

<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Rural Skills</b>
<b>Level:</b>	National 4
<b>Start Date:</b>	May 2015
<b>End Date:</b>	May 2016

### Units to be completed

<b>Mandatory Units:</b>	<b>Optional Units:</b>
Land-based Industries: an introduction	Animal Husbandry: an introduction
Estate Maintenance	Animal Handling: an Introduction
Employability Skills in the Land-based sector	Crop Production: an introduction
	Soft Landscaping: an introduction

### Progression Pathways

- Scottish Progression Award in Rural Skills at National 5 Level
- SVQs/ NVQs in Appropriate Land-based sector vocational areas
- Programmes in Further Education Colleges
- Other suitable Training or Employment

### Course Description

This Rural Skills Course allows candidates to begin to develop some of the basic practical skills necessary to work in most of the land-based disciplines - areas such as agricultural livestock, equine industries, horticulture, landscaping, agricultural crops and animal care. The Course also provides the opportunity to explore the very diverse employment prospects that exist in land-based industries. There is then a choice of a plant or an animal route where candidates can develop some of the basic skills for the chosen route.

## Unit Contents

Unit	Description
<b>Land-based Industries: an introduction</b>	This Unit is designed to allow the candidate to explore the very diverse nature of industries that exist in the land-based sector. It also allows them to explore some of the many job opportunities that exist within the sector, identify the qualities that are required to work in some of these industries as well as to find out what skills are required for these jobs. The candidate will have the opportunity to examine land-based industries with a view to helping them to decide if this is a suitable career path for them and to explore the potential progression routes available related to specific industries.
<b>Estate Maintenance</b>	This Unit will be suitable for candidates who have limited or no knowledge of the craft practices in estate maintenance. The Outcomes require the candidate to identify and describe the use of a range of tools and equipment and then use these to undertake a range of estate maintenance tasks. The candidate will have the opportunity to develop manual dexterity that will be useful for progression to higher levels of manual and machinery skills required in specific land-based industries.
<b>Employability Skills in the Land-based sector</b>	This Unit is designed to be integrated into practical tasks undertaken as part of this Course. It is suitable for candidates with no previous land-based or employment experience. The candidate will have the opportunity to develop some of the employability skills that are valued by the land-based sector including good timekeeping, attendance, safe working and team working. They will have the opportunity to review and evaluate their progress in developing these skills. The third Outcome allows candidates to consider the examination of risk in a specific task allowing them to develop a greater understanding of the need to consider safety in all land-based industries.
<b>Animal Handling: an Introduction</b>	This Unit allows candidates to develop some of the basic knowledge and skills required to handle animals in a work setting. Candidates will develop the basic skills and knowledge required to move and restrain animals for a purpose that is pertinent to that species. This Unit has been designed for delivery in context for one or more categories of animal within a work setting or simulated work setting.
<b>Animal Husbandry: an introduction</b>	This Unit allows candidates to develop some of the basic skills and knowledge required to contribute towards the health and wellbeing of animals in a work setting. Candidates will have the opportunity to develop the basic skills of caring for animals including

Unit	Description
	<p>preparing and maintaining their accommodation as well as feeding them. They will also learn some of the important physical characteristics of animals. This Unit has been designed for delivery in context for one or more categories of animal and to be delivered in a work setting or simulated work setting.</p>
<p><b>Crop Production: an introduction</b></p>	<p>This Unit allows candidates to develop some of the basic skills and knowledge required to contribute towards the production of plants in a work setting. Candidates will have the opportunity to develop some of the basic skills relating to preparing the growing medium, establishing and maintaining the plant. Plants may be agricultural, forestry, horticultural, edible or non-edible.</p>
<p><b>Soft Landscaping: an introduction</b></p>	<p>This Unit allows candidates to develop some of the basic knowledge and skills required for soft landscaping. Candidates will develop the basic skills and knowledge required to establish and maintain soft landscaping. The Unit is appropriate for a range of contexts including agriculture, countryside management, and landscape horticulture. This Unit has been designed for delivery within the context of a landscape project.</p>

### Assessment Method

??/