
Overview

This standard covers identifying pests, diseases and disorders within crops or plants.

You are expected to help monitor the incidence and spread of pests, diseases and disorders, and to report your findings to the appropriate person.

You will be working in accordance with instructions and specifications.

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

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
- P2 monitor the crop(s) or plant(s) according to specifications
- P3 correctly identify the presence of pests, diseases and disorders
- P4 correctly identify the presence of any biological controls in use and beneficial insects
- P5 establish the extent of the pest population, disease and any disorders
- P6 promptly report the presence and extent of pests, diseases and disorders to the appropriate person
- P7 carry out work in a manner which prevents damage to the surrounding area
- P8 complete records as appropriate

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K2 workplace policies and procedures relating to the identification and reporting of pests, diseases and disorders
- K3 your responsibilities under environmental and conservation legislation
- K4 reasons for monitoring the crop or plant
- K5 when to carry out crop monitoring i.e. frequency and regularity
- K6 common types of pests, diseases and disorders
- K7 the problems caused by common pests, diseases and disorders to crops or plants
- K8 relevant biological control and beneficial insects as they apply to crops or plants within your area of responsibility
- K9 to whom you should report the presence and extent of pests, diseases, disorders and biological control/beneficial insects
- K10 the potential impact of your work on the environment and how to minimise this

Scope/range

The presence of:

- 1 pests
- 2 diseases
- 3 disorders
- 4 biological control or beneficial insects

Glossary

Specifications: drawings, schedules, method statements, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), manufacturers' guidelines, customer requirements.

Instructions: verbal or written.

Pests will include insects, slugs, snails and rodents, for example.

Diseases may be fungal, viral or bacterial.

Disorders may include nutrient deficiencies (e.g. nitrogen or calcium deficiencies).

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