



## RHS LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE IN PRACTICAL HORTICULTURE

### What is the RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture?

The RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture focuses on developing essential horticultural skills. The qualification will be awarded to those who gain 15 credits, comprising of the six mandatory units and one from the optional units.

#### Mandatory Units

- Soil Testing (1 Credit)
- Sowing Seeds and Vegetative Propagation Techniques (2 Credits)
- Practical Skills in Ground Preparation for Seeding and Planting (2 Credits)
- Practical Skills in Establishing Seeds and Plants in Soil (2 Credits)
- Care and Pruning of Plants (3 Credits)
- Identification of a Range of Common Garden Plants, Weeds, Pests, Diseases, Disorders and Beneficial Organisms (3 Credits)

#### Optional Units

- Sustainable Garden Practice (2 Credits)
- Safe Operation of Powered Garden Machinery (2 Credits)

### Course Duration

24 weeks from October to September.

### Location

- *Burton Hall*, Arena Road, Sandyford Industrial Estate, Dublin 18
- Trips to the *National Botanic Gardens*, Glasnevin, Dublin 9 (nine trips for plant identification)

### Where are the classes held?

Classes will be held on Saturdays in *Burton Hall* and *National Botanic Gardens*. The course will run every second Saturday approximately including visits to *National Botanic Gardens*. Each class runs from 10:00 a.m. to 15:30 p.m.

### When is the exam?

Continuous assessment. Exam fees are not included in the cost of the course.





## RHS Qualifications Contact Details

RHS Qualifications is the Awarding Organisation of the Royal Horticultural Society

RHS Qualifications,  
RHS Garden Wisley,  
Woking,  
Surrey,  
GU23 6QB

UK

Tel: 0044 1 483226500

Email: [qualifications@rhs.org.uk](mailto:qualifications@rhs.org.uk) Web: [www.rhs.org.uk](http://www.rhs.org.uk)

THE RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture has been formulated to meet the requirements of QCF

QCF (Qualifications and Credit Framework) is a jointly regulated qualifications and framework for England (OFQUAL), Wales (DECELLS), and Northern Ireland (CCEA):

- To ensure a wider range of achievements are recognised within a more inclusive national qualifications framework
- Establish a national qualifications framework that is easier for all users to understand
- Reduce the burden of bureaucracy in the accreditation and assessment of qualifications

## Course Fee

The course fee is **€1,550.00**. The following are included in the course fee:

- *Dublin School of Horticulture "Plant ID" Booklet*
- *Dublin School of Horticulture "Plant ID" CD-ROM*
- Visits to the *National Botanic Gardens*, Glasnevin, Dublin 9

**A booking deposit of €300.00** must be returned with the completed enrolment form below. (This €300 is non-refundable if the place is accepted and cancelled at a later date.)

The balance of **€1,250.00** is payable prior to starting date. Cheques, bank drafts or postal money order should be made payable to *Dublin School of Horticulture*, which will acknowledge receipt of your payments. In order to avoid disappointment, do check course availability with our Administrator prior to starting date.



Dublin School of Horticulture,  
28 Spencer Villas,  
Dun Laoghaire,  
County Dublin

t. 01 214 8469  
e. [carl@dsh.ie](mailto:carl@dsh.ie)  
w. [www.dsh.ie](http://www.dsh.ie)





## The Royal Horticultural Society

### Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture

#### Title: Soil Testing

Unit Code: K/601/7503

Unit level: Level 2

Credit Value: 1

**This unit provides the learner with the skills and knowledge to accurately test a range of soils.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Understand the reasons for soil testing.
- Be able to collect and prepare soil samples for testing.
- Be able to identify the textural class of soils.
- Be able to determine the pH of soils.

#### Title: Sowing Seeds and Vegetative Propagation Techniques

Unit Code: A/601/7666

Unit level: 2

Credit Value: 2

**This unit provides the learner with the knowledge and skills to propagate a diverse range of plants and to provide appropriate aftercare.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Be able to fill containers appropriately to a consistent standard in readiness to accept seed or propagules.
- Be able to sow seed to a consistent and uniform standard in containers and carry out appropriate aftercare to ensure successful germination.
- Be able to prick out seedlings into containers.
- Be able to propagate plants from stem cuttings.
- Be able to propagate plants from leaf petiole and leaf lamina cuttings.
- Be able to propagate plants from root cuttings during dormant season.
- Be able to propagate plants by division during the appropriate season.
- Be able to provide aftercare to propagules.





## Title: Practical Skills in Ground Preparation for Seeding and Planting

Unit Code: F/601/7667

Unit level: Level 2

Credit Value: 2

**The aim of this unit is to provide the learner with the knowledge and skills required in preparing the ground for planting plants and seeds. The preparation of the ground may cover the use of both hand tools and powered machinery such as tractor mounted equipment.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Be able to select, use and maintain equipment.
- Be able to prepare ground for seeding and planting.
- Be able to work safely and minimise environmental damage.

