

BQA NCQF QUALIFICATION TEMPLATE

SECTION A: QUALIFICATION DETAILS														
QUALIFICATION DEVELOPER(S)		Madirelo Training and Testing Centre												
TITLE	Certificate III In Crop Farming								NCQF LEVEL		3			
STRANDS (where applicable)	N/A													
FIELD	Agriculture And Nature Conservation								CREDIT VALUE		120			
SUB FIELD	Crop Production													
New Qualification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Legacy Qualification				<input type="checkbox"/>		Renewal Qualification				<input type="checkbox"/>	
									Registration Code					
SUB-FRAMEWORK	General Education				<input type="checkbox"/>		TVET		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Higher Education			
QUALIFICATION TYPE	Certificate	I	II	III	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	IV	V	Diploma	Bachelor					
	Bachelor Honours		Post Graduate Certificate				Post Graduate Diploma							
	Masters				Doctorate/ PhD									
RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION														
<p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>The UN 2015 - 2030 Agenda: sustainable development goal (SDG) 2 on agriculture express the need to increase investment in research, development and demonstration of technologies to improve the sustainability of food systems due to expected changes in temperatures, precipitation and pests associated with climate change ensuring food security and good nutrition for all.</p> <p>The Botswana Vision 2036 states that development of the human capital and the informal sector and the micro and small enterprises (MSES) are essential in achieving the VISION 2036 pillars, in</p> <p>The HRDC report on top occupation in high demands recommends the need to consider development of niche programmes to align them to the top occupations in high demand identified by the employers in the agriculture sector. The report on occupations in high demand identified among others farm managers, farm workers, and farm machine operators as some of the priority skills for the agricultural sector.</p> <p>The Botswana Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan (ETSSP 2015-2020) marks a significant milestone in our collective efforts as a nation to bring about a more diversified and knowledge-based economy. ETSSP seeks to refocus our education and training towards fulfilment of social and economic aspirations identified in our Revised National Policy on Education (RNPE) 1994, NDP 11, Vision 2036 and as well as the Millennium</p>														

Development Goals (MDG).

The HRDC report on top occupations in high demand recommends the need to consider the development of niche programmes to align them to the top occupations in high demand identified by the employers in the Agriculture sector. The report on occupations in high demand identified among others farm managers, farm workers, and farm machine operators as some of the priority skills for the agricultural sector.

Through industrial consultation and various professionals, It has been reflected that most farm workers are either unskilled or attained skill through on job training, and that skilled manpower is required in operation of farm machinery, plant protection, irrigation management, safety and health education.

Therefore, this TVET qualification intends to strengthen the match between crop farming qualifications and labour market requirements; by ensuring that education and training outputs are more closely aligned to socio-economic development needs of the country particularly in vegetables, fruits and rain-fed crop production sectors.

PURPOSE: (itemise exit level outcomes)

The purpose of this qualification is to produce graduates with basic operational and theoretical knowledge skills and competence to:

1. Identify suitable land and environment for crop production according to a variety of land use options and criteria.
2. Utilize farm tools, implements and equipment safely and efficiently for specific purposes.
3. Prepare soil by hand or machine and spread fertilizers to improve soil quality.
4. Perform basic crop husbandry practices; selecting and sowing seeds, and planting seedlings, weeding and pest control, pruning, harvesting, cleaning, grading and packaging produce for market delivery.
5. Communicate with clients, colleagues and others using appropriate forms of communication techniques.
6. Use ICT for information retrieval and processing as well as communication and collaboration with others.

MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (including access and inclusion)

- Certificate II, NCQF Level 2 or equivalent.
- Applicant may be considered through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) in line with ETP policies.

