

Domain	PLANT HUSBANDRY	Unit ID:	1312
Title:	Produce compost		
Level: 2			Credits: 2

Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to produce compost. It is intended for those who work in agriculture as well as those working in other agricultural occupations. It includes:

- Prepare site
- Collect materials
- Build compost
- Care for compost
- Conclude compost production.

Special Notes

1. Entry information:

Prerequisite: none

2. This unit standard is to be delivered and assessed in the context of agricultural operations and can be assessed in conjunction with other relevant technical unit standards.

3. The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations.

4. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real workplace or an appropriate simulated environment in which agricultural operations are carried out.

5. All inspection, operation and maintenance procedures associated with the use of tools and equipment shall comply with manufacturers' guidelines and instructions.

6. Demonstration of competence, at a minimum, requires evidence in the application of the elements in this unit standard to the production of two cubic metres of compost.

7. Glossary of terms

- '*Materials*' may include, but are not limited to, manure, liquid manure, leaves, grass, grass clippings, lime, soil, municipal organic waste and household waste.
- '*Simple equipment*' signifies tractor or other drawn equipment without engines and other moving parts.
- '*Safety requirements*' may include, but are not limited to, safe systems and procedures for safe use of machinery, tools and equipment, hazard and risk control, manual handling, handling, application and storage of hazardous substances, outdoor work and the use of personal protective equipment.
- '*Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*' may include, but is not limited to, boots, hat, overalls, gloves, eye and hearing protection, respirator or face mask, high visibility clothing and sun protection.

8. Regulations and legislation relevant to this unit standard include the following:

- Labour Act, No. 11, 2007
- Regulations relating to the Health and Safety of employees at work, 1997
- National Agricultural Policy, 1995
- Fertilisers, farm feeds and agriculture and stock remedies Act, No. 46, 1998
- Water Resources Management Act, No. 24, 2004
- Environmental Management Act, No. 7, 2007
- Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill, 2003 3rd draft
- National Policy on Climate Change for Namibia, 2011
- National Drought Policy, 1997
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, 1994
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992
- Standards Act, 2005, Standards Regulations: Standards Act, 2005 and relevant Namibian Standards as established

and all subsequent amendments to any of the above

- All current sets of *Good Agricultural Practices* to which Namibia subscribes and that regulate agricultural products entering a country to which Namibian producers may export.

Quality Assurance Requirements

This unit standard and others within this subfield may be awarded by institutions which meet the accreditation requirements set by the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority and which comply with the national assessment and moderation requirements. Details of specific accreditation requirements and the national assessment arrangements are available from the Namibia Qualifications Authority on www.namqa.org and the Namibia Training Authority on www.nta.com.na.

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element 1. Prepare site

Performance Criteria

- 1.1 Instructions for preparing the site for compost production are confirmed.
- 1.2 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 1.3 Tools are selected and prepared for the task being undertaken.
- 1.4 Site is prepared in accordance with instructions.

Element 2. Collect materials

Performance Criteria

- 2.1 Knowledge of methods of compost production and potential materials is demonstrated.
- 2.2 Instructions for collecting materials for compost production are confirmed.
- 2.3 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.

- 2.4 Tools are selected and prepared for the task being undertaken.
- 2.5 Materials are identified, prepared and transported according to instructions.

Element 3. Build compost

Range

This unit standard envisages use of hand tools and simple equipment.

Performance Criteria

- 3.1 Instructions for preparing the site for compost production are confirmed.
- 3.2 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 3.3 Tools are selected and prepared for the task being undertaken.
- 3.4 Quantities of materials are measured and combined according to instructions.
- 3.5 Compost is watered and aerated according to instructions.
- 3.6 Compost is completed according to instructions.

Element 4. Care for compost

Range

Care of compost may include, but not be limited to, operations such as watering, checking and recording of temperature, aeration, turning, (re-)capping and provision of protection.

Examination of compost for quality will include simple quality tests.

Performance Criteria

- 4.1 Instructions for care of compost are confirmed.
- 4.2 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 4.3 Tools are selected and prepared for the task being undertaken.
- 4.4 Compost is cared for according to instructions.
- 4.5 Compost is examined for quality.
- 4.6 Observations of quality of compost are reported.
- 4.7 Tools are cleaned and stored according to instructions.

Element 5. Complete production of compost

Performance Criteria

- 5.1 Tools are selected and prepared for the task being undertaken.
- 5.2 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 5.3 Site is cleaned or prepared for re-use after removal of compost according with instructions given.
- 5.4 Tools are cleaned and stored according to instructions.

Registration Data

Subfield:	Agronomy and Horticulture
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