

0171-20 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Agriculture

2023

Qualification Report

Contents

Introduction	3
Qualification Grade Distribution	4
Theory Exam.....	5
Grade Boundaries.....	5
Chief Examiner Commentary	7
Synoptic Assignment.....	9
Grade Boundaries.....	9
Principal Moderator Commentary.....	10

Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner and Principal Moderator; it is designed to be used as a feedback tool for centres in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document is referred to when planning delivery and when preparing candidates for City & Guilds Technical assessments.

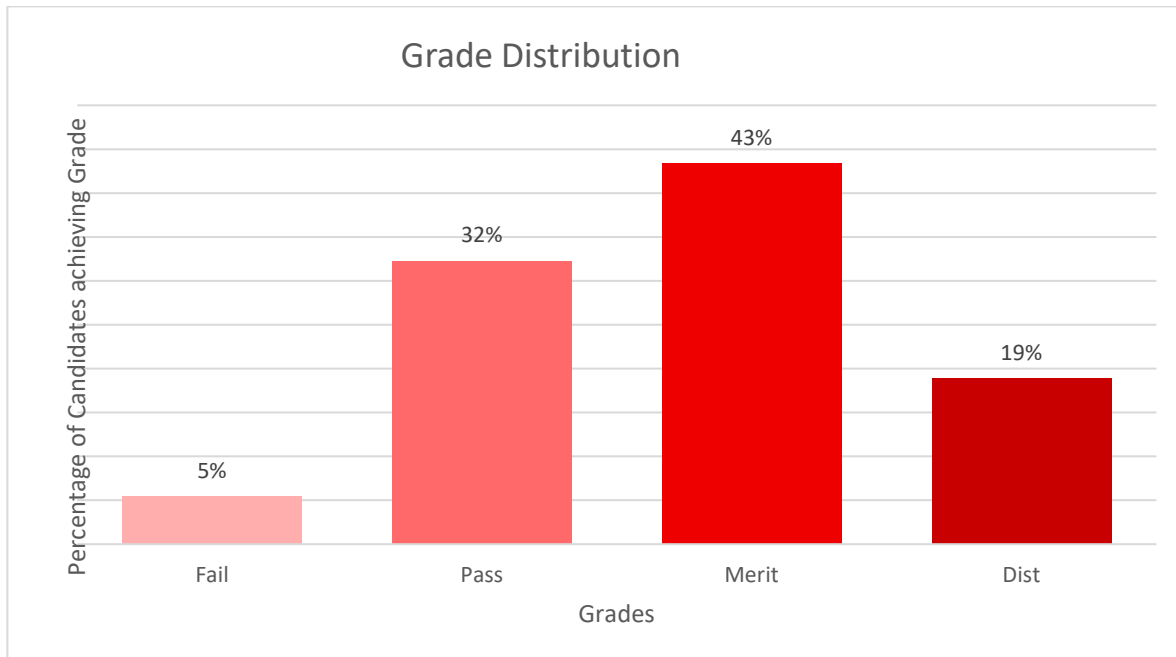
This report provides general commentary on candidate performance in both the synoptic assignment and theory exam. It highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat assessments in the 2023 academic year. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose.

The document provides commentary on the following assessments:

- 0171-521 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Agriculture – Theory exam
 - March 2023 (Spring)
 - June 2023 (Summer)
- 0171-022 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Agriculture – Synoptic Assignment

Qualification Grade Distribution

The approximate grade distribution for this qualification is shown below:



Please note City & Guilds will only report qualification grades for candidates who have achieved all of the required assessment components, including Employer Involvement, optional units and any other centre assessed components as indicated within the Qualification Handbook. The grade distribution shown above could include performance from previous years.

Theory Exam

Grade Boundaries

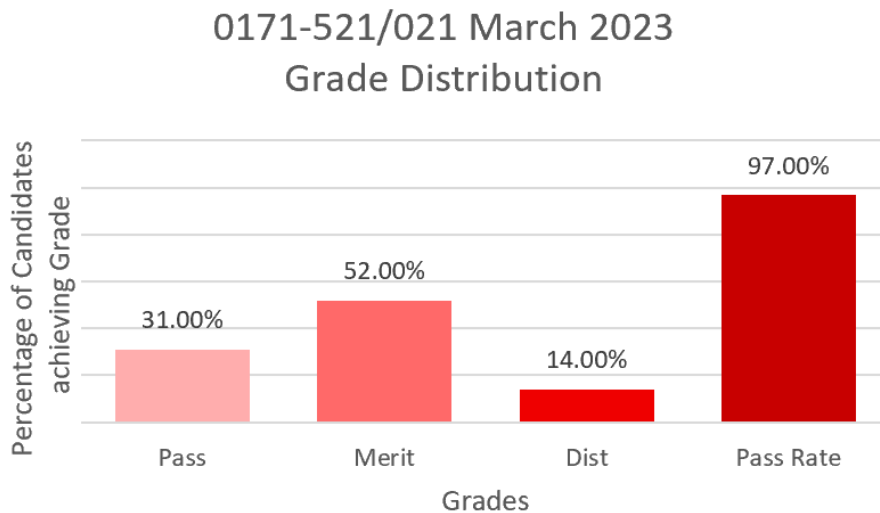
Assessment: 0171-521

Series: March 2023 (Spring)

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

Total marks available	50
Pass mark	18
Merit mark	26
Distinction mark	35

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:

