

Qualification Title: New Zealand Certificate in Primary Production Management (Level 5) with strands in Livestock Production and Crop Production

Qualification number: 2211

Date of review: 19 September 2018

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National Consistency is Confirmed

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of:

Gradates will be able to:

- Apply strategic thinking and systems context to manage Livestock Production systems to maximise productivity
- Benchmark against high performers in the production system
- Analyse and recommend strategies to improve productivity and performance
- Understand ruminant nutrition principles and apply these to the production system
- Develop, implement, monitor cohesive feeding, breeding and animal health plans to achieve production targets.

Tertiary Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Tertiary Education Organisation	Final rating
Primary Industry Training Organisation	Sufficient

Introduction

The purpose of this Level 5, 70 credit qualification is to provide land-based industries with individuals who have the technical skills and knowledge to manage primary industry production systems. This qualification has two strands - Livestock Production and Crop Production. This Consistency Review focused on the Livestock Production strand, which is designed to provide individuals with the skills to manage Livestock Productive systems to maximise production.

The Primary ITO is the only education organisation with an approved programme for this qualification. Entrants are required to have had at least 3 years farming experience and be appropriately employed on farms. The training is well integrated with the farming system and the annual calendar of on-farm activities, ensuring a strong connection between classroom-based learning and workplace assessment.

There have been 109 graduates from this qualification, 95 (88%) of these have been working in the dairy industry, and the others in the sheep and beef sector.

The Consistency Review was attended by two Primary ITO representatives, one from the Qualifications Development team and an Education and Quality Specialist.

The ITO has recently reviewed this qualification and provided a draft of the new qualification including the 'utilising appropriate technologies' in the Graduate Profile outcomes for both

strands to reflect the increasing use of technology in managing production in farming systems.

Evidence

The TEO provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the graduate profile outcomes.

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by education organisation
- How well the organisation has analysed, interpreted and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency
- The extent to which the education organisation can reasonably justify and validate claims and statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes, including in relation to other providers of programmes leading to the qualification

Programme evidence

- Learner portfolios including: assessments; fortnightly farm reports, use of a feed budgeting tool, Ration Costing, and Farm Max. There is also an end of course presentation. This evidence shows how trainees are to demonstrate the depth of their knowledge and application. The farm reports, together with the end of course presentation, provide assurance that trainees have met the graduate outcomes.
- Learning and assessment materials are developed with input from industry experts and moderated prior to use. These materials are made available to learners and tutors on Google-Drive. This platform allows learners to gather and record their evidence and receive feedback in 'real-time'.
- A panel moderation exercise was conducted in July 2018 using 21 learner portfolios, from a range of ITO contracted trainers. The results show that 81% (17) were assessed to be at the national standard, 3 didn't have sufficient evidence to make a judgement, and 1 was marginal. This moderation exercise included an evaluation of graduate evidence which has enabled the panel to conclude that the graduates would meet the graduate profile outcomes.

Destination/Graduate evidence

- An external graduate survey that was conducted in July 2018 shows that the graduates value the qualification, the transferability of knowledge and the increased confidence. Most graduates agree that the skills they had acquired assisted them with career progress.
- ITO enrolment information shows that 22% of graduates have enrolled in the Diploma in Agribusiness Management qualification, the pathway for this qualification.

Stakeholder and Employer evidence

- A external telephone survey of employers was conducted at the same time as the graduate survey. which had a 40% response rate. The employers were a little less confident in the graduate's skills with 69% agreeing on the positive impact on their business. 38% of the employers had promoted their employee/graduate and 22% were likely to promote their employee/graduates.
- The Industry Partnership Group (IPG) for the Pastoral Sector gives favourable feedback about the graduates' skills.

How well does the evidence provided by the education organisation demonstrate that its graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold?

The Primary ITO effectively demonstrated that their graduates match the graduate profile outcomes at the appropriate threshold. The consistency review evidence comes from the common sources: programme related evidence and evidence of graduate career progressions, confidence in skills and knowledge acquired and progression to the broader agribusiness qualification, as well as results of the employer survey and feedback from the Industry Partnership Group. This evidence is well triangulated and supported by the detailed reports, survey results and minutes that have been submitted.

Overall, a convincing case has been made that the graduates matched the graduate profile outcomes at the appropriate level.

No gaps in evidence were identified. The ITO acknowledges that there is anecdotal evidence that would complement the formal evidence presented for this review. The ITO has now put facilities and processes in place whereby the wealth of anecdotal evidence will be captured and included in self-assessment processes.

Examples of good practice

Self-assessment has instigated the evaluation of evidence and organised this into three categories: programme related evidence, graduate related evidence and stakeholder related evidence.

Engaging an external research company independently of the ITO to conduct a robust survey and present result professionally, ensured authenticity of evidence.

The design of learning and assessment resources and activities, the use of industry-based tools, and Google Drive for real-time evidence collection, feedback and reflection, creates a strong connection with workplace activities and the learning and provides confidence that graduates are meeting the GPOs.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

None as qualification has recently been reviewed.