

# TEAGASC COLLEGE OF AMENITY HORTICULTURE

## PART TIME QQI LEVEL 6 COMPONENT AWARD IN HORTICULTURE

Part time courses or component awards allow learners to select individual subjects in Horticulture from any of our major awards at Level 6. These courses are intended for prospective students who are currently employed in the horticulture industry and who wish to further their career development in their chosen sector.

### Entry requirements (up to 60 credits)

The level 6 component courses (part time modules which are worth 15 or 30 credits) are open to students who have successfully achieved a **Certificate in Horticulture QQI Level 5** or persons currently **working within the horticulture industry with relevant experience**. For those who do not hold a Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture or equivalent, a letter from current employer must be provided outlining your experience to date and a competency based interview will take place to demonstrate knowledge, skills and competency to successfully participate at level 6.

### Entry requirements (over 60 credits)

Students who wish to take more than 60 credits **must complete the Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture or equivalent**. Equivalence means using the Teagasc RPL process. This is the normal progression route for students. Contact the college for more information on how to do this. As well as providing the learner with a taste of 3rd level training in their chosen sector, these courses will equip the learner with the knowledge skill and competence relevant to the sector in which they are employed.

Course material will be delivered face to face through a combination of practical instruction and assessment and class based teaching. All practicals will be delivered face to face for instruction and assessment in the National Botanic Gardens and Teagasc Ashtown.

Moodle is the online learning platform that will be used as the resource for supplementary learning content for students. Moodle will also be used for hosting recorded class content for some but not all modules

MODULE CHOICE	
13 Modules	
LOCATION	
- National Botanic Gardens, - Ashtown Campus, Dublin 15.	
COST	
15 Credit Module = €240.00	30 Credit Module = €420.00



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PART TIME

# Ecology & the Environment (6N3645)

L6

## Course Summary

The QQI level 6 component award in Ecology and the Environment will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to assist in the management of the natural environment. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Ecology and the Environment (6N3645).

## Who Should Apply?

This course is designed for anyone currently employed in any area of horticulture or related discipline who is interested in deepening both their scientific and applied knowledge of this very important area. On completion of this course, students can undertake further part-time courses in all of the various horticulture sectors.

## Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Review policy framework for environmental & biodiversity in Ireland
- Appraise the role of statutory and voluntary organisations in environmental protection
- Apply techniques to promote biodiversity in the horticulture industry
- Evaluate factors influencing population dynamics community composition
- Examine habitat restoration techniques
- Report on a range of environmental features
- Assess habitats for biodiversity and quality using practical techniques
- Identify invasive species
- Devise a management plan to control an invasive species
- Ensure implementation of procedures to create and maintain a safe working environment

## Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. Students will attend the College for 3 hours per week. Assessment of the course will be by means of two projects, a range of assignments and one theory exam.

CREDITS	15
COST	€240.00
VENUE	Botanics
DATES	September to May
DAY/TIME	Thursday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm

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PART TIME

# Garden Centre Operations (6N3609)

L6

## Course Summary

The QQI level 6 component award in Garden Centre Operations will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to supervise operations in garden centres and other horticulture retail outlets. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Garden Centre Operations (6N3609)

## Who Should Apply?

This course is designed for current employees interested in deepening their scientific and applied knowledge of the retailing of plants and associated products. It is also suited to those already working in the plant retailing industry who would like to improve their knowledge and career opportunities within the sector. On completion of this course students can undertake further part-time courses such as Nursery Stock Production which is very complimentary to this course.

## Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the retail market for garden plants and products
- Analyse garden centre layout and customer flow patterns
- Examine product displays, promotion and public relations within the garden centre industry
- Explain the role of staff within the garden centre industry
- Apply routine skills necessary to display merchandise and maintain stock
- Apply knowledge of a wide range of garden products and services with a view to providing professional customer service
- Support the line manager

## Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. Students will attend the College one or two days per week. Some days will involve on-site visits to support classroom learning. A work-based project will form part of the overall assessment.

