

Model Curriculum

Group Farming Practitioner

SECTOR: AGRICULTURE & ALLIED
SUB-SECTOR: AGRICULTURE INDUSTRIES
OCCUPATION: AGRI ENTREPRENEURSHIP & RURAL ENTERPRISES
REF ID: AGR/Q7806, V1.0
NSQF LEVEL: 4



Certificate

CURRICULUM COMPLIANCE TO QUALIFICATION PACK – NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

is hereby issued by the

AGRICULTURE SKILL COUNCIL OF INDIA

for the

MODEL CURRICULUM

Complying to National Occupational Standards of
Job Role/Qualification Pack: **'Group Farming Practitioner'** QP No. **'AGR/Q78o6 NSQF Level 4'**

Date of Issuance: March 12th, 2018

Valid up to: March 31st, 2021

* Valid up to the next review date of the Qualification Pack



Authorised Signatory
(Agriculture Skill Council of India)

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Group Farming Practitioner

CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

This program is aimed at training candidates for the job of a “Group Farming Practitioner”, in the “Agriculture & Allied” Sector/Industry and aims at building the following key competencies amongst the learner

Program Name	Group Farming Practitioner		
Qualification Pack Name & Reference ID.	AGR/Q7806, v1.0		
Version No.	1.0	Version Update Date	
Pre-requisites to Training	Basic literacy		
Training Outcomes	<p>After completing this programme, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate participatory management: identifying common interest group, organizing meetings, setting the goals & missions of the group, efficient management of group activities & resources, networking with various stakeholders, record keeping and registration of group • Undertake basic farm management: crop planning, maintaining crop calendar, financial management, analyzing market demand & supply • Undertake harvest & post-harvest management & aggregation of produce: harvest, post-harvest treatment-drying, cleaning, sorting, grading, storage, safe handling, packaging, transportation, food safety, aggregation of produce • Coordinate & negotiate with input / service providers and buyers: identify input/service provider, negotiation, information on buyers need, price negotiations, timely payment, proper measurements and supply of produce. • Assimilate market information: locating information sources; analyzing information, using market information for decision making • Undertake farm waste management: collection of farm waste, crop residue incorporation, baling of hay, compost making • Maintain health & safety: well versed with health & safety measures in terms of personal safety and others as well 		

This course encompasses 7 out of 7 National Occupational Standards (NOS) of “Group Farming Practitioner” Qualification Pack issued by “Agriculture Skill Council of India”.

Sr. No.	Module	Key Learning Outcomes	Equipment Required
1	Introduction Theory Duration (hh:mm) 05:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 00:00 Corresponding NOS Code Bridge Module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand general discipline in the class room (Do's & Don'ts) Understand the role of a Group Farming Practitioner and the progression pathways Study the success stories of Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)/ Cooperatives Get acquainted with the benefits of formation of Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs)/ Common Interest Groups (CIGs)/Producer Groups (PGs) Understand State farmers' right under PPV & FRA act 2001 (9 rights) 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector
2	Undertake participatory management practices to form CIGs/FIGs/PGs Theory Duration (hh:mm) 10:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 20:00 Corresponding NOS Code AGR/N7825	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the formation of farmers interests groups (FIGs) Organize group meetings Contribute in setting goals and mission of the group Contribute in efficient management of group farming Contribute in efficient management of resources Maintain registers and records for group farming activities Facilitate the registration of the FIGs 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio-visual aids, registers, record book
3	Basic Farm Management Theory Duration (hh:mm) 10:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 30:00 Corresponding NOS Code AGR/N9901	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimate the cost of production of the selected crop Estimate the required investment Practice Farm management- Soil testing, selection of crop variety, Crop Calendar, Crop rotation, intercrops, schedule for fertilizer, pesticide/chemical application, irrigation schedule, harvesting schedule etc Identify the near market area and keep update on the market prices Keep record on the investment and expenditures Understand various uses of the crop by-products 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio-visual aids, record keeping book, pen, paper, farming tools & equipments

