

Title	Describe, establish and maintain plant collections		
Level	4	Credits	10

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe horticultural and botanical plant collections; describe plant collection and establish plan requirements of a plant collection; maintain a plant collection; identify and label plants and maintain plant collection records.
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Classification	Horticulture > Amenity 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 Amendment Act 2015;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Resource Management Act 1991;
 - Reserves Act 1977;
 and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Work may involve exposure to chemical, dangerous, or hazardous substances. Safety procedures are observed in accordance with NZS 8409:2021 *Management of Agrichemicals*, available from Standards New Zealand www.standards.co.nz.
- 3 Definitions

Integrated pest management combines biological (natural predators and parasites), chemical (selective molluscicides and insecticides) and cultural controls in a compatible way.

Plant types are a collection of plants put together for a purpose, not necessarily one type of plant, which may include companion planting for both indoor and outdoor situations.

Workplace procedures refer to procedures for safety and operation set down by the employer or host organisation for equipment use and maintenance and must be consistent with equipment manufacturer's instructions.
- 4 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe horticultural and botanical plant collections.

Performance criteria

1.1 Describe types of horticultural and botanical plant collections in terms of their purpose and normal geographic location.

Range types may include but are not limited to – trees, shrubs, alpine plants, cacti, succulents, herbs, roses, New Zealand native plants; evidence of three examples for each type is required.

Outcome 2

Describe plant collection and establish plan requirements of a plant collection.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe the plant collection in terms of its purpose.

2.2 Describe plant types in terms of their environmental requirements.

Range soil, water, nutrient status, light, temperature, exposure, specific seasonal requirements.

2.3 Describe the plant collection on the specified site in terms of its cultural requirements.

Range drainage, irrigation, cultivation, fertilising, weed control, shelter, lighting, heating.

2.4 Describe the plant collection in terms of their typical life spans.

2.5 Describe the plant collection in terms of strategies for ensuring plant continuity.

Range regular health appraisal, pest and disease control, maintenance of optimum growing conditions, separate plant groupings, on-going propagation regime.

2.6 Establish the key plan requirements of a plant collection.

Range requirements include – timeline, purpose, cultural, environment, and maintenance.

Outcome 3

Maintain a plant collection.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Select tools and equipment for specified use and use safely.
- 3.2 Control weeds by integrated pest management as appropriate for the plant collection and according to the plant collection plan.
- 3.3 Water plant collection area by hand-held equipment or by operating an irrigation system to maintain soil moisture as appropriate to the plant.
- 3.4 Apply fertilisers as required, depending on plant type and species, and soil analysis, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
- 3.5 Carry out planting, or removal and replacement of plants as required, making sure suitable soil conditions are maintained.
- 3.6 Maintain plant collection in accordance with the plan.
- Range may include but is not limited to – disbudding; dead-heading; trimming; staking and tying; corrective pruning or training; pest and disease control; removal of dead, damaged, or discarded plant material.
- 3.7 Clear rubbish and plant debris around plant collection and surrounding paths or lawns and dispose of waste.
- 3.8 Clean tools and equipment of all residues and return to storage.

Outcome 4

Identify and label plants and maintain plant collection records.

Range for a minimum of eight weeks.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Identify and label plants clearly.
- Range date, common name; botanical name – genus, species, cultivar (where applicable).
- 4.2 Maintain plant collection records.
- Range plant name, common name, botanical name, family, genus, species, cultivar name – as applicable, accession number, country of origin, date and source of plant material, date of propagation, date of planting out or placement within the collection, plant condition, physical location within the collection; records may be either, electronic or hard copy.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	27 July 2005	31 December 2024
Revision	2	24 February 2006	31 December 2024
Review	3	20 June 2008	31 December 2024
Review	4	24 February 2022	N/A
Revision	5	29 September 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.