About the Course
The Teagasc Colleges at National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin and Kildalton College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny are offering a QQI Level 6 component award in Nursery Stock Production. The purpose of this QQI Level 6 award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to perform operations in a garden centre and in a nursery stock plant production unit. This course will lead to a minor award at NFQ Level 6 in Nursery Stock Production (6N3610).

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.

Progression
This award is a component part of the Advanced Certificate in Horticulture programme offered at The College of Amenity Horticulture, Glasnevin and Teagasc Kildalton College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny.

On completion of this module, students can take other Level 6 components that are complimentary to nursery stock production.
Module Content

On completion of this module the 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 off
  - Preparing a 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
- Appreciate all aspects of working in a healthy and safe environment

Course Structure

The course will be offered over a 16 week period commencing in early November at the College of Amenity Horticulture, Dublin and in January at Kildalton College, Kilkenny. Students will attend the College on one to two days per week and will be required to undertake a programme of learning a range of practical nursery stock skills. Students will also undertake an industry based project which will focus on specific aspects of nursery stock management. College personnel will assess their competence in nursery stock skills at the end of the course. Students will be required to keep a comprehensive diary detailing their learning of the prescribed practical skills as set out in the course schedule. A work-based project will also form part of the overall assessment.

Please contact the college of your choice to access the precise mode of delivery and current fees.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it to the college of their choice by the end of May. Applicants must have a Level 5 Certificate in Horticulture or three years’ experience in a relevant area of horticulture and provide a letter of recommendation from their current employer.

Application forms are available from:
Tel: 01-8040201 or Email: botanic.college@teagasc.ie

Teagasc Kildalton College, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny
Tel: 051-644400 or Email: kildalton.college@teagasc.ie

From the Teagasc website: www.teagasc.ie