Sr. No.	Module	Key Learning Outcomes	Equipment Required
4	Undertake harvest, post-harvest management and aggregation of the produce Theory Duration (hh:mm) 15:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 30:00 Corresponding NOS Code AGR/N7826	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure physiological maturity of crop at harvest Dry the produce to the desired level Carry out cleaning, sorting, grading, packaging and storage of produce Ensure safe handling of the produce and quality assurance Organize and set up collection points at strategic location Ensure proper measurement of the produce Ensure timely and safe delivery of the produce to transportation 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio- visual aids, harvester, sickle, fumigants, sprayer, post-harvesting machines, packaging material
5	Undertake farm waste management Theory Duration (hh:mm) 05:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 15:00 Corresponding NOS Code AGR/N9913	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and segregate different types of farm waste according to their use Familiarize with the ill effects of farm waste burning Get acquainted with different machineries used in the handling of farm waste Prepare compost from the farm waste Convert farm waste into small pieces by use of scribbling machine Incorporate green manure in the soil for insitu decomposition Make bales of straw after harvesting. Store and transport compressed bails Make pellets/ briquettes to be used as fuel from the farm waste Familiarize with the use of various types of briquetting machines Familiarize with the various uses of pellets or briquettes 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio- visual aids, sickle, scribbling machine, baler, screw pressing machines, stamping pressing machines and hydraulic briquetting machines
6	Coordinate and negotiate with Input / service providers and buyers Theory Duration (hh:mm) 10:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 20:00 Corresponding NOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get acquainted with the existing trade systems and environment Identify and negotiate with input sellers/service providers Get information on the needs of the buyer Make necessary negotiations for appropriate price and timely payment to member farmers Ensure proper measurement and timely supply of the produce Get well versed in the communication and negotiation skills 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio-visual aids

Sr. No.	Module	Key Learning Outcomes	Equipment Required
	Code AGR/N7827		
7	Assimilating Market Information Theory Duration (hh:mm) 05:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 10:00 Corresponding NOS Code AGR/N9902	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get acquainted with the suitable market platform for the selected crop including e-procurement platform Collect the market information from the reliable sources Analyze the market information Understand the right time, place for the market of the produce Get acquainted with Agro advisory services facility available through SMS mobile, Radio, TV, etc. 	Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio-visual aids
8	Maintain health and safety at the workplace Theory Duration (hh:mm) 05:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 10:00 Corresponding NOS Code AGR/N9903	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain a clean & efficient workplace Practice General safety and first aid Familiarize with various health hazards relevant to workplace and basic first aid training Undertake basic safety checks for the commonly reported hazards before all farm operation Use equipments, processing machine etc in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines Render appropriate emergency procedures Dispose off farm waste in accordance with environmental safety 	White Board, Marker, Laptop, projector, safety mask, rubber gloves, safety boots, first aid kit, fire extinguisher
	Total Duration: Theory Duration (hh:mm) 65:00 Practical Duration (hh:mm) 135:00	Unique Equipment Required: Laptop, white board, marker, projector, Audio-visual aids, record keeping book, pen, paper, farming tools & equipments, sickle, harvester, fumigants, sprayer, post-harvesting tools/ machines, packaging material, scribbling machine, baler, screw pressing machines, stamping pressing machines and hydraulic briquetting machines, safety mask, rubber gloves, safety boots, first aid kit, fire extinguisher	

Grand Total Course Duration: **200 Hours, 0 Minutes**

(This syllabus/ curriculum has been approved by [Agriculture Skill Council of India](#))

Trainer Prerequisites for Job role: “Group Farming Practitioner” mapped to Qualification Pack: “AGR/Q7806, v1.0”

Sr. No.	Area	Details
1	Description	Trainer is responsible for educating the trainees on – formation of FIGs, participatory management practices, basic farm management, harvest and post-harvest management, setting of collection points, farm waste management, communication and negotiation with input/service providers and buyers, supply and demand dynamics, various marketing platforms, health and safety at the workplace.
2	Personal Attributes	Trainer should be a Subject Matter Expert. He/ she should have good communication, leadership, observation and practical oriented skills.
3	Minimum Educational Qualifications	Diploma in Agriculture/ Horticulture
4a	Domain Certification	Certified for Job Role: “Group Farming Practitioner” mapped to QP: “AGR/Q7806, v1.0”. Minimum accepted score is 80%
4b	Platform Certification	Certified for the Job Role: “Trainer”, mapped to the Qualification Pack: “MEP/Q0102”. Minimum accepted % as per respective SSC guidelines is 80%.
5	Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Sc (Agriculture / Horticulture / Botany) • B. Sc. (Agriculture / Horticulture / Botany) with 1 year of relevant work experience and 2 years of total work experience • Graduate with 3 years of relevant work experience • Diploma in Agriculture/Horticulture with 3 years of relevant work experience

