September 2026

Level 3 Crop Technician Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship Description and Job Overview

As a Crop Technician you will be responsible for optimising crop/plant yields through establishment, management, harvest and post-harvest operations, while maintaining and improving the surrounding environment. You will also need to keep up to date with technological advances and new innovations. Being a Crop Technician requires self-motivation and the ability to work both independently and as a team player to complete tasks safely and efficiently Many companies now use automation for several routine tasks, which will require technical skills to operate.

The industry provides unique opportunities for people to work in a technically advanced and innovative environment. Businesses within the industry range from small enterprises through to international organisations. Work in soil-based systems involves operating large, technically advanced machinery in the open fields. Working outdoors, means there is variety and challenges to overcome. Similarly Crop Technicians working in container-based systems may work outside but for many most of the work will be in controlled environments, which need monitoring and adapting to suit the growth stage/species growing.

This standard provides the opportunity for individuals to acquire the 'knowledge', 'skills' and 'behaviours' required and follows a 'core and options' approach. This allows the flexibility to learn core subjects and then specialise in either 'soil-based system' or 'containerised systems.

Apprenticeships

NKC | HADLOW COLLEGE

Level 3 Crop Technician

Apprenticeship

Qualification	Apprenticeship Level 3 Crop Technician (Standard ST0018)
Training Delivery Campus	NKC Hadlow College Tonbridge Road, Hadlow Kent TN11 0AL
Duration of Apprenticeship	Typical duration to gateway: 18 months Typical EPA period: 3 months
Apprenticeship Entry Requirements	Maths GCSE Grade 3/D or equivalent Functional Skills English GCSE Grade3/D or equivalent Functional Skills
Mandatory Qualification details	Level 3 Emergency First Aid at Work Level 2 Award in the Safe Application of Pesticide Using Handheld Equipment Level 2 Principles of Safe Handling and Application of Pesticides
End Point Assessment Organisation and EPA components	Lantra | The EPA consists of 3 x assessment methods: 1. Online multiple-choice test. 2. Practical Assessment. 3. Professional discussion.
Progression Routes	Upon completion candidates can move into roles such as Farm Supervisor, Orchard Technician, Glasshouse Technician, Crop Monitor Spraying Operative, Commercial Horticulturalist.

For more information, or to apply contact:
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