Unit Title:	**Maintain moisture levels for crops or plants**
OCR unit number:	17
Sector unit number:	B.31
Level:	2
Credit value:	2
Guided learning hours:	15
Unit reference number:	R/502/0854

Unit purpose and aim

This unit comes from the land based and environmental sector. It is included as an option within the Retail Skills qualifications for candidates who work in garden centres.

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
The Learner will:	**The Learner can:**
1 Know why it is important to maintain moisture for crops and plants	1.1 describe how moisture requirements vary according to the crop or plants and stage of development 1.2 describe the methods and systems for maintaining moisture levels 1.3 describe the impact of prevailing weather conditions on the crop or plants water requirements 1.4 identify the types of records required and the importance of accurate record keeping
2 Know the types of equipment required and how to maintain them	2.1 describe the equipment which will be necessary for maintaining moisture levels to crops or plants 2.2 describe methods of maintaining the equipment ready for use
3 Know the current health and safety legislation and environmental good practice	3.1 outline the current health and safety legislation, codes of practice and any additional requirements, which apply to this area of work 3.2 describe how environmental damage can be minimised
4 Be able to select, use and maintain equipment	4.1 select appropriate equipment for this area of work 4.2 use equipment according to manufacturer's instructions and legal requirements 4.3 prepare, maintain and store equipment in a safe and effective working condition

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Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria
5 Be able to maintain moisture levels for crops and plants	5.1 identify correctly the condition of the crop or plant 5.2 maintain moisture levels in accordance with crop or plant requirements 5.3 provide clear and accurate information for recording purposes
6 Be able to work safely and minimise environmental damage	6.1 work in a way which maintains health and safety and is consistent with current legislation, codes of practice and any additional requirements 6.2 carry out work in a manner which minimises environmental damage

Assessment

This unit requires workplace assessment of occupational competence. It is internally assessed by centre staff and externally assessed by an OCR External Verifier.

The unit is competence-based. This means that it is linked to the candidate's ability to competently perform a range of tasks associated with their work.

Simulation will not be acceptable where the unit is included in qualifications which verify competent performance. Please refer to Lantra's Assessment Strategy for further guidance.

Assessment conducted by an external/peripatetic assessor must adhere to section 4.2.1 of Skillsmart Retail's '*Retail Qualifications Assessment Principles'*. As such, OCR requires the line manager or the owner/manager to sign and date the bottom of each unit Evidence Record Sheet (ERS) to both confirm their involvement and the candidate's competence. This should be on or prior to the signature and date provided by the assessor.

Evidence requirements

OCR does not stipulate the mode of delivery for the teaching of the content of this unit. Centres are free to deliver this unit using any mode of delivery that meets the needs of their candidates. Centres should consider the candidates' complete learning experience when designing programmes of learning.

Guidance on assessment and evidence requirements

You should refer to the '*Admin Guide: Vocational Qualifications* (A850)' for *Notes on Preventing Computer-Assisted Malpractice*.

National Occupational Standards (NOS) mapping/signposting

This unit is based on the NOS reference LANPH3

NOS can be viewed on the relevant Sector Skills Council's website or the Occupational standards directory at www.ukstandards.co.uk.

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Functional skills signposting

This section indicates where candidates may have an opportunity to develop their functional skills.

Functional Skills Standards					
English		**Mathematics**		**ICT**	
Speaking and Listening	✔	Representing		Use ICT systems	✔
Reading	✔	Analysing		Find and select information	✔
Writing	✔	Interpreting		Develop, present and communicate information	✔

Additional information

For further information regarding administration for this qualification, please refer to the OCR document '*Admin Guide: Vocational Qualifications' (A850)* on the OCR website www.ocr.org.uk .