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SECTION B		QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION	
GRADUATE OUTCOMES)	PROFILE (LEARNING	ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
1. Carry out appropriate crop husbandry practices to improve crop quality and yield.		<p>1.1 Collect and organise information to apply safety, health and environmental principles and procedures for the selected tasks.</p> <p>1.2 Use appropriate equipment to propagate plants in accordance with practice standards.</p> <p>1.3 Display specific propagation procedure for a specific plant in accordance with practice standards.</p> <p>1.4 Use appropriate materials, tools and equipment to perform crop husbandry practices in line with task specification and organizational requirements.</p> <p>1.5 Perform quality checks on work done and make improvements as needed.</p>	
2. Utilize appropriate farm tools, implements and equipment safely and efficiently for specific purposes.		<p>2.1 Select and use appropriate tools, implements and equipment in line with task specification and organizational requirements.</p> <p>2.2 Apply safety measures in handling and use of farm tools, implements and equipment in accordance with practice standards.</p> <p>2.3 Perform routine maintenance tasks to agricultural tools, implements and equipment.</p> <p>2.4 Store tools, implements and equipment correctly and safely in designated areas.</p>	
3. Maintain different soil properties for specific crop plants.		<p>3.1 Collect and organise information to apply safety, health and environmental principles and procedures for the selected tasks.</p> <p>3.2 Use basic knowledge and principles of soil science to identify suitable soil types for specific crops.</p> <p>3.3 Prepare the soil for crop planting in accordance with practice standards and crop requirements.</p> <p>3.4 Carry out processes for maintaining suitable soil properties for healthy plant growth.</p>	

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<p>4. Identify high yield potential areas according to a range of land use options and criteria.</p>	<p>4.1 Carry out data collection on soil, climate and other environmental factors suitable for crop production.</p> <p>4.2 Collect data on proximity and accessibility of the proposed agricultural land.</p> <p>4.3 Evaluate and analyse the collected data to determine suitability of an agricultural land.</p> <p>4.4 Select suitable enterprise for a selected agricultural land.</p> <p>4.5 Design and implement a farm layout on agricultural land for a selected enterprise.</p> <p>4.6 Select and practice cost effective ways of operation for improved performance of the enterprise.</p>
<p>5. Communicate with clients, colleagues and others using appropriate forms of communication techniques</p>	<p>5.1 Use written, verbal, non-verbal communication appropriate to the target audience.</p> <p>5.2 Interpret stipulated instructions or requirements</p> <p>5.3 Apply information acquired in the performance of tasks or discussions with other people</p> <p>5.4 Apply relevant definitions, terminology, abbreviations and language.</p> <p>5.5 Present information using appropriate language and formats.</p> <p>5.6 Construct clear sentences to produce a written logical and coherent piece of writing.</p> <p>5.7 Use appropriate presentation formats and styles of writing to produce error free business documents.</p>
<p>6. Utilise ICT for information retrieval and processing as well as communication and collaboration with others.</p>	<p>6.1 Use ICT responsibly and ethically in accordance to protocols and practices.</p> <p>6.2 Manage information using ICT tools.</p> <p>6.3 Organize and synthesize information using ICT.</p> <p>6.4 Implement data loss prevention strategies using ICT for safeguarding digital data integrity and ensuring a secure future.</p> <p>6.1 Present information in a variety of formats using ICT.</p>

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SECTION C		QUALIFICATION STRUCTURE			
COMPONENT	TITLE	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			Total Credits
		Level [III]	Level [IV]	Level [V]	
FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Communication Skills	10			10
	Information and Communications Technology I(ICT)	10			10
CORE COMPONENT Subjects/Courses/ Modules/Units	Soils and Land Preparation	32			32
	Crop Production	32			32
	Farm Planning	20			20
	Farm Tools and Equipment	16			16
STRANDS/ SPECIALIZATION	Subjects/ Courses/ Modules/Units	Credits Per Relevant NCQF Level			
		Level []	Level []	Level []	
SUMMARY OF CREDIT DISTRIBUTION FOR EACH COMPONENT PER NCQF LEVEL					
TOTAL CREDITS PER NCQF LEVEL					
NCQF Level		Credit Value			
3		120			
TOTAL CREDITS		120			
Rules of Combination: (Please Indicate combinations for the different constituent components of the qualification)					
Candidates are required to achieve a minimum total of 120 credits for the qualification inclusive of 20 credits for fundamental units and 100 credits for core units all at NCQF Level III.					

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ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The weightings for the assessment will be as follows:

1. Formative assessment

The weighting of formative assessment is 60% of the final assessment mark.

2. Summative Assessment

The weighting of summative assessment is 40% of the final assessment mark.

