

Title:	Weed Control
Level:	1
Credit value:	1
GLH:	9
Unique Reference Number:	A/504/0743
Sector Subject Area:	3.2 Horticulture and Forestry
Aim:	The aim of this unit is to provide learners with the skills and knowledge to be able to understand weed control within a horticultural environment.
Assessment Type:	Assessment of this unit will be through the completion of a mandatory internally set and internally assessed portfolio of evidence.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Be able to prepare for weed control tasks.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to be able to prepare for weed control tasks.

The learner must:

1.1 Explain how to select and wear protective clothing suitable for weed control tasks.

1.2 Explain how to select **tools and equipment** appropriate for weed control tasks.

1.3 Identify **necessary safety procedures for weed control tasks.**

2. Understand why weed control is necessary

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand why weed control is necessary

The learner must:

2.1 Outline why weed control is necessary.

3. Be able to recognise common weeds.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to be able to recognise common weeds.

The learner must:

- 3.1 Identify four **common annual weeds**.
- 3.2 Identify four **common perennial weeds**.

4. Understand methods of weed control.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand methods of weed control.

The learner must:

- 4.1 Describe **different methods of weed control**.
- 4.2 Identify methods of control suitable for different types of weeds.

5. Understand how to comply with health and safety procedures relevant to weed control.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand how to comply with health and safety procedures relevant to weed control.

The learner must:

- 5.1 Identify **potential hazards** related to different methods of weed control.
- 5.2 Outline **safety procedures relevant to use of herbicides**.
- 5.3 Understand how to work with due regard to health and safety of self and others.

6. Understand how to maintain a tidy work area.

Delivery content:

The aim of this learning outcome is to provide the learners with the knowledge and skills to understand how to maintain a tidy work area.

The learner must:

- 6.1 Describe how to clear and tidy a work area.
- 6.2 Explain how to dispose of debris appropriately.

6.3 Understand how to clean tools and equipment and store materials safely after use.

Scope of Training

The Scope of Training identifies areas that must be covered during the delivery of this unit. This is the minimum that is expected but tutors are expected to include other areas, knowledge of which will benefit their learners, based on location, types of work available and from the tutors own professional experience.

Requirements

1.1 Protective clothing suitable for weed control tasks.	Should include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves to protect hands from chemicals and thorns • Long sleeves and pants to prevent skin contact • Safety goggles to shield eyes from debris and sprays • Sturdy boots to protect feet from sharp objects and chemicals • Dust mask or respirator to avoid inhaling particles and chemicals
1.2 Tools and equipment.	Could include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand weeder for precise removal • Hoe for surface weed control • Garden fork for deep-rooted weeds • Sprayer for herbicide application • Mulching materials to suppress weed growth • Weed burner for thermal control • Gloves for hand protection
1.3 Necessary safety procedures for weed control tasks.	Could include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear appropriate protective clothing • Follow herbicide label instructions carefully • Use tools safely to avoid injury • Apply chemicals in calm weather to prevent drift • Store and dispose of chemicals properly • Wash hands and equipment after use • Keep children and pets away from treated areas
3.1 Common annual weeds.	Could include but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chickweed • Groundsel • Meadow grass • Knotgrass
3.2 Common perennial weeds.	Could include but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dandelions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bindweed. • Couch grass. • Nettles. • Brambles.
4.1 Different methods of weed control.	<p>Should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand pulling • Hoeing • Mulching • Chemical control (herbicides) • Flame weeding • Soil solarisation • Crop rotation
5.1 Potential hazards.	<p>Could include, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand pulling – Risk of back strain and skin irritation • Hoeing – Potential for cuts and muscle strain • Mulching – Attraction of pests and risk of mold • Chemical control – Toxicity to humans, animals, and the environment • Flame weeding – Fire hazard and burns • Soil solarisation – Possible damage to beneficial soil organisms • Crop rotation – May not be effective against persistent weeds
5.2 Safety procedures relevant to use of herbicides.	<p>Should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear appropriate protective clothing • Follow manufacturer’s instructions and dosage recommendations • Apply in calm weather to prevent drift • Keep children, pets, and wildlife away from treated areas • Store herbicides securely in labeled containers • Dispose of herbicide containers safely • Wash hands and equipment thoroughly after use