

0171-521 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Agriculture

March 2020

Examiner Report

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Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner, it is designed to be used as a feedback tool, for centres to use in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document be referred to when preparing to teach and then again when candidates are preparing to sit examinations for City & Guilds Technical qualifications.

This report provides general commentary on candidate performance and highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat the **March 2020** examination series. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose, whether it was caused by a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique or responses that failed to demonstrate the required depth of understanding.

The document provides commentary on the following assessment;
0171-521 Level 2 in Agriculture – Theory Exam.

Theory Exam – March 2020

Grade Boundaries and distribution

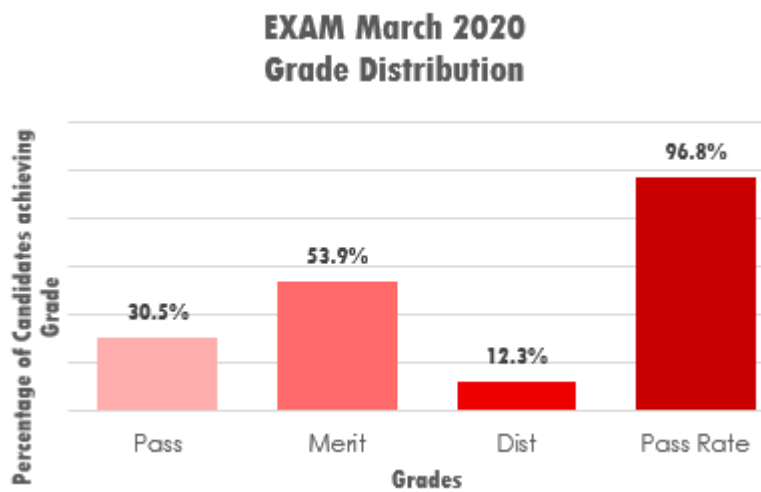
Assessment: **0171-521**

Series: **March 2020**

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel;

Total marks available	50
Pass mark	19
Merit mark	27
Distinction mark	36

The graph below shows the distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment;



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 0171-521

Series 1 (March)

The paper was set at the appropriate level, was consistent with the test specification and featured a mixture of AO1 recall, AO2 understanding and AO4 applied knowledge questions. The terminology and technical content assessed in the question paper was to the correct level 2 standard.

The following units were covered in this assessment:

Unit 203: Crop husbandry

Unit 204: Farm animal production

Unit 206: Physiology of plants and animals

Unit 207: Working in the agricultural industry

There was a good mix of questions for each topic area with a range of difficulty allowing for differentiation in knowledge.

Straight forward recall questions, in general, were answered correctly by over 60% of candidates, however where further depth of knowledge and understanding were required achievement dropped.

Scenario questions were answered well on the whole by over 50% of cohort.

Candidates do appear to struggle with True/False answer type questions.

The picture based questions were answered well.

Crop and animal science questions received a mixed response, compared to previous years where candidates struggled with science questions in particular.