

NURSERY PERSON

EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS

AHC20720 - Certificate II in Nursery Operations

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge for supporting job roles in the nursery industry including production nursery assistant, production nursery worker, retail nursery sales assistant and retail nursery maintainer. Individuals with this qualification undertake routine tasks under supervision where the work is predictable and structured with limited judgement requirements.

AHC31120 - Certificate III in Nursery Operations

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge for trade level roles carried out under broad supervision in the nursery production and plant nursery industry. It is assumed that participants undertaking this qualification as a direct entry qualification would have nursery or horticulture industry experience prior to undertaking this qualification. Individuals with this qualification perform tasks autonomously involving a broad range of skills that are applied in a wide variety of contexts, which will involve discretion and judgement in planning tasks, selecting and operating equipment, coordinating resources and applying contingency measures during work.

AHC31021 - Certificate III in Parks and Gardens

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge for trade level roles in the parks and gardens industry including gardener, greenkeeper and grounds person. Individuals with this qualification perform tasks under broad supervision involving a broad range of skills that are applied in a wide variety of contexts, which will involve discretion and judgement in selecting and operating equipment, coordinating resources and applying contingency measures during work.

AHC40620 - Certificate IV in Nursery Operations

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge for supervisory/managerial job roles in the nursery industry including integrated pest manager, production nursery irrigation manager, dispatch manager, head grower, sales manager, site manager, quality assurance manager, retail nursery stock supervisor, sales manager, green life buyer, nursery manager and merchandiser. Individuals with this qualification perform tasks involving technical skills, problem solving and supervisory skills to operate, monitor and improve performance of nursery systems and may supervise nursery staff.

AHC50820 - Diploma of Nursery Management

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge for specialist or managerial job roles in the nursery industry including site manager, head grower, crop manager, sales manager, marketing manager, garden centre manager, nursery manager and specialist consultants. Individuals with this qualification will take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They must analyse information and exercise judgement to complete a range of advanced skilled activities.



For further information or advise contact

mae@agrifooditab.com.au



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CAREER PATHWAYS/SPECIALISATIONS

Irrigation specialist

Works to plan, install and trouble shoot irrigation systems for greenhouses, market gardens, farms and nurseries. They calculate and calibrate emitters and plumbing to minimise waste and to support achieving optimum production and plant growth.

Plant propagation specialist

This person specialises in propagating native, exotic or difficult plant species to increase production and quality of plants through seed, cutting or tissue culture.

Grafting specialist

Grafting uses a rootstock as a host plant to grow a genetically suitable variety of plant to provide a more marketable outcome that is fit for purpose and a clone of the desired variety. Specialising in this skill can be very lucrative and challenging for those that pursue this pathway.

Plant transplanting

This specialist removes plants from their current location, which could be a backyard or park and prepares it for transport to a new location. This could be as simple as repotting without causing damage to the plant through to using heavy machinery and equipment to dig out a mature tree and transport it to a new location for replanting.

This role often requires skills in the use of heavy machinery or specialised equipment.

Hydroponics specialist

Hydroponics is a system of growing plants without the use of soil. The plants are grown in a water-nutrient solution that contains all the necessary nutrient content for growth. Hydroponic systems are often used to grow plants that can suffer from soil borne diseases or environmental risks such as heavy rain. Crops such as roses, carnations, cucumbers, tomatoes and strawberries. Specialist design and set up these systems to provide maximum water efficiency and production of plants for sale.

Nursery Manager

The nursery manager supervises the production and sale of plants within an enterprise. Their role is to support staff, manage budgets and ensure that products meet customer requirements.

There are various levels of management depending on the size of the enterprise and type of product being grown, managers can be either general or specialised in their role to meet the requirements of the business.

Marketing Manager

Nursery marketing managers promote products and brands to increase sales and profit margins. They develop marketing and pricing strategies, generate new business leads, and promote products for a business. They also manage marketing budgets and analyse trends to ensure that the business is keeping up with current customer expectations.

For further information relating to this job. Search the following web sites. Either click on the logo to open the web page or click on the QR code with your app.

		
		
		<p>For further information or advise contact Email: mae@agrifooditab.com.au</p>
		  

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HINTS ON HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS JOB

The first thing to do is to look up the local nursery operators and ring them or meet with them to discuss the opportunity to work in this industry. If you can't locate a local nursery then follow the 10 steps below that could assist you to secure work with a nursery person.

1. identify your strengths and weaknesses, especially an eye for detail and interest in botany as these are essential to being successful as a nursery worker. Completing any of the following; white card, agriculture or horticulture units of competence or gaining experience at using hand tools and basic equipment will provide the practical skills that will assist you to meet the selection criteria that employers set.
2. decide where you want to work; are you willing to relocate to get your dream job? There may be more opportunities in cities than in regional areas.
3. do some research, as to who the key employers are that could employ a nursery person such as councils, commercial nurseries, parks and wildlife, large estates. Consider if you want to work indoors or outdoors and what types of plants you like to work with then choose the specialisation that you most like before making enquiries to see if they will take on trainees.
4. research information about these employers or companies that you would like to work for; find out what the entry requirements or essential criteria are that must be met; such as do you need to complete a previous qualification or have industry experience before gaining an interview?
5. make a shortlist of potential prospective employers to contact. You may also like to chat to your job search agent or search some of the online employment agencies such as SEEK, Jobsearch, Indeed or Linked In to find job vacancies for electricians in your region.
6. create a quality resume and include your academic achievements, experience, interests and passions.
7. contact potential employers by writing or directly calling them to demonstrate your interest and communication skills. Prospective employers highly value self-starters and prospective career aspirants with initiative who take such steps to seek for themselves employment as an apprentice.
8. if you are still at school, you may be able to take up a school-based apprenticeship. There are opportunities available in some schools that allow you to take on a part-time apprenticeship known as a School-Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SBAT). Ask your school if they support this government initiative and ask the employer if they would be interested in such an arrangement. SBATs are a really good way to allow you to finish school and at the same time learn and earn as an apprentice.
9. your employer should contact the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASNs) - <https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au> for further information on how to sign you up.
10. sign up to your traineeship with your employer (and support of your family if you are under 18 years old) to start "learning and earning" to be a nursery person/horticulturalist.

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HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THESE RELATED JOBS?

Landscape Gardener

A Landscaper, or Landscape Designer, is responsible for envisioning unique outdoor spaces and working with other landscape professionals to turn their visions into public parks and gardens for people to enjoy. Their duties include planting flowers and trees, trimming shrubbery and overseeing the installation of benches, fountains, fences and walking paths.

Horticulturist

Horticulturists have scientific knowledge in how to cultivate and propagate plants, and use this knowledge to provide technical information to fruit, vegetable, and flower growers, as well as farmers. Horticulturists also conduct pest and disease investigations and experiment with improved varieties of plants with greater resistance to disease.

Viticulturalist

Viticulturalists plan, supervise and coordinate the growing of selected grape varieties for the production of wine, dried fruit or table grapes. Viticulturalists spend a lot of time outdoors in vineyards, but also work indoors in laboratories, offices and grape processing facilities.

Orchardist

Plants and cultivates trees, like apple, orange, and walnut, and harvests fruit and nut crops, applying knowledge of horticulture market conditions. Determines varieties quantities of trees to be grown, acreage to be tilled and employees to be hired.

Florist

A florist purchases flowers and designs, arranges and installs flowers for various celebratory occasions. They make wreaths, bouquets, vases, centrepieces and table settings using exotic, local and native specimens. The majority of florists are small business operators and provide a service to local clients, selling both face to face and over the internet.



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