<b>CREDITS</b>	30
<b>COST</b>	€420.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics/Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	September to May
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Tuesday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

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PART TIME

## Garden & Parks Supervision (6N3607)

L6

### Course Summary

The purpose of the award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to supervise public amenities such as parks and gardens

### Who Should Apply?

This course is designed for current employees interested in deepening their scientific and applied knowledge of plants. It is also suited to those already working in the garden and parks area who would like to improve their knowledge and career opportunities within the sector. On completion of this course students can undertake further part-time courses such as Landscape or Sportsturf which is very complimentary to this course.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the issues involved in establishing and managing plants in amenity areas of high usage
- Explain planning and other relevant legislation to enable effective participation within Local Government jurisdictions
- Examine the management and development of public amenities within the planning framework to maximize opportunities and ensure a sustainable approach to the provision of facilities
- Identify a broad range of introduced and native plants, based on horticultural merit suitable for amenity areas within Irish climatic conditions
- Apply the necessary skills in the management of gardens and urban and rural landscapes including codes of good practice
- Evaluate a range of potential planting sites including the selection of suitable plants for site conditions
- Appraise tree stocks for potential hazards including suggesting appropriate remedial action
- Ensure implementation of procedures to create and maintain a safe working environment

### Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. Students will attend the College one days per week. Some days will involve on-site visits to support classroom learning.

<b>CREDITS</b>	30
<b>COST</b>	€420.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics / Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	November to March
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Friday 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm

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PART TIME

## Horticultural Production Mechanisation (6N3623)



L6

### Course Summary

The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to understand the working mechanism and use a range of machinery in horticultural field crop production. This course will lead to a minor award at NFQ Level 6 in Horticulture Production Mechanisation (6N3623).

### Who Should Apply?

This course is suited to people who are currently pursuing a career in Horticultural field crop production or would like to gain further knowledge on the subject. This module offers participants a chance to study at the Teagasc College of Horticulture Ashtown Campus.

This subject is worth 30 credits which can be counted towards further studies at Level 6. By taking other Level 6 modules, students may be able to build towards a full major award of QQI Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Explain the importance of field crop cultivation practices including the uses of different cultivators
- Assess the importance of irrigation practices in field crop production
- Appraise mechanical equipment management and maintenance planning for horticultural field crop production
- Analyse the operation and working mechanisms of a range of field crop production machinery
- Operate a tractor in a safe and competent manner
- Operate a plough in a safe and competent manner
- Apply fertiliser and seed accurately
- Organise the setting up of a crop irrigation system

### Course Structure

The course will be offered in one 3 hour session per week over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to mid-March. Students will be required to undertake class work and group activities surrounding leadership events and learner records. Assessment will be by the completion of a learner record and skills assessment.

CREDITS	30
COST	€420.00
VENUE	Ashtown
DATES	Monday
DAY/TIME	Tuesday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

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PART TIME

## Landscape Design & Construction (6N3620)

L6

### Course Summary

The QQI level 6 component award in Landscape Design and Construction will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to design a landscape project and take that design to the detailed plan, specification and construction stage. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Landscape Design and Construction (6N3620).

### Who Should Apply?

This course is intended for those who are already employed in the landscape sector. It is particularly suited to those who have gained knowledge from previous study of horticulture or have relevant design and plant knowledge. The course will help to develop a better understanding of design principles of gardens and also how a range of garden features are constructed.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Analyse the landscape design process
- Appraise the principles and elements that underlie landscape design
- Evaluate a range of landscape design features and explain the importance and use of plant materials in design
- Evaluate structural components of landscape features and how they work together eg; walls, steps and paving
- Implement the design process in full for a given design including the building of a range of garden features

### Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 24 week period commencing in early September and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. The course will be delivered on 5 days per week in September and October and on 2 days per week thereafter, during this time students will develop a range of practical skills for garden design and construction as well as comprehensive drawing skills. These skills culminate in assignments in which the student will design a number of sites and build a garden from the ground up. A work-based project will form part of the overall assessment.

<b>CREDITS</b>	30
<b>COST</b>	€420.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics / Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	September to May
<b>COURSE WORK</b>	24 weeks including 8 weeks studio based learning

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PART TIME

## Market Gardening (6N3614)

L6

### Course Summary

The QQI level 6 component award in Market Gardening will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to plan and implement production programmes for a full range of fruit and vegetable crops. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Market Gardening(6N3614).

### Who Should Apply?

The course is designed for anyone already employed in the area of fruit and vegetable production, market gardening as well as garden centres where staff needs to be trained to answer questions from the public on all aspects of fruit and vegetable production. On completion of this course students can undertake further part-time courses that are complimentary to this course.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Explain current regulations regarding protection of waters against pollution
- Describe quality assurance schemes and codes of practice relevant to the fresh produce supply chain
- Explain the regulatory system for plant protection and biocidal products
- Examine the production of plants for transplanting
- Examine crop production techniques
- Design a crop schedule for a range of crops
- Devise an integrated pest and disease management plan
- Identify relevant pests and diseases
- Cultivate a range of crops including all necessary routine skills
- Investigate new crops and technologies relevant to market gardening
- Implement procedures to create and maintain a safe working environment

### Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. Students will attend the College one or two days per week. Some days will involve on-site visits to support classroom learning. A work-based project will form part of the overall assessment.

