



# 0174-523/023 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Forestry and Arboriculture

March 2024

## 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 2024** examination series. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose, whether it was caused by a lack of knowledge, incorrect examination technique or responses that failed to demonstrate the required depth of understanding.

The document provides commentary on the following assessment:

**0174-523/023 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Forestry and Arboriculture - Theory exam**

# Theory Exam – March 2024

## Grade Boundaries and distribution

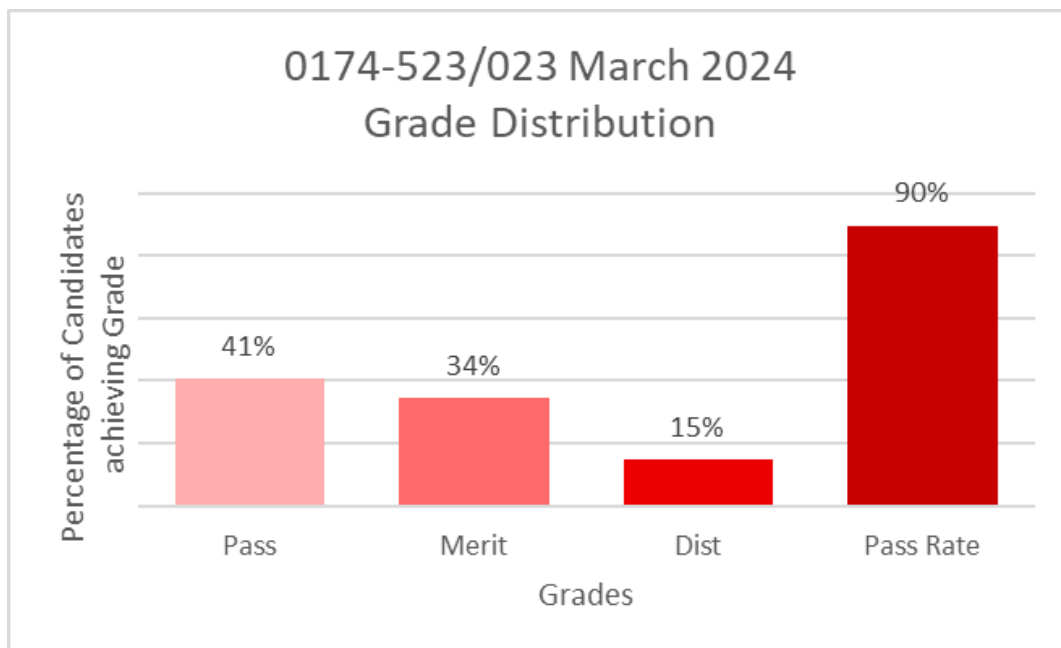
Assessment: **0174-523/023**

Series: **March 2024**

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

<b>Total marks available</b>	
Pass mark	17
Merit mark	23
Distinction mark	29

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



# Chief Examiner Commentary

## General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 0174-523

### Series 1 (March 2024)

In comparison with the March 2023 series pass rate in the March 2024 paper was very similar being 91% in March 2023 and 90% in March 2024, but there was a decrease in candidate achievement, with only 15% gaining Distinction compared with 32% in March 2023 and 41% gaining Pass compared with 20% in March 2023. The paper was comparable with the March 2022 series paper, being well structured, written at the appropriate level and testing a range of abilities.

Although knowledge and understanding was shown across the curriculum poorer performance was noted in questions relating to and Unit 206 Tree Establishment and, to a lesser degree, Unit 205 Introduction to Plant Science; in particular relating to plant physiology and nursery stock. Questions relating to these Units also showed the widest differentiation between the low and high performing candidates. As is the case every year candidates performed less well across all units where the focus of questions related more to forestry than arboriculture.

Questions requiring candidates to apply knowledge and understanding in an integrated way provided some positive differentiation between the low and high performing candidates, as would be expected for these types of questions.

Centres are encouraged to support to candidates in developing exam technique.

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/horticulture/0174-technical-in-horticulture-and-forestry-arboriculture#tab=documents>