

# **ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES**

## **Unit 21049**

Demonstrate and apply knowledge of  
vermiculture

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Level 3, Credit 5, version 1

# Demonstrate and apply knowledge of vermiculture

Unit standard 21049  
Level 3, Credit 5, Version 1

## Level of performance required for this unit standard

This is a level 3 unit standard. At this level trainees are expected to demonstrate the following abilities when completing assessment tasks:

- To work under general supervision, with some independence; with significant responsibility for the standard of the outcome achieved.
- To complete apply skills and knowledge to complete the task to the specified standard, in a familiar context.
- To interpret available information, and use discretion and judgement.

## Workplace assessment:

For guidelines on Workplace Assessment, please refer to the NZHITO Workplace Assessors Manual, and for further information, please contact: NZHITO, P O Box 8638, Christchurch.  
Ph 03 9644 735, fax 03 9644 737, website [www.hortito.org.nz](http://www.hortito.org.nz).

## Special notes:

1. The following standards apply to this unit standard:  
Demeter Standards, Bio Dynamic Farming and Gardening Association, PO Box 39045, Wellington Main Centre, Phone 04 589 5366, Fax 04 589 4365, <http://www.biodynamic.org.nz>;  
BIO-GRO Standards, BIO-GRO New Zealand, PO Box 9693, Marion Square, Wellington, Phone 04 801 9741, Fax 04 801 9742, <http://www.bio-gro.co.nz>;  
Agriquality New Zealand, Agriquality Organic Standards, <http://www.agriquality.co.nz>;  
The Soil and Health Association of New Zealand (Organic Farm New Zealand), <http://www.organicnz.org>;  
The New Zealand Food Safety Authority, <http://www.nzfsa.govt.nz/organics>;  
NZS 8410:2003 *Organic production*, available from Standards New Zealand <http://www.standards.co.nz>.
2. Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to: Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Resource Management Act 1991; and Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.
3. *Workplace procedures* refer to verbal or written instructions to staff on procedures for the worksite and equipment.

**Unit 21049: Demonstrate and apply knowledge of vermiculture  
(Apprentice copy)**

ELEMENT	Competent	Range of evidence an assessor should consider
<b>Element 1</b> Demonstrate knowledge of vermiculture.	<b>Yes/No</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Production of vermicast or worm compost using worms as digesters is described. Range: digestion, lifecycle, establishment of a worm farm, suitable types of worms.</li> <li>▪ Feed habits of worms and feed materials are identified. Range: vertical feeding, preferred feed materials, feed materials to avoid.</li> <li>▪ Conditions for optimal worm activity are described. Range: temperature, moisture, pH, physical environment.</li> <li>▪ Certification issues related to worm composting are described.</li> </ul>
<b>Element 2</b> Apply the principles of vermiculture.	<b>Yes/No</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Worm farm is maintained so that worm activity is sustained. Range: appropriate feeding, pH management, proper functioning of work farm is checked and maintained, removal of excess liquid.</li> <li>▪ Finished casts are harvested so according to organic standards and workplace procedures. Range: casts are harvested without causing inappropriate disturbance of worm farm.</li> </ul>
<b>Element 3</b> Describe the use of products of vermiculture.	<b>Yes/No</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The use of vermicast in the production of organic horticultural products is described. Range: seed raising mix, liquid preparation, soil amendments.</li> <li>▪ Liquid vermicast is diluted to appropriate strength for foliar and fertigation applications.</li> </ul>

\_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Apprentice)

is **Competent / Not yet competent** in Unit Standard 21049 (version 1)

**Signed (Assessor):** \_\_\_\_\_

WPA Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit 21049: Demonstrate and apply knowledge of vermiculture  
(Assessor copy)**

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Please send this page to your NZHITO Regional Manager, who will forward it to National Office to register the credits on your NZQA Record of Learning.

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*(Name of Apprentice)*

**is Competent in Unit Standard 21049** (version 1)

**Signed (Assessor):**

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WPA Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_