## Title: Practical Skills in Establishing Seeds and Plants in Soil

Unit Code: L/601/7669

Unit level: Level 2

Credit Value: 2

**The aim of this unit is to provide the learner with the knowledge, understanding and skills required to plant and establish plants and or seeds in soil. The learner will also provide aftercare to meet specifications for newly established plants or seeds.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Be able to select, use and maintain equipment.
- Be able to select and transport plants and or seeds.
- Be able to establish plants and or seeds in soil.
- Be able to work safely and minimise environmental damage.





## Title: Care and Pruning of Plants

Unit Code: J/601/7671

Unit level: 2

Credit Value: 3

**This unit provides the learner with the knowledge and skills to successfully plant, prune and care for a wide range of hardy plants.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Be able to re-pot and pot on.
- Be able to provide aftercare to aid the establishment of plants that have been re-potted and those growing in the open ground.
- Know how to apply the principles of pruning.
- Be able to prune a range of plants to achieve specified outcomes.





**Title: Identification of a Range of Common Garden Plants, Weeds, Pests Diseases, Disorders and Beneficial Organisms**

Unit Code: K/601/7680

Unit level: 2

Credit Value: 3

**This unit provides the learner with the knowledge required to identify a range of common garden plants, weeds, seeds, pests, diseases, disorders and beneficial organisms.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Understand how plants are botanically named.
- Be able to identify a range of plants by botanical name from each of the following categories:
  - (a) deciduous or evergreen trees
  - (b) conifers
  - (c) deciduous shrubs
  - (d) evergreen shrubs
  - (e) non-woody herbaceous plants
  - (f) rock garden and alpine plants
  - (g) aquatic plants
  - (h) weeds
- Be able to identify a range of seeds.
- Be able to identify a range of pests, diseases and disorders.
- Know a range of beneficial birds, animals and insects.





## Title: Sustainable Garden Practice

Unit Code: M/601/9155

Unit level: 2

Credit Value: 2

**This unit enables the learner to understand and apply a range of sustainable gardening practices.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Be able to identify potential hazards and risks associated with sustainable garden practice.
- Be able to select and use appropriate personal protective equipment and clothing.
- Be able to select and use a range of tools, equipment and materials.
- Be able to make and use garden compost.
- Be able to harvest rainwater, conserve grey water, store appropriately and use to irrigate plants.
- Be able to use green manure, compost and natural materials to enhance soil fertility and feed plants.
- Be able to prepare liquid organic materials and apply to plants.
- Be able to select plant species adapted for specific environmental conditions.
- Be able to select and make provision for beneficial birds, animals and insects.
- Be able to prevent and control pests, weeds and diseases using sustainable practices.





## Title: Safe Operation of Powered Garden Machinery

Unit Code: T/601/7682

Unit level: 2

Credit Value: 2

**This unit provides the learner with the knowledge and skills to safely operate a range of powered garden machinery, and includes pre-start checks, adjustment, effective operation and basic maintenance.**

**Learning Outcomes** – The learner will:

- Be able to identify potential hazards and risks associated with powered garden machinery.
- Be able to select and wear appropriate personal protective equipment and clothing.
- Be able to carry out pre-start checks on powered garden machinery.
- Be able to check that all safety signage, guards and devices are in position and operating correctly.
- Be able to identify the controls and define their function.
- Be able to adjust a limited range of garden machinery for specified tasks.
- Be able to use garden machinery safely and effectively.
- Be able to clean and check garden machinery after use.
- Know how to correctly dispose of waste associated with the use of powered garden machinery.





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### ENROLMENT FORM ~ OCTOBER 2012

#### Booking a Place on the Course

I hereby enclose a **non-refundable booking deposit of €300** made payable to *Dublin School of Horticulture*, which will acknowledge receipt of your payment for the RHS Level 2 Certificate in Practical Horticulture.

The balance of **€1,250.00** must be paid prior to the starting date. Cheques, bank drafts, postal money orders or by credit card (download or see attached form) and should be made payable to *Dublin School of Horticulture*, which will acknowledge receipt of your payments.

In order to avoid disappointment, please check course availability with our Administrator prior to the start date.

Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms./Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Forename/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth\* \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\* For exam registration purposes.

Classes held on **Saturdays** at *Burton Hall*, Arena Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18 or *National Botanic Gardens*, Glasnevin, Dublin 9.

Please return completed enrolment form and deposit to Dublin School of Horticulture, 28 Spencer Villas, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

#### Please Note:

- Student numbers are limited in the practical class
- Students are required to have their own tools
- Appropriate clothing for outdoor/gardening work must be worn
- Full details of materials and tools required will be provided at the first class



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28 Spencer Villas,  
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e. carl@dsh.ie  
w. www.dsh.ie

