We are continuing the strong and proud tradition of training horticulturists in the National Botanic Gardens in Glasnevin, a practise that has gone on for over 200 years. The College is privileged to partner the OPW who run the gardens in the training of students in Horticulture. Our graduates are found in every corner of the world practising their trade and continually learning.

The science of horticulture is ever changing and in the College of Horticulture we can provide the building blocks that will open new horizons.

All of our courses are run in the National Botanic Gardens in Glasnevin and in our new campus in the grounds of the Food Research Centre in nearby Ashtown. We have access to the National Botanic Gardens each day and we also have state of the art lecture theatres that were opened in 2014. It’s a great time to be involved in the industry as more and more horticultural companies are looking to expand and take on well-trained, highly qualified employees.

The essence of what we do centres around plant knowledge and the Botanic Gardens holds the premier living plant collection in Ireland. Across every course, students spend a considerable period of time in the gardens viewing plants and being tutored on the plant collections and uses.

In this booklet you will find a wealth of information dealing with specific courses from Certificate level 5 through to Degree level 7. All of our major and minor awards programmes are validated under QQI (Quality Qualifications Ireland).

If all you want to do is learn plant names then we have the course for you but if you want to develop a full career qualification then this is the place for you also. In short, we have the course to fulfil all horticulture training requirements. Over the years we have developed strong industry links and we are also involved in providing specific tailored training and continuous professional development to the Horticulture sector. We are dedicated to promote the business of learning in horticulture across all levels and with all interested individuals.

If you have any specific queries on any information contained herein please don’t hesitate to contact us. Why not visit us at the National Botanic Gardens. You are guaranteed a wonderful experience, one that could change your life.

John Mulhern
Principal, Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture
National Botanic Gardens
“The science of horticulture is ever changing and in the College of Horticulture we provide the building blocks that will open new horizons”

John Mulhern, College Principal
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Overview of the Botanic Gardens and College

The National Botanic Gardens were established in 1795 under the auspices of the Dublin Society, later the Royal Dublin Society, at the behest of the Irish Parliament to ‘promote a scientific knowledge in the various branches of agriculture’. The garden is Ireland’s premier botanical and horticultural establishment. It occupies a beautiful 19 hectares site with the river Tolka forming the northern boundary. It contains over 20,000 plant species and cultivars including many exceptional specimens.

There are plants for scientific research, conservation, education and display as well as dried plant specimens (herbarium) and an extensive horticultural library. There are some magnificent trees, many outstanding displays of shrubs and perennials and the famous Victorian glasshouses including Turner’s magnificent curvilinear range.

Over the past two centuries the gardens have played a central role in botanical and horticultural advancement in Ireland. Plants and seeds have been imported and new cultivars and species distributed to gardeners and nurseries.

The Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture is located in the grounds of the National Botanic Gardens. There is a long tradition of horticulture training at the National Botanic Gardens dating back to 1812, when records show that students were taken on as apprentices. Over the last 200 years the training courses at the Botanic Gardens have evolved to meet the needs of the day. In the Botanic Gardens, college personnel work in close liaison with the OPW staff of the gardens to ensure that students receive a comprehensive training in all aspects of horticulture. The College also conducts a portion of its practical / skills training at its other campus located in the grounds of the nearby Teagasc Food Research Centre in Ashtown, Dublin 15.
General Information & Course Schedule
This course involves 28 weeks of horticultural class work and skills and a four-week practical learning period (PLP) in a Teagasc-approved horticultural unit. In an average week, students will spend three days at the college and two days skills training in a Dublin Local Authority Park.

Course Content
Subjects included in the QQI Level 5 course include:

- Identification and use of plants, trees, bulbs and other herbaceous plants
- Soils and plant sciences
- Weeds, pest and disease control
- Hard landscaping and garden design
- Plant propagation
- Fruit and vegetable production
- Ornamental horticulture

Course Aims
By combining class work at the National Botanic Gardens with horticultural work and skills training at the Dublin Local Authority Parks, students receive a balanced approach to the skills and knowledge required to start a career in horticulture or to progress on to a higher level horticulture course.

Admission, Entry Requirements and Application Procedures

- Application forms are available from the College and from the College website
- Student must be aged 17, or over on January 1st following entry to the course
- There is no minimal educational requirement
- Applicants should have a keen interest in working in and learning about practical horticulture
- Teagasc supports access for students with disabilities

Progression
Progression opportunities from the Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture include; the Advanced Certificate in Horticulture (Level 6) and the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture degree (Level 7).

Further Information
Please see Page 12 for full contact and admission details.
QQI Level 6 – **Advanced Certificate in Horticulture**

**General Information & Course Schedule**
This course is offered over a 32 week period and will consist of either 24 or 16 weeks of College based course work and 8 or 16 weeks of a practical learning period (PLP) depending on the chosen stream, details of which are included on (page 5).