<b>CREDITS</b>	30
<b>COST</b>	€420.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics/Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	November - March
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Tuesday 9.00 am to 2.30 pm

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A banner image showing a large greenhouse filled with rows of colorful plants. The text 'PART TIME Nursery Stock Production (6N3610)' is overlaid on the left side. On the right side, there is a dark green shield-shaped icon with the white text 'L6' inside.

**PART TIME**  
**Nursery Stock**  
**Production (6N3610)**

**L6**

### **Course Summary**

The QQI level 6 component award in Nursery Stock Production will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to perform operations in a nursery stock plant production unit. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Nursery Stock Production (6N3614).

### **Who Should Apply?**

This course is designed for current employees interested in deepening both their scientific and applied knowledge of professional plant propagation. It is suited to those already working in the industry who would like to improve their knowledge and career opportunities within the sector. On completion of this course students can undertake further part-time courses that are complimentary to this course.

### **Module Content**

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Plan a crop production programme for a range of crops such as: Bedding plants, Open ground trees and shrubs, Containerised trees and shrubs
- Perform cultural techniques such as: Taking cuttings, Pruning and staking, Pricking out, Preparing compost mix for various container crops, Potting on
- Recognise crop specific pests, diseases and weeds and develop appropriate control programmes
- Appreciate current plant health, import / export regulations

### **Course Structure**

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. Students will attend the College one or two days per week. A work-based project will form part of the overall assessment.

<b>CREDITS</b>	30
<b>COST</b>	€420.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics
<b>DATES</b>	September to May
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Monday & Tuesday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm Tuesday half day for visits to industry when planned

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PART TIME

## Sportsturf Science & Maintenance (6N3622)

A green shield-shaped logo with a white border, containing the white text 'L6'.

### Course Summary

The QQI level 6 component award in Sportsturf Science and Maintenance will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to manage all of the factors that influence the development, quality and maintenance of sportsturf in Ireland. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Sportsturf Science and Maintenance (6N3623).

### Who Should Apply?

The course is designed for anyone already employed in the area of sportsturf management, in particular golf courses, sports fields/pitches, equestrian or any other facility using natural turf. It is particularly suited to those who are embarking on a career in sportsturf and who wish to develop a greater understanding of the sciences underpinning all aspects of sportsturf maintenance. On completion of this course students can undertake further part-time courses that are complimentary to this course.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:


- Appraise soil physical and chemical characteristics and evaluate soil hydrology
- Understand the growth and development of grass
- Assess meteorological effects on the development of grass
- Identify pests, diseases and weeds and implement IPM practices
- Formulate nutritional programmes for turfgrass systems
- Manage turfgrass and safely operate turf maintenance equipment
- Recognise safe working practices in turfgrass facilities

### Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. Students will attend the College one or two days per week. A work-based project will form part of the overall assessment.

<b>CREDITS</b>	30
<b>COST</b>	€420.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	September to May
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Monday & Tuesday <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> day

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PART TIME  
Supervisory Skills  
(6N2104)



L6

### Course Summary

The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to work independently in a supervisory capacity in a range of specific organisations and vocational contexts.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the principles and practice of supervision in range of public, private and voluntary environments
- Evaluate different approaches to supervision and or line management, to include key concepts and methods of choosing an approach for a particular context or organisation
- Analyse the attributes and key skills of an effective supervisor, to include communication, interaction, time management, organisational skills, familiarity with relevant employment and health and safety legislation
- Explain the role of the supervisor in establishing, maintaining and continuously improving standards and quality in an organisation
- Utilise a range of organisational skills, to include planning and organising work, time management, arranging, running and following up meetings, documenting relevant elements of personal supervisory practice
- Develop strategies for overcoming barriers effective supervision, to include recognition of common challenges and problems when working with individuals and teams, and identification of possible resolutions
- Design an operational work plan or project for a fixed period, to include short and medium term objectives that are consistent with the organisations overall objectives, policies and requirements, and utilizing appropriate monitoring and evaluation tools
- Utilise training needs analyses to plan and implement training plans for team or group in accordance with organisational objectives
- Delegate work to others, to include assignment of tasks, monitoring progress, evaluating results
- Provide effective feedback to individuals and teams, to include positive and corrective pointers, and communication on poor performance and ways of resolving any issues arising
- Implement a work plan, to include appropriate monitoring and records of progress, evaluation of implementation in relation to the original plan and appropriate action to complete the plan
- Supervise a team, to include negotiating a work plan or project, delivering a briefing, checking understanding by summarising information and agreed-upon actions, monitoring and evaluation of progress in the work plan and by team members

### Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March.