Annexure: Assessment Criteria

Job Role Group Farming Practitioner

Qualification Pack AGR/Q7806

Sector Skill Council Agriculture Skill Council of India

Guidelines for Assessment

1. Criteria for assessment for each Qualification Pack will be created by the Sector Skill Council. Each Performance Criteria (PC) will be assigned marks proportional to its importance in NOS. SSC will also lay down proportion of marks for Theory and Skills Practical for each PC.
2. The assessment for the theory part will be based on knowledge bank of questions created by the SSC.
3. Assessment will be conducted for all compulsory NOS, and where applicable, on the selected elective/option NOS/set of NOS.
4. Individual assessment agencies will create unique question papers for theory part for each candidate at each examination/training center (as per assessment criteria below).
5. Individual assessment agencies will create unique evaluations for skill practical for every student at each examination/training center based on this criterion.
6. To pass the Qualification Pack, every trainee should score a minimum of 70% of aggregate marks to successfully clear the assessment.
7. In case of *unsuccessful completion*, the trainee may seek reassessment on the Qualification Pack.

Compulsory NOS		Marks Allocation			
Total Marks: 500		Total Marks	Out Of	Theory	Skills Practical
Assessment outcomes	Assessment Criteria for outcomes				
1. AGR/N7825 Undertake participatory management practices to form CIGs/FIGs/PGs	PC1. identify farmers for creating common interest groups	100	5	3	2
	PC2. facilitate group meetings / gram sabha		10	5	5
	PC3. increase participation and group membership		5	3	2
	PC4. contribute in the the goal and mission setting of the group		5	3	2
	PC5. select the commodity specific activity for group farming operations		5	3	2
	PC6. ascertain homogeneity of the group		5	2	3
	PC7. assist in efficient management of group farming activities		10	5	5
	PC8. assist in efficient management of resources		10	5	5
	PC9. network with the financial institutions/ marketing agencies/buyers/ service providers/input suppliers		10	5	5
	PC10. contribute in debt management		10	5	5
	PC11. participate regularly in meetings and observe the group activities		5	2	3

	PC12. maintain meeting proceedings, other records and registers		10	4	6
	PC 13. facilitate registration of the group with competent authority		10	5	5
			100	50	50
2. AGR/N9901 Basic farm management	PC1. choose the crop based on agro-climatic condition of the region	30	2	1	1
	PC2. take sample of the soil for testing		1	0	1
	PC3. perform intercropping with suitable and recommended crops (as per the main crop cultivated)		2	1	1
	PC4. perform crop rotation with suitable crops		2	1	1
	PC5. interact with agriculture / extension expert for crop planning		1	1	0
	PC6. choose crop based on the economic advantage		2	1	1
	PC7. maintain crop production activity record		1	1	0
	PC8. maintain crop calendars		1	1	0
	PC9. maintain calendars of weed		1	1	0
	PC10. maintain insect and pest calendar		2	1	1
	PC11. Ascertain total cost of production (land, production practices, labour, equipment, fuel, administrative cost etc.)		2	1	1
	PC12. maintain records of investment and expenditure		2	1	1
	PC13. maintain necessary books of accounts		2	1	1
	PC14. identify government schemes and their eligibility for availing themselves of the same		2	1	1
	PC15. identify the nearest market		2	1	1
	PC16. identify local traders, mandis in the villages and nearby and compare the rates		2	1	1
	PC17. identify market rates of the produce season wise		2	1	1
	PC18. arrange cost-effective transportation of produce to the mark		1	0	1
			30	16	14
3. AGR/N7826 Undertake harvest, post-harvest management and aggregation of the produce	PC1. ensure crop is physiologically mature at harvest	160	5	2	3
	PC2. pre-cool or pre-warm the stock as required after harvest		5	2	3
	PC3. ensure drying of produce to reduce moisture content level to desirable level.		5	2	3

