment under limited supervision	3	4	
24563	Operate a quad bike with mounted equipment or load under limited supervision	3	3	
41346	Operate a quad bike safely in complex riding conditions	3	7	

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ID	Title	Level	Credit	Review Category
41343	Carry out pre-start checks and plan routes for an agribusiness vehicle	3	3	NEW