<b>CREDITS</b>	15
<b>COST</b>	€240.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics & Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	November to March
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Wednesday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm

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PART TIME

## Tree & Shrub Management (6N3624)

L6

### Course Summary

The QQI level 6 component award in Tree and Shrub Management will equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence in the selection, planning and maintenance of trees and shrubs. The course will lead to the component award at NFQ Level 6 in Tree and Shrub Management (6N3624).

### Who Should Apply?

This course is designed for anyone involved in the selection, establishment and care of trees and shrubs. It is suited for people who are currently working in parks or garden management or in other horticultural enterprises such as nurseries, garden centres or sportsturf facilities which may involve the management of woody vegetation. On completion of this course students can undertake further part-time courses that are complimentary to this course.

### Module Content

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Evaluate methods of establishing and managing trees and shrubs
- Explain current legislation and codes of practice relating to trees
- Select appropriate species for a range of situations
- Appraise tree and shrub stock for hazards and suggest appropriate actions
- Explain the response of trees to wounding and its implications for management
- Apply the necessary skills in relation to planning and aftercare of trees and shrubs
- Assess protection requirements for retained trees on development sites
- Identify a broad range of trees and shrubs
- Implement procedures to create and maintain a safe working environment

### Course Structure

The course will be offered on two 3 hour sessions per week over a 16 week period commencing in early November and running through to early March in the National Botanic Gardens. The course will comprise of a combination of lectures, plant identification and practical sessions. Skills learned throughout the year will be assessed at regular intervals. Two exams are offered in December and again in March.

<b>CREDITS</b>	15
<b>COST</b>	€240.00
<b>VENUE</b>	Botanics/Ashtown
<b>DATES</b>	September to May
<b>DAY/TIME</b>	Wednesday 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm
	Friday 9.00 to 12.30 pm

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# HOW TO ACHIEVE A FULL QQI LEVEL 6 IN HORTICULTURE

Our Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture offers a stream choice which provides a direct qualification in a specific horticultural area as follows; Landscaping, Nursery Stock, Sports Turf or Food Production. If taking the option of studying our Level 6 Component subjects with the view to achieving the full level 6 award we recommend that applicants complete modules specific to a chosen stream. To achieve a full level 6 advanced certificate in horticulture a person would have to reach 120 credits in a chosen Stream (*see table below*).

LANDSCAPING		
QQI CODE	MODULES	CREDITS
6N3620	LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION	30
6N3607	GARDEN AND PARKS SUPERVISION	30
6N2191	LEADERSHIP	15
6N2104	SUPERVISORY SKILLS	15
6N3645	ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT	15
6N3624	TREE AND SHRUB MANAGEMENT	15
<b>Course work:</b> 24 weeks		<b>Practical Learning Period (PLP):</b> 8 weeks
NURSERY STOCK PRODUCTION		
QQI CODE	MODULES	CREDITS
6N3610	NURSERY STOCK PRODUCTION	30
6N3609	GARDEN CENTRE OPERATIONS	30
6N2191	LEADERSHIP	15
6N2104	SUPERVISORY SKILLS	15
6N3645	ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT	15
6N3624	TREE AND SHRUB MANAGEMENT	15
<b>Course work:</b> 16 weeks		<b>Practical Learning Period (PLP):</b> 16 weeks
SPORTSTURF		
QQI CODE	MODULES	CREDITS
6N3623	SPORTSTURF SCIENCE AND MAINTENANCE	30
6N3607	GARDEN & PARKS SUPERVISION	30
6N2191	LEADERSHIP	15
6N2104	SUPERVISORY SKILLS	15
6N3645	ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT	15
6N3624	TREE AND SHRUB MANAGEMENT	15
<b>Course work:</b> 16 weeks		<b>Practical Learning Period (PLP):</b> 16 weeks
FOOD PRODUCTION		
QQI CODE	MODULES	CREDITS
6N3614	MARKET GARDENING	30
6N3623	HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION MECHANISATION	30
6N2191	LEADERSHIP	15
6N2104	SUPERVISORY SKILLS	15
6N3645	ECOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT	15
6N3624	TREE AND SHRUB MANAGEMENT	15
<b>Course work:</b> 16 weeks		<b>Practical Learning Period (PLP):</b> 16 weeks

\* QQI Level 6 Streams are offered subject to numbers Course Aims

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