	PC4. ensure cleaning , sorting and grading of produce		10	4	6
	PC5. ensure proper & safe packaging of produce		10	4	6
	PC6. ensure storage of produce at desirable temperature and relative humidity level		10	4	6
	PC7. select the appropriate storage structure to minimize storage losses		10	5	5
	PC8. ensure safe handling of the produce and quality assurance		10	4	6
	PC9. use appropriate sanitizing techniques to prevent microbial build-up		10	4	6
	PC10. ensure all safety measures during post-harvest stages		10	5	5
	PC11. ensure contamination free food to consumers		10	4	6
	PC12. ensure product specific packages, storages, transport and food safety certifications for perishable produce, wherever applicable		10	4	6
	PC13. organize and set up collection points		10	5	5
	PC14. coordinate with different collection points		5	2	3
	PC15. ensure proper measurement of the produce		10	5	5
	PC16. collect the stock from common place		5	2	3
	PC17. ensure proper handling of stock and quality assurance		10	4	6
	PC18. ensure on time delivery of stock to transportation		10	5	5
	PC19. ensure no damage during transportation		5	3	2
			160	70	90
4. AGR/N9913 Undertake farm waste management	PC1. collect the agricultural residue/farm waste from field after harvesting of the crop	50	4	1	3
	PC2. segregate different types of farm waste according to their use		10	4	6
	PC3. carry out cutting of the farm waste into small pieces using scribbling machine		4	1	3
	PC4. use scribbled farm waste for making compost- pit method		5	2	3
	PC5. incorporate green manure in the soil for in situ decomposition		6	3	3

	PC18. coordinate for timely supply and logistics		5	2	3
	PC19. ensure transparency in the flow of goods such as using tracking and tracing systems		5	2	3
	PC20. provide accurate information on logistics flow and quality aspects of the produce		5	2	3
			100	45	55
6. AGR/N9902 Assimilating market information	PC1. understand the different sources of information at village-level through other farmers, neighbors, relatives, agricultural extension workers, agriculture specialists, concerned government and private departments like gram panchayat, cooperative societies and SHGs etc.		1	1	0
	PC2. identify different sources of information at market level through commission agents, mandi samitis and input dealers		1	1	0
	PC3. identify different sources of information through media sources like radio, newspapers, television, magazine internet, SMS in mobile phones etc.		1	0	1
	PC4. identify the appropriate sources of specific market information and proper ways to collect the required information		1	0	1
	PC5. identify the reliable source of information	30	1	0	1
	PC6. ascertain methods of collecting information through personal visit, telephone, internet and published reports, magazines and articles, workshops, attending seminars and training by agriculture extension service providers		2	1	1
	PC7. ascertain periodicity and cost of assessing market information		2	1	1
	PC8. ascertain availability and non-availability of specific market information		1	0	1
	PC9. perform documentation for analyzing market information		1	0	1
	PC10. evaluate the authenticity of information received		2	1	1
	PC11. analyze the information for taking decision		2	1	1
	PC12. utilize market information for taking cost effective production decisions		2	1	1

PC7. recognize risks to bystanders and take action to reduce risk associated with jobs in the workplace	3	2	1
PC8. perform your work in a manner which minimizes environmental damage all procedures and work instructions for controlling risk are followed closely.	2	1	1
PC9. report any accidents, incidents or problems without delay to an appropriate person and take necessary immediate action to reduce further danger.	1	0	1
PC10. follow procedures for dealing with accidents, fires and emergencies, including communicating location and directions to emergency.	2	1	1
PC11. follow emergency procedures to company standard / workplace requirements	2	1	1
PC12. use emergency equipment in accordance with manufacturers' specifications and workplace requirements	2	1	1
PC13. provide treatment appropriate to the patient's injuries in accordance with recognized first aid techniques	2	1	1
PC14. recover (if practical), clean, inspect/test, refurbish, replace and store the first aid equipment as appropriate	2	1	1
PC15. report details of first aid administered in accordance with workplace procedures.	2	1	1
	30	15	15
GRAND TOTAL	500	230	270