MODERATION ARRANGEMENTS

Internal and external moderation are performed in assessments for the qualification. Assessors and moderators are BQA registered and accredited. Both internal and external moderation are done in-line with ETP policies.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

There shall be provision for award of the qualification through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in accordance with institutional Policies in line with the National RPL Policy.

CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER

There shall be provision for award of the qualification through Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT) in accordance with institutional policies.

PROGRESSION PATHWAYS (LEARNING AND EMPLOYMENT)

Learning Pathways

Horizontal Articulation

Graduates of this qualification may consider pursuing related qualifications in any of the following:

- Certificate III in Forestry
- Certificate III in Horticulture
- Certificate III in Mixed Farming
- Certificate III in Plant Production

Vertical Articulation

Graduates may progress to Level IV qualification in, but not limited to:

- Certificate IV in Crop Farming
- Certificate IV in Forestry
- Certificate IV in Horticulture
- Certificate IV in Plant Production

Employment Pathways

On successful completion of this qualification the holder may be absorbed in the job market as but not limited to:

- Gardener
- Farm Worker
- Arborist Grounds Person

QUALIFICATION AWARD AND CERTIFICATION

Minimum standards of achievement for the award of the qualification

A candidate is required to achieve the stipulated total of 120 credits inclusive of the 20 fundamental and 100 core components to be awarded the Certificate III in Crop Farming.

Certification

Candidates meeting prescribed requirements will be awarded Certificate in addition to transcript.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPARABILITY

Regional:

National Vocational Certificate in Crop and Horticulture Production, Level 3, 100 Credits(Namibia).

National Certificate in Plant Production, NQF Level 3 ,120 credits minimum (South Africa)

International: Certificate in Horticulture (General), Level 3, 60 credits(New Zealand)

Title of Qualification:

The title for the developed qualification and those benchmarked from are all Certificate qualification hence they have similarities. The difference is that the developed qualification has 120 Credits.

NQF Level

The developed qualification is Certificate III in Crop Farming, level 3 ,120 credits similar to National Certificate in Plant Production, NQF Level 3 ,120 credits (South Africa).

It differs with the regional National Vocational Certificate in Crop and Horticulture Production, Level 3, 100 Credits(Namibia).It also differs with international Certificate in Horticulture (General), Level 3, 60 credits(New Zealand).

The regional qualification benchmark aligns well with the developed qualification with modules and learning outcomes as well as credits.

Credit Value or Duration

The developed qualification compares well with Certificate in Certificate III In Crop Farming, level 3 ,120 credits similar to National Certificate In Plant Production, NQF Level 3 ,120 credits (South Africa).

Main Exit Outcome(s)

All the qualifications are similar as they impart knowledge, skills and competence in crop production.

Domains/Modules/Courses/Subjects covered (Fundamental, core, electives .

Comparison was done and it indicates that all qualifications cover similar modules.

Assessment strategies and Weightings

The assessment strategies are the same for both developed and benchmarked qualifications as they cover formative, summative and practical assessments.

Qualification rules and minimum Standards for the award of the qualification

The developed qualifications have fundamentals and core modules whereas bench marked have fundamentals, core and electives.

Comparability and articulation of the proposed qualification with the ones examined

The developed and benched marked qualifications allow learners to articulate horizontally and vertically. On successful completion of the qualifications the graduate can progress vertically to Certificate IV In Crop Farming. Graduates may proceed horizontally to Certificate III in relevant qualifications in Crop Production and vertically to relevant NQF Level IV qualification such as Certificate IV in Crop Farming, Certificate IV in Plant Production, Certificate IV in Forestry and Certificate IV in Horticulture. The qualification will produce semi-skilled farm workers who eligible for employment as Gardeners, Arborist Grounds person and Farm Workers in the field of agriculture.

The qualification will produce competent individuals across crop production sector who shall contribute to food security, quality production, sustainability and environmental responsibilities that promotes economic growth and supervision.

REVIEW PERIOD

This qualification shall be reviewed every 5 years.

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For Official Use Only:

CODE (ID)			
REGISTRATION STATUS	BQA DECISION NO.	REGISTRATION START DATE	REGISTRATION END DATE
LAST DATE FOR ENROLMENT		LAST DATE FOR ACHIEVEMENT	

BOTSWANA
Qualifications Authority