**Course Content**
Subjects included in the QQI Level 6 course will vary with the stream chosen. The four streams offered in the Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stream</th>
<th>Course Work</th>
<th>PLP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Design &amp; Construction</td>
<td>24 weeks</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Stock Production</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sportsturf</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Production</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
<td>16 weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Aims**
This course provides students with the opportunity to acquire management knowledge and skills to effectively manage and carry out day to day tasks and long term management of parks and gardens and commercial horticultural enterprises. The course is suitable for those who are;

- Seeking employment as supervisors, technicians or unit managers
- Seeking employment in the horticultural business service sector
- Transferring to the BSc in Horticulture (Level 7)

**Admission, Entry Requirements and Application Procedures**
- Students who have successfully achieved a Certificate in Horticulture QQI Level 5 may progress to the Advanced Certificate in Horticulture QQI level 6
- Students should apply directly to the College
- Application forms are available from the College and from the College website
- Teagasc supports access for students with disabilities

**Progression**
Students who successfully complete the Advanced Certificate in Horticulture Level 6 with a merit or distinction are eligible to apply for advanced entry to year 2 of the BSc in Horticulture Level 7 (WIT) which is conducted at the College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens.

**Further Information**
Please see Page 12 for full contact and admission details
Learning Streams for the QQI Advanced Certificate in Horticulture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QQI Level 6 Streams</th>
<th>Students select one stream and take appropriate modules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Landscaping</strong></td>
<td><strong>Nursery Stock</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Design &amp; Construction</td>
<td>Nursery Stock Production</td>
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<td>Garden and Parks Supervision</td>
<td>Garden Centre Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership or Customer Service</td>
<td>Leadership or Customer Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervisory Skills</td>
<td>Supervisory Skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree &amp; Shrub Management</td>
<td>Tree &amp; Shrub Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overview
This is a three-year, full-time BSc in horticulture which consists of lectures, integrated practicals, projects and a practical learning period. The course is run in partnership with the Waterford Institute of Technology. All components of the course are delivered and examined in the Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9.

In year 1 the focus is on core horticultural science. This will provide students with a sound knowledge of all the sciences underpinning plant cultivation. In year 2, students will have an opportunity to specialise in a particular area and perfect new skills with a practical learning period either in Ireland or abroad. Major elective subjects in year 2 include:

- Landscape Design
- Nursery Stock Production
- Market Gardening
- Sportsturf

In year 3, a range of business subjects will prepare graduates to become self-employed and develop management skills. Students in year 3 can also choose from a wide range of minor elective subjects across all horticulture sectors.

What are my Career Opportunities?
Horticulture is a diverse industry and there has always been a demand for highly trained horticulturists. Career opportunities exist in a wide variety of areas including:

- Greenkeeping and Sportsturf Management
- Nursery Stock Production
- Landscape Construction
- Landscape Design
- Garden Maintenance
- Private and Heritage Gardens
- Food Production
- Garden Centres
- Horticulture Service Sector
Application for the Level 7 Bachelor of Science in Horticulture (WIT)

How do I apply for the Level 7 Bachelor of Science in Horticulture?
• Apply through the CAO – Course Code: WD097 (www.cao.ie)
• Apply for advanced entry on the WIT website (www.wit.ie). Details available from the College of Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens.
• Third level grants available (www.susi.ie)
• Points vary from year to year but are usually in the range 210 - 250

Leaving Certificate Requirements
• English or Irish OD3 / HD3
• Mathematics OD3/HD3 and at least 5 grade D or better in Leaving Certificate

Information for Mature Students
If a student is aged over 23 by January 1st in the year in which they intend starting the course they do not need the normal entry requirements. However, they will have to apply through the CAO before February 1st.

Further information on the Level 7 BSc in Horticulture

For further information:
• Contact the course leader at WIT
  Una McDermott
  051 302185 or umcdermott@wit.ie

• Visit the WIT website
  www.wit.ie/wd097

• Download a copy of the course prospectus
College Contact & Admission Details

Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture,
National Botanic Gardens,
Glasnevin,
Dublin 9.
D09 VY63

Tel: +353 1 8040201
Email: botanic.college@teagasc.ie
Web: www.teagasc.ie/botanicgardens
www.facebook.com/teagaschortcollegeNBG

Admission Details

**QQI Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture**
Apply directly to College for an application form or download from the College website. Submit form to College by end of May. Interviews are held in June. Contact the College for up to date information on fees and grants.

**QQI Level 6 Certificate in Horticulture**
Apply directly to College for an application form or download from the College website. Submit form to College by end of May. Contact the College for up to date information on fees and grants.

**Level 7 Bachelor of Science in Horticulture**
Apply through the CAO system: www.cao.com. Course code on the CAO is WD097
Visit the WIT website for course information: www.wit.ie/wd097
Contact WIT Course Leader: umcdermott@wit.ie
Tel: 051 302185
Third level grants available (www.susi.ie)
Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture,
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