

<b>Title</b>	<b>Grow nursery crops in the field</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>10</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare to grow and maintain nursery crops in the field; prepare nursery crops for lifting; and lift and prepare nursery crops for sale.
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<b>Classification</b>	Horticulture > Nursery Production
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- 1 Definitions  
*Nursery crop* refers to a crop of no less than 50 plants.  
*Workplace procedures* refer to oral or written instructions to staff on procedures for the worksite and equipment.
- 2 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, the Resource Management Act 1991, the Plant Variety Rights Act 1987; and their subsequent amendments.
- 3 Work may involve exposure to chemical, dangerous, or hazardous substances. Safety procedures are observed in accordance with NZS 8409:2004 *Management of Agrichemicals*, available from Standards New Zealand <http://standards.co.nz>, or the NZ Agrichemical Education Trust <http://growsafe.co.nz/>.

### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Prepare to grow nursery crops in the field.

Range for three different field grown nursery crops.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 The types of nursery plants commonly grown in the field are identified and any cultural requirements noted.
- 1.2 Different growing requirements for the selected plants and a suitable site are identified in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include soil type and depth, climatic conditions, shelter, crop rotation.

1.3 The soil is prepared to meet the specific plant requirements.

Range may include removal of crop residue, weed control, pH adjustment, addition of organic matter and fertilisers, depth of cultivation, tilth, bed forming, disinfection, avoidance of soil damage, mycorrhizae, organic production.

1.4 Plants are selected and prepared for lining out, in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range one or more of – bare rooted, container grown, unrooted or rooted cuttings.

1.5 Plants are lined out using a suitable planting method, and at the appropriate time, spacing and depth, in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range plants in single rows or multi-row beds, hand or machine planting, autumn or spring planting.

## **Outcome 2**

Maintain nursery crops in the field.

### **Performance criteria**

2.1 Plants are monitored and progress reported, in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range soil water levels, plant health, trueness to type, plant growth rates and development.

2.2 Regular plant maintenance is carried out in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include pruning, training, trimming, fertiliser application, pest and disease control, weed control, irrigation, root pruning.

2.3 Plants are set out in growing-on environment in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include preparation of setting out surface, plant spacing, hardening off as needed, plant and container handling.

## **Outcome 3**

Prepare nursery crops for lifting.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 The plants are prepared for lifting by root pruning or under cutting by hand or machine, in an appropriate and timely manner, and in accordance with workplace procedures.
- 3.2 Any treatment of the above ground plant parts before lifting is appropriate for the plants grown, and in accordance with workplace procedures.
- Range may include pruning, trimming.

**Outcome 4**

Lift and prepare nursery crops for sale.

**Performance criteria**

- 4.1 Plants are lifted from soil by hand or machine, with minimal damage, and with species and/or cultivars kept separate, in accordance with workplace procedures.
- 4.2 Plants are labelled, bundled or packed into pallets, bins, or trailers as required, and transported to the packing or holding area.
- 4.3 Prior to preparation for sale, plants are held to ensure no deterioration occurs.
- Range may include heeled in sawdust or sand beds, roots moistened, plants sheltered, cool stored, use of anti-desiccants, anti-transpirants.
- 4.4 Plants are prepared for sale in accordance with buyer requirements and workplace procedures.
- Range may include bundled and packed, placed in promotional packs, containerised, labels or other point of sale material attached.
- 4.5 Plants awaiting dispatch are stored in a manner that avoids deterioration.
- Range may include irrigated, sheltered, cool stored heeled in sand or sawdust beds.

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**This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.**

**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 February 2004	31 December 2014
Revision	2	24 February 2006	31 December 2014
Review	3	19 April 2012	31 December 2023
Review	4	2 March 2023	31 December 2023

**Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference**

0032

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.