

Produce, monitor and evaluate a cropping management plan

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**Overview**

This standard covers producing, monitoring and evaluating a cropping management plan. Crops may include grass, arable crops, vegetables, herbs, flowers or fruit.

This includes producing plans that contain information about methods to support the management and monitoring of crops.

This standard is suitable for those who have responsibility for managing the production of crops.

## Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

1. establish the intended purpose of the crops
2. identify and evaluate opportunities and constraints relevant to planning and managing the crops
3. seek specialist advice where required
4. produce a cropping management plan that achieves a balance between the purpose of the crops, and the opportunities and constraints of each crop
5. identify and confirm the availability of the resources required to achieve the cropping management plan
6. outline methods and specifications for the implementation of the cropping management plan
7. communicate the plan to those involved in its implementation
8. establish measures to maintain the required levels of hygiene and bio-security and confirm that they have been implemented
9. establish measures for the recycling or disposal of waste and by-products in accordance with relevant legal and organisation requirements and confirm that they have been implemented
10. confirm that working methods promote health and safety and are consistent with relevant legislation, codes of practice and organisational requirements
11. monitor the management of the cropping plan at regular intervals to confirm that targets and objectives are being met and, where necessary, take action to rectify deviations from the plan
12. evaluate the management of the cropping plan to assist with future decision making
13. confirm that appropriate records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation, quality assurance requirements and organisational policies

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

1. the purpose of the cropping management plan and what it aims to achieve
2. the information that the cropping management plan needs to contain and how to determine specific details
3. the principles of precision farming techniques in relation to crop production
4. the different types of crops and how they fit into the management plan
5. the potential consequences of a poor cropping management plan
6. the sources of information and specialist advice on crop management planning
7. how to plan the management of crops and achieve the best balance between opportunities and constraints
8. the potential impact that different management methods may have on the crops, surrounding environment and landscape
9. how to determine the human, financial, material and capital resources necessary to achieve the plan
10. the methods of communicating plans and specifications to those involved in their implementation
11. methods of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the reasons why this is important
12. the relevant legal and organisational requirements for the handling, transport, storage, recycling and disposal of waste and by-products
13. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and organisational requirements
14. the methods of determining the success of the cropping management plan
15. the ways to monitor a cropping management plan to ensure it meets its targets and objectives
16. the methods of monitoring the environmental impact of the management of crops
17. the best times for monitoring the crop and actions that will support the cropping management plan
18. how to evaluate the cropping management plan taking into account working methods, resources and the quality of crops

- produced
19. the requirements for reporting and recording and the length of time for which records should be retained

## Glossary

### Opportunities and constraints:

- legal
- environmental
- social
- cultural and aesthetic
- economic/financial
- market/customer
- physical
- organisational
- timing/seasonality
- climate/weather

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**Relevant Occupations** Farm Manager; Farmer; Nursery Worker

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**Suite** Agricultural Management

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