

National Certificate: Mixed Farming Systems NQF 1



^ PURPOSE

The purpose of this qualification is to allow new entrants access to the primary agricultural sector with specific reference to mixed farming systems. The contextualised purpose and usage of the qualification is as follows:

- A learner assessed against this qualification will have the necessary competence to participate as part of a working team, performing the agricultural processes as applicable to plant and animal production as required for a mixed farming system in a closely defined context and under close supervision
- Competency will be gained in a combination of the sub-fields of plant and animal production as specified under areas of specialisation (i.e. small stock, large stock as well as vegetables, fruit production, hydroponics, etc.)
- The learner will be able to make responsible decisions within a limited range based on a sound understanding of the basic principles of agri-business and good agricultural practices, in meeting the set objectives and targets within the broader farm plan which includes the economical application of general resources, agricultural production, and technical knowledge and skills, all in a mixed farming context
- The learner will be able to carry out repetitive procedures in a predictable environment and will be able to adhere to the relevant safety, quality, hygiene, and technical standards as applicable within the industry
- In addition to the above, the learner will be well-positioned to extend learning and practice into other sub-fields such as plant production and animal production, since such efforts will only require additional learning within the elective scope of other qualifications at this level
- The learner will be well-positioned to progress towards higher levels of management and technical production practices as defined by qualifications at the next level
- Learners will be enabled to actively participate in the primary agricultural sector through the production of quality agricultural products, enhancing the overall agricultural process, and gaining opportunities to access local, national, and international agricultural markets
- Finally, this qualification will allow qualifying learners to become economically active in farming practices that will have a direct impact on local economic development through the production of food, the improvement of household food security, and access to mainstream agriculture

^ COURSE CONTENT

Module 1

- Analyse cultural products and processes as representations of shape, space and time
- Collect agricultural data
- Collect, analyse, use and communicate numerical data
- Critically analyse how mathematics is used in social, political and economic relations
- Demonstrate an understanding of and use the numbering system
- Describe and represent objects and the environment in terms of shape, space, time and motion
- Working with numbers in various contexts

Module 2

- Engage in a range of speaking and listening interactions for a variety of purposes
- Explore and use a variety of strategies to learn (revised)
- Read and respond to a range of text types
- Use maps to access and communicate information concerning routes, location and direction
- Write for a variety of different purposes

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^ COURSE CONTENT

Module 3

- Apply basic agricultural enterprise selection principles
- Apply basic food safety practices
- Apply elementary farm layout and infrastructure
- Define production and understand the basic activities of production/conversion in the agri-business environment
- Handle inputs and stock in agri-business
- Maintain basic water quality
- Recognise pests, diseases, and weeds on crops
- Select, use and care for hand tools and basic equipment and infrastructure
- Understand how sustainable farming systems conserve natural resources

Module 4

- Apply standard animal feeding procedures
- Harvest animal products
- Observe and handle animals
- Apply basic dairy production practices
- Apply basic pig husbandry practices

Module 5

- Fertilise soil and attend to basic plant nutrition
- Harvest agricultural crops
- Manipulate plants
- Plant the crop under supervision

Module 6

- Apply basic human resource management principles and practices applicable in an agricultural environment
- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of marketing
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of sustainable farming systems
- Identify the need for capital and understand the need for the recording of the income and different costs in an agri-business

^ DELIVERY

- Duration: 12 Months
- Delivery: Classroom/Online/Blended

^ ENTRY LEVEL REQUIREMENTS

- Numeracy, Literacy & Communication

^ CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Farmer / Farm Worker specialising in Plant and Animal Production
- Farm Supervisor
- Farm Team Leader

ACCREDITATION

- National Certificate: Mixed Farming Systems
- Accreditation: Agri Seta
- SAQA ID: 48971
- NQF Level: 1
- Credits: 120

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