

Title	Describe factors influencing the development of organic horticulture in New Zealand		
Level	4	Credits	10

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to describe: the social and cultural factors that influence the development of organic horticulture in New Zealand; the environmental and commercial factors influencing the development of organic horticulture in New Zealand; key factors determining the viability of an organic horticulture venture.
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Classification	Horticulture > Production Horticulture
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Land Transport Act 1998;
 - Resource Management Act 1991;
 - and any subsequent amendments.

- 2 Standards relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
 - Demeter Standards www.biodynamic.org.nz;
 - BIO-GRO Standards www.biogro.co.nz;
 - Agriquality Organic Standards www.agriquality.co.nz;
 - Soil and Health Association of New Zealand www.organicnz.org.nz;
 - New Zealand Food Safety Authority www.nzfsa.govt.nz/organics;
 - NZS 8410:2003 *Organic production* www.standards.co.nz.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the social and cultural factors that influence the development of organic horticulture in New Zealand.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Describe health and safety influences on the development of organic horticulture.
- Range influences include but are not limited to – demand for chemical free food, increased individual acceptance of responsibility for health.
- 1.2 Describe influences of consumer’s rights legislation, organic regulations, and product certification on the development of organic horticulture.
- Range influences include but are not limited to – Fair Trading Act, Consumer Guarantee Act, organic certification, international regulations, national organic standards.
- 1.3 Describe societal influences on the development of organic horticulture.
- Range influences include but are not limited to – sustainability, food safety, environmental awareness, globalisation, social change.
- 1.4 Describe food safety influences on the development of organic horticulture.
- Range influences include but are not limited to – issues associated with primary production practices, demand for transparent production systems, demand for accountability of producers.
- 1.5 Describe environmental awareness influences on the development of organic horticulture.
- Range influences include but are not limited to – protection of native and other significant flora and fauna; emphasis on sustainable land management; protection of air, water, soil quality.

Outcome 2

Describe the environmental factors influencing the development of organic horticulture in New Zealand.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Describe environmental factors influencing soil degradation, reduction in productive capacity, and biodiversity in fertile growing areas.
- Range factors include but are not limited to – soil erosion; pest, disease, and weed infestation; loss of biological diversity.
- 2.2 Describe ways in which land management requirements of the Resource Management Act may affect organic horticulture.
- Range requirements include but are not limited to – air quality, water and catchment protection, waste disposal and reduction.

Outcome 3

Describe commercial factors influencing the development of organic horticulture in New Zealand.

Performance criteria

3.1 Describe commercial factors influencing the viability of non-organic horticulture.

Range factors include but are not limited to – cost of chemical remedies, development of chemical resistance in pests and diseases, cost of preventing and redressing chemical pollution problems, international competition for key export products and commodities.

3.2 Describe commercial factors promoting the development of organic horticulture operations in New Zealand.

Range factors may include but are not limited to – increasing demand for certified organically grown produce, price premiums, long term reduction in production costs, and positive promotion of New Zealand horticulture industry; evidence of three factors is required.

3.3 Describe commercial factors restricting the development of organic horticulture operations in New Zealand.

Range factors may include but are not limited to – relatively high cost of diverse plantings on small holdings, high cost of conversion to organic production, perceived non-commercial orientation and lack of market focus of organic industry, risk associated with high disease pressure on established non-resistant crops; evidence of three factors is required.

Outcome 4

Describe key factors determining the viability of an organic horticulture venture.

Performance criteria

4.1 Describe strategies for development of an aware and selective consumer market in terms of an organic horticulture venture.

Range strategies include but are not limited to – promotion, consumer education, crop choice.

4.2 Describe market requirements to be met in terms of production and provision of produce.

Range requirements include but are not limited to – quality, consistency of supply, presentation, regulatory production standard met, crop choice, demand, volume, timing.

4.3 Describe management strategies to be used in terms of growing certified organic products.

Range strategies include but are not limited to – crop and cultivar selection and husbandry, commitment to certification fidelity, sustainable use of resources, use of professional guidance and support, management review, commitment to quality, regular review of strategies.

Planned review date	31 December 2027
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Last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	21 March 1997	31 December 2023
Revision	2	13 February 2002	31 December 2023
Revision	3	24 February 2006	31 December 2023
Review	4	27 October 2006	31 December 2023
Review	5	30 June 2022	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0052
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Muka Tangata – People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council qualifications@mukatangata.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.