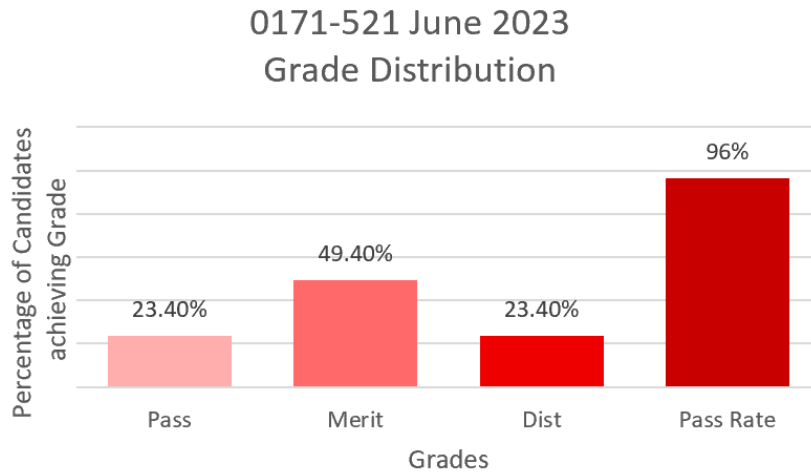


Assessment: 0171-521
Series: June 2023 (Summer)

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

Total marks available	50
Pass mark	18
Merit mark	26
Distinction mark	35

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



Chief Examiner Commentary

0171-521- Level 2 Technical Certificate in Agriculture - Theory exam

Series 1 - March 2023

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

AO1 recall questions and picture-based questions, in general, were well answered.

AO2 questions on livestock were effectively answered. Candidates showed a weakness on AO2 True/False statement questions and science questions.

AO4 scenario-based questions were found to be most challenging, demonstrating a clear differentiation of performance between higher and lower achieving candidates.

The strongest performing unit was:

- Farm animal production (Unit 204)

The units that were seen to be more difficult were:

- Crop husbandry (Unit 203)
- Physiology of plants and animals (Unit 206)

Series 2 – June 2023

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.

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

AO1 recall questions and picture-based questions, in general, were well answered.

Candidates continue to give a variable response to AO2 True/False statement type questions. In most cases, science-based questions continue to be of a variable standard, especially by lower-scoring candidates.

The AO4 scenario-based questions received variable answers. Candidates continue to struggle with some of these questions, possibly not fully reading the scenario even though they were more livestock based.

The strongest performing unit was:

- Farm animal production (Unit 204)
- Working in Agriculture industry (Unit 207)

The units that were seen to be more difficult were:

- Crop husbandry (Unit 203)
- Physiology of plants and animals (Unit 206)

An awareness of the importance of exam technique should also be considered in effectively preparing candidates. Candidates need to be reminded to take care and read the questions carefully.

Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' available here:

[Technicals in Agriculture and Land-based Engineering qualifications and training courses | City & Guilds \(cityandguilds.com\)](https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications/technical-qualifications)

Synoptic Assignment

Grade Boundaries

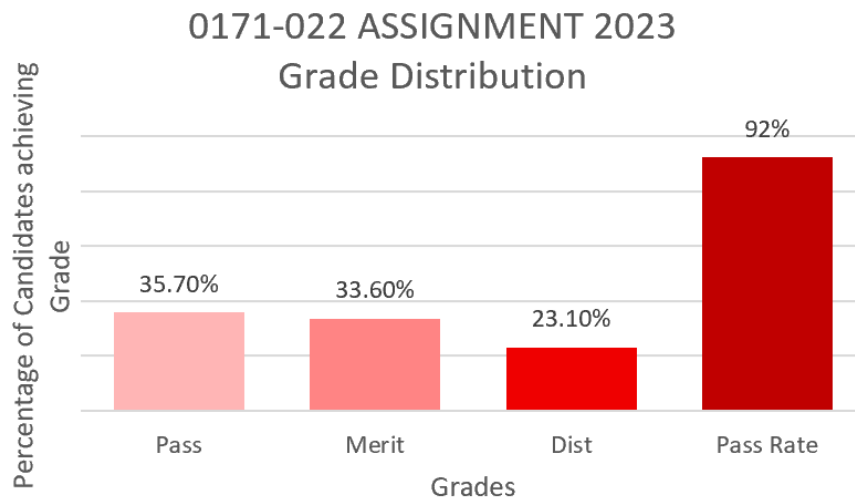
Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel:

Assessment: 0171-022

Series: 2023

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	43

The graph below shows the approximate distribution of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



Principal Moderator Commentary

Candidates and centres are to be commended on the candidates' performance on the whole. This has been very good and the standard of feedback from centres continues to improve.

Candidate performance covered the full range of abilities both practical and written. Evidence for all AOs can be easily gathered from all tasks.

As expected, practical activities were completed to a good level of achievement. In some cases, some centres could have made more use of these activities to gather evidence for other AOs.

Risk assessments and other reports were completed with a very wide range of detail. In task 4, many candidates gave a good report on the growing of the crop but lacked detail in the actual storage and feeding of the product.

Overall, the candidate performance levels were comparable with previous years.

Centres are asked:

- To include areas for improvement on the Candidate Record Form (CRF) unless the mark awarded is in the excellent band.
- To carefully check the addition of the total marks on the CRF.
- To annotate on candidate's work, incorrect statements and the quality of the work, e.g. areas which are good or lacking detail.
- When using dictation software to carefully check what has been typed.
- To upload all the forms and evidence as one document.