

Title	Describe sustainable soil management practices for a horticulture site		
Level	4	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are, for a horticulture site, able to describe: the types and characteristics of soil, and the role and importance of organic matter; and sustainable soil management practices.
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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:
 - Resource Management Act 1991;
 - Reserves Act 1977;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 All evidence presented in this unit standard must be in accordance with workplace procedures.
- 3 Definitions

Sustainable soil management includes all operations, practices, and treatments used to protect soil and enhance its performance (such as soil fertility or soil mechanics). It includes soil conservation, soil amendment, and optimal soil health.

Workplace procedures refer to verbal or written instructions to staff on procedures for the worksite and equipment. Workplace procedures must comply with health and safety legislation and be consistent with the workplace health and safety plan.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the types and characteristics of soil on a horticulture site, and the role and importance of organic matter.

Performance criteria

1.1 Describe the types of soil on a horticulture site in terms of soil characteristics.

Range characteristics may include but are not limited to – composition, colour, texture, structure, soil and water, nutrient content, organic matter), chemical properties, aeration, water table, compaction, drainage;
evidence of two different locations on the site is required;
evidence for at least four characteristics is required;
evidence may include the use of soil tests.

1.2 Describe the role and importance of organic matter in terms of soil health.

Range evidence of four roles is required.

Outcome 2

Describe sustainable soil management practices for a horticulture site.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe the objectives to conserve soil health in terms of an environmental resource.

2.2 Describe sustainable soil management practices in terms of improving soil health.

Range practices may include but are not limited to – crop rotation, mulching, composting, tillage, green manure, fertiliser, traffic control, nutrient management;
evidence of three practices is required.

2.3 Describe soil management practices suitable for use on a horticulture site in terms of advantages.

Range evidence of three soil management practices is required.

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	18 May 2017	31 December 2024
Review	2	27 January 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.