



## Crop Technician

Industry:	Land-Based
Lantra code:	ST0018
Level:	3
Typical duration:	24 months
Funding band:	£15,000 maximum
EPA cost:	£1,525
Venue:	Workplace or Training Centre



### Introduction to this Apprenticeship Standard

**A Crop Technician is responsible for optimising crop/plant yields through establishment, management, harvest and post-harvest operations. They must maintain and improve the surrounding environment whilst keeping up to date with technological advances and new innovations.**

Being a Crop Technician requires self-motivation and the ability to work both independently and as a team player to complete tasks safely and efficiently. Many companies now use automation for several routine tasks, which will require technical skills to operate.

This Standard provides the opportunity for individuals to acquire the knowledge, skills and behaviours required and follows a 'core and options' approach. This allows the flexibility to learn core subjects and then specialise in either 'soil-based system' or 'containerised systems'.



### On Programme Apprentice Activity and Tracking

The Apprentice will be entered for End Point Assessment once the employer is satisfied that the Apprentice is consistently working at or above the level set out in the Standard, the Gateway requirements for EPA have been met and can be evidenced to the EPA organisation:

- A workbook of evidence including a monthly journal and evidence of development, appraisals, work and seasonal practical tasks
- All embedded qualifications must be achieved
- Evidence of Off the Job Training – for a minimum of 20% of the time they are paid to work and is training delivered outside normal working duties.
- Apprentices without Level 2 English or Maths must achieve Level 2 English or Maths prior to gateway.



### Mandatory Qualifications

There are no previous qualifications required to start this Apprenticeship, but you must have the attitude and ability to develop the required skills and knowledge during the Apprenticeship. This will usually be tested via an application/interview process. You must have achieved Level 2 English and Maths prior to End Point Assessment.



## Embedded Qualifications

The following qualifications are embedded within the Standard and must be achieved prior to Gateway and End Point Assessment:

- Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work
- Level 2 in Safe use of Pesticides to include additional safe use of Pesticides in Boom Sprayer, Mounted, trailer or Self-propelled equipment OR Granular applicator equipment OR Handheld applicator equipment.



## Gateway Criteria

The Apprentice will be entered for End Point Assessment once the employer is satisfied that the Apprentice is consistently working at or above the level set out in the Standard, the Gateway requirements for EPA have been met and can be evidenced to the EPA organisation.

As a Gateway requirement and prior to taking the EPA, Apprentices must complete all approved qualifications mandated in the Standard:

- Level 3 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work
- Level 2 in Safe use of Pesticides to include additional safe use of Pesticides in Boom Sprayer, Mounted, Trailer or Self-propelled equipment OR Granular applicator equipment OR Handheld applicator equipment
- Level 2 English and Maths
- A workbook - this will be tested during the Professional Discussion
- Evidence of Off the Job Training – for a minimum of 20% of the time they are paid to work and is training delivered outside normal working duties.



## Gateway Declaration

The Lantra Awards Gateway Declaration form must be completed, signed and dated by the Employer, Apprentice and Training Provider and uploaded onto ACE360 as part of the EPA registration process prior to the EPA taking place.

## End Point Assessment (EPA) – Demonstrating Learning

The End Point Assessment consists of 3 components in the sequence as follows:

<b>On-line Multiple-Choice Test</b>	An on-line multiple-choice test of 40 questions under controlled conditions. Test to be completed within 100 minutes.
<b>Practical Demonstration</b>	The practical demonstration will include specific practical or simulated tasks designed to simulate the Apprentice's working environment. The Apprentice will be observed by an Assessor, describing the what they are doing in detail, completing three practical demonstration(s) over one working day. At the end of the practical demonstration, 3 additional questions focussing on a specific skill will be asked to test knowledge. The questions must be answered over a period of 30 minutes.
<b>Professional Discussion</b>	The professional discussion is a structured one-to-one verbal interaction between the Apprentice and the Assessor. The questions that form the structure of the 60-minute Professional Discussion will be taken from an appraisal of the Apprentices workbook.



### Apprenticeship Certification

---

Certificates are issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and sent direct to the Apprentice's employer.



### Professional Recognition and Progression

---

On completion of this Apprenticeship, Crop Technicians will have the opportunity to progress within the industry into roles such as Unit/Arable Manager, Production Manager, Farm Manager.



### How Lantra can help

---

- We are specialists in supporting environmental and land-based industries
- We offer good value and cost-effective EPA
- Our Assessors meet and exceed the requirement of the assessment plan
- We offer our service across the whole of England
- We use ACE360 - an Apprenticeship Standards Management System - to manage EPA
- We are experts in the development and review of Apprenticeship Frameworks and National Occupational Standards
- With a 40-year history, delivering high quality, specialist support to the land-based industries is in our DNA.

**T:** 024 7669 6996

**E:** [epa@lantra.co.uk](mailto:epa@lantra.co.uk)

**[www.lantra.co.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.lantra.co.uk/apprenticeships)**

