

Course Title: Safe Use of Pesticides and Herbicides – Professional Users (7202)	
Duration: 3 Days	Certification: QQI Certification
Expiry Period: N/A	Award: QQI Level 5 Certificate in Hand Held Pesticide Application (5N0731)

Aim of Programme:

The aim of this programme is to provide learners with the knowledge, skills and attitude to be able to handle, store, apply (using a handheld sprayer) and dispose pesticides and herbicides in accordance with recommended safe practice.

Target Learner:

This training programme is for learners who will have worked with or have experience in pesticides and herbicides. Learners can be Outdoor staff responsible for pesticide application.

Learning Outcomes:

On completion of this programme, the learner will be able to:

- Explain the theory and principles underpinning the safe handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides
- Demonstrate the safe handling, storage, application and disposal of pesticides

Assessment:

A skills demonstration is used to assess a wide range of practical based learning outcomes including practical skills and knowledge. A skills demonstration will require the learner to complete a task or series of tasks that demonstrate a range of skills.

The assessor will devise a skills demonstration based on learning outcomes 7-11. The learner must complete the 20 tasks set out in the list below.

Weighting Factor: Where a critical fault occurs, the entire skills demonstration must be terminated.

- 0 marks for termination of skill demonstration due to a critical fault or failure to complete the task.
- 1 mark for completing the task with 3 or more minor faults
- 2 marks for completing the task with less than 3 minor faults
- 3 marks for exceeding the criteria for the task with no minor faults

Examples of critical faults: compromises safety, animal welfare, the environment, makes a pesticide mix that does not conform with label information

Examples of minor faults: Incorrect sequence, too slow, requires guidance

The learner must achieve at least 40 of the 60 marks available, to pass this assessment. The learner must pass this assessment to achieve the award

List of tasks:

- Preparing hand held applicator for work
 1. Carries out risk assessment for spraying
 2. Selects and wears appropriate personal protective equipment
 3. Selects applicator appropriate to work requirements/situations
 4. Identifies components and their function
 5. Checks applicator and identifies damaged components

6. Selects nozzle type appropriate to spraying task & sets pressure valve
 7. Calibrates sprayer (with access to worksheet)
- Making up a pesticide spray mix
 8. Interprets pesticide label information for approved uses, risk and safety information and directions for use
 9. Calculates area to be treated and volume of mix required
 10. Interprets pesticide label to determine product dose rate and volume to add to tank
 11. Measures and adds the correct dose and mixes
 12. Returns pesticide product and completes Chemical Store Stock Record
 13. Disposes of empty pesticide containers in a safe manner
 - Applying pesticide with a hand-held applicator
 14. Checks wind speed and direction
 15. Fits sprayer as high as possible on the back with aid of a high stand
 16. Applies pesticide mix by working downwind, at right angles, in parallel matched swaths, walking at pace used during calibration, keeping lance steady, at the correct height
 17. Completes the Sprayer Operators Log
 - Preparing applicator and personal protective equipment for storage
 18. Decontaminates applicator and prepares for storage
 19. Decontaminates and stores personal protective equipment
 20. Washes hands and exposed skin

Overall Marks: 60

*A **theory examination** provides a means of assessing a learner's ability to recall and apply knowledge, skills and understanding within a set period of time and under clearly specified conditions.*

A theory-based examination assesses the ability to recall, apply and understand specific theory and knowledge.

The assessor will devise a theory-based examination to assess learning outcomes 1 - 6.

Overall Marks: 40

Entry requirements:

- Applicants must be able to demonstrate a level of knowledge, skill and competence associated with Level 4 of the NFQ.
- Previous horticultural experience is desirable
- Good colour vision

Equipment the learner must bring to course:

- PPE for pesticide application including mask, gloves, eye protection, overalls, boots.

Enquiries and Booking:

Please contact your local Regional Training Centre:

- Ballincollig: brtc@corkcoco.ie
- Ballycoolin: ballycoolintraining@fingal.ie
- Castlebar: crtc@mayococo.ie
- Roscrea: roscreartc@tipperarycoco.ie
- Stranorlar: stranorlartc@donegalcoco.ie

See www.lasntg.ie for further details

For more information please contact the Local Authority Services National Training Group.

T: 052 616 6260 | E: lasntg@tipperarycoco.ie | W: www.lasntg.ie

