

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

Overview

This standard is for those who co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants in outdoor or protected conditions. It is applicable to planting by hand or by machine.

This includes planting crops or plants in any horticultural setting, whether amenity (green roofs, gardens, sports turf, mixed grassed and planted areas etc.) or production (fruit, vegetables, trees, etc.).

The identification and establishment of available resources required for planting, will include the need to identify crops or plants by their common and botanical names. As well as knowledge of common and botanical names this standard will also cover grouping of different plants.

You will require considerable knowledge of the principles and methods of planting operations.

This standard covers the co-ordination of your own workload, in some instances it may involve co-ordinating the work of teams.

If you are required to use chemicals (e.g. herbicides, fungicides or insecticides), these are subject to relevant legislative requirements, and you will need to be in possession of the relevant qualifications or be under the direct supervision of someone who possesses the relevant qualification.

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the establishment of crops or plants
2. carry out an environmental assessment of the site before starting work
3. confirm that the site is in an optimum condition for planting
4. confirm that the necessary working methods for planting are established and clearly communicated
5. confirm that suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) are worn
6. check that planting takes place at the appropriate time to optimise plant growth and development
7. identify and co-ordinate the availability of equipment and resources required for planting
8. co-ordinate the processing of recycling or disposal of waste in accordance with relevant legal and organisational requirements
9. confirm that hygiene and biosecurity are maintained in accordance with organisational practices
10. check that the quality of the crop or plant material and work methods meet specifications
11. confirm the crop or plant material is prepared according to specifications
12. confirm that crops or plants are positioned within the growing media according to specifications
13. check that the crop or plant material is handled in a manner which optimises establishment, growth and development, and prevents damage
14. check the integrity of the site is maintained
15. assess the need to apply crop or plant protection
16. confirm appropriate records are completed as required by relevant legislation and the organisational requirements
17. confirm that work is carried out in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety policies and risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and organisational policies

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards, assess risks and interpret risk assessments
2. the importance of carrying out an environmental assessment of the site before commencing the establishment of crops or plants and the findings which may affect planting
3. the optimum conditions required for planting
4. the working methods for carrying out planting
5. the types of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
6. the types and quantity of equipment and materials required for planting operations
7. the safe and correct use of resources when carrying out planting
8. specifications and timescales for planting operations
9. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
10. the role of crop rotation where appropriate when establishing crops or plants
11. stages of plant development
12. how to identify problems with the quantity of crop or plant material and the action to take as required
13. how to identify problems with the quality of work methods when co-ordinating the establishment of crops or plants and the action to take as required
14. how to identify weeds, moss, pests and diseases and what action to take
15. methods for preparing crop or plant material
16. the correct positioning of the crops or plants in the growing media
17. correct methods for handling and transporting crop or plant material
18. methods of maintaining hygiene and biosecurity and the reasons why it is important
19. problems that may arise during planting and what action to take
20. the relevant legal and organisational requirements for the handling, transporting and disposal of waste
21. the importance of maintaining records for establishing crops or plants relevant to legal and organisational requirements
22. the importance of following environmental and ecological best

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

practice to help minimise the impact of your work on the environment

23. your responsibilities under relevant health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational policies

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

Scope/range

- A. confirm that the following sites for the establishment of crops or plants are set and marked out to specification:
1. areas for soft landscape construction
 2. areas for planting
 3. areas for restoration
- B. select and establish the following crops/plants:
1. trees
 2. shrubs
 3. container grown
 4. root grown
 5. turf
 6. seeds
- C. position crops or plants within the growing media according to the following (as suitable for the crops or plants):
1. density
 2. depth
 3. mix
 4. orientation
 5. firmness
- D. confirm the following types of waste are disposed of correctly:
1. organic
 2. inorganic

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

Glossary

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines, organisational policies

Co-ordinate the establishment of crops or plants

Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	3
Date Approved	January 2019
Indicative Review Date	January 2024
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANPH7
Relevant Occupations	Gardener; Landscaper; Nursery Worker; Fruit and Vegetable Production Worker; Roofers fortifiers and slaters; Greenkeeper
Suite	Horticulture; Waterproof Membrane Roofing Systems
Keywords	crops; plants; planting; fruit; vegetable; shrubs; green roofs; seeds; turf
