

0174-010/510 Level 3 Horticulture- Theory exam (2)

March 2022

Examiner Report

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – March 2022.....	4
Grade Boundaries.....	4
Chief Examiner Commentary.....	5

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 2022** 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;
0174-010/510 Level 3 Horticulture - Theory exam (2).

Theory Exam – March 2022

Grade Boundaries and distribution

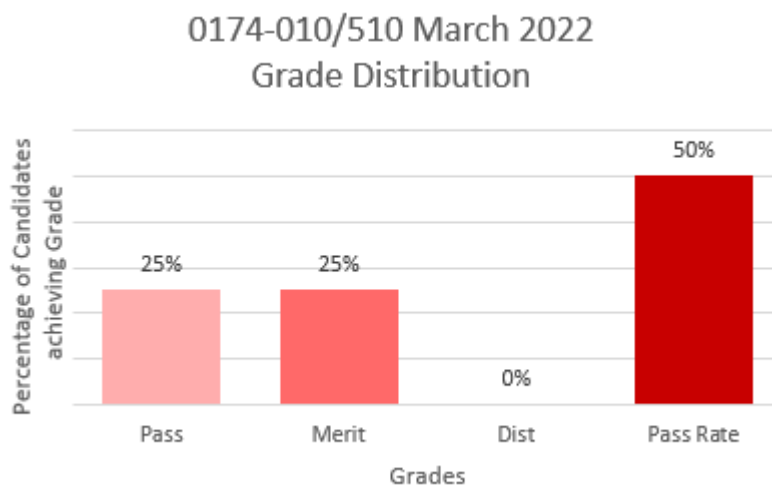
Assessment: **0174-010/510**

Series: **March 2022**

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

Total marks available	80
Pass mark	36
Merit mark	46
Distinction mark	56

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: 0174-010/510

Series 1 (March)

This is the first time that assessment component 0174-510 has been sat for several years. Therefore, comparisons to previous year's papers were not able to be undertaken.

This paper provided candidates of all abilities the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge on a range of topics from the assessment specification. The paper was pitched at the correct level and all questions were valid.

All questions within the paper were answered to varying levels, with some candidates proving stronger on business questions and others stronger on sports turf-specific questions. Consequently, the range of answers within the paper varied considerably and there was a wide range of accuracy and depth within questions requiring understanding and application of knowledge.

Overall, candidates showed **strength** in:

- Record-keeping as part of business practice
- Social benefits of the sports turf sector
- Establishment of sports turf surfaces

Candidates appear to require further **support** in:

- Understanding specific terminology such as 'carrying capacity'
- Awareness of professional bodies which represent the sports turf industry
- Sustainable management and practices in sports turf
- Differentiation between seeding and over-seeding when considering established sports turf areas

The extended response question was answered to a poor standard by all candidates. The responses were basic, and, in some cases, few maintenance activities were discussed.

It is advisable that candidates take care when reading the questions, particularly command words. For example, when explanations were required, candidates often failed to expand their understanding in these more challenging questions. Moreover, candidates must always pay attention to the number of marks available in order to answer each question fully.

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

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

Candidates are strongly advised to be familiar with the command verbs they may encounter during examinations and to be prepared for the different types of structures of questions, as well as the need to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required.