

Title	Describe the use of, and grow crops and specimens, in soil-less growing media in horticulture		
Level	4	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard will be able to: describe soil-less growing media in horticulture and grow crops and specimens in soil-less media.
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Classification	Horticulture > Production Horticulture
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation and relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Definition
Workplace procedures – the procedures and standards set by the client or employing organisation. Workplace procedures should reflect equipment manufacturer’s requirements, and current legislation.
- 3 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe soil-less growing media used in horticulture.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Describe soil-less growing media types used in New Zealand in terms of their common uses.
- 1.2 Describe each media type in terms of their characteristics and constituents.

 Range biological, chemical, physical.
- 1.3 Describe soil-less growing medium in terms of the economic factors to be considered in the selection for each type.

 Range set-up costs, availability, life, management costs.

Outcome 2

Grow crops and specimens in soil-less growing media.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Prepare the media to meet requirements of defined crops or specimens.
- 2.2 Select the plant nutrients to meet crop or specimen requirements and apply using methods which maximise their effectiveness in the growing media used.
- 2.3 Apply hygiene procedures to prevent contamination of the growing medium.
- 2.4 Monitor the crop or specimen health to provide early recognition of a growing medium based problem and implement pre-defined procedures for dealing with that problem.
- 2.5 Dispose of unwanted growing media in relation to site hygiene and environmental requirements specified by the local authority are met.

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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions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	20 March 1995	31 December 2024
Revision	2	28 July 1999	31 December 2024
Revision	3	13 February 2002	31 December 2024
Revision	4	24 February 2006	31 December 2024
Review	5	24 February 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 the 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.