

Identify and name plants using their botanical names

Overview

This standard is for those who identify and name plants using their botanical names.

This standard is for those responsible for working with plants, either in a growing or retail environment.

You must carry out your work in a way which will minimise the impact on the natural environment.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. locate and use accurate sources of information to correctly identify and name plants using their botanical names
2. use the binomial system to define accurately the terms used when identifying plants e.g. family, genus, species, cultivar, variety and hybrid
3. use a plant's characteristics to aid identification (including uses, habitat, anatomy and morphology)
4. identify non-invasive, non-native, invasive and protected plant species and act accordingly
5. handle the plants in manner which minimises damage
6. check the correct format is used when writing botanical names in accordance with the International Code of Nomenclature
7. check that labels and other records are completed accurately
8. carry out your work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and organisational policies

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the purpose and importance of classifying plants using their botanical names
2. the terminology used in plant identification, classification and nomenclature e.g. family, genus, species, cultivar, variety and hybrid
3. the meaning of descriptive botanical names e.g. 'nana' and 'pendula'
4. plant characteristics and how they can aid identification
5. relevant reference sources e.g. Plant Finder, Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO)
6. non-invasive, non-native, invasive and protected species and what action to take if they are discovered
7. the safe working practices for handling plants
8. the requirements and restrictions relating to Plant Patent and Plant Breeders' Rights, the licensee organisations and Plant Breeders' Rights inspectorates
9. the importance of using the correct format when writing botanical names
10. the relevant plant recording and labelling systems
11. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational policies

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Scope/range

A. use the following plant characteristics to aid identification

1. habit
2. leaves
3. stems
4. flowers
5. buds

B. identify and name plants botanically (from the following categories):

1. annuals and short-lived perennials
2. houseplants
3. herbaceous perennials
4. trees and shrubs
5. grasses
6. food crops
7. weeds

C. define terms relating to plant characteristics for the following:

1. monocotyledons
2. dicotyledons
3. evergreen
4. deciduous
5. hardy
6. tender

D. define terms relating to plant life cycles, e.g.:

1. annuals
2. biennials
3. herbaceous perennials
4. woody perennial

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Originating Organisation	Lantra
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Relevant Occupations	Garden Centre Worker, Nursery Worker
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Suite	Horticulture
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