



Horticulture Apprenticeship Programme

Fruit Production

Level 3-4

The EIT Horticulture Apprenticeship Programme is designed for people working in the fruit industry to gain formal qualifications and improve all aspects of their theoretical and practical knowledge and skills.

The apprenticeship programme is supported by industry and can lead to a worthwhile career. You will learn about pests and diseases, soils, irrigation and other relevant skills.

Location	Tairāwhiti (also offered in Hawke's Bay - see separate Information Pack)
Start	Various start dates
Length	Two years part-time
Contact	Lucy Tomlinson Phone: 06 869 3168 Email: ltomlinson@eit.ac.nz

Grow your horticulture career

By the end of the Horticulture Apprenticeship Programme you will have completed the following approved NZQA qualifications:

- NZ Certificate in Horticulture (Fruit Production) [Level 3] 75 credits
- NZ Certificate in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production) [Level 4] 90 credits

Year One

NZ Certificate in Horticulture (Fruit Production) [Level 3]

This qualification will provide you with the skills and knowledge in pest and diseases, pruning, agrichemicals, digital tools, irrigation, soils and team work.

Year Two

NZ Certificate in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production) [Level 4]

The NZ Certificate in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production) [Level 4] will be completed in your second year and will cover the implementation and monitoring of fruit crops to achieve production goals and standards through orchard operations, protection and management techniques.

As a graduate of the programme you will be able to pursue a professional career as an Orchard Leading Hand, Foreman, Manager or Future Owner/Operator. In particular, the programme is designed to:

- Raise skill levels of horticultural staff.
- Provide stimulating collegial support for workers in horticulture.
- Offer work-place based training with supported theory study at EIT.
- Provide a pathway for ongoing and further study in horticulture.

Career and Study Opportunities

On successful completion of the Horticulture Apprenticeship Programme you may choose to continue your studies by enrolling in the:

- NZ Diploma in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production) [Level 5]
- NZ Diploma in Primary Industries Business Management [Level 5]

Industry-based Training

You are required to commit yourself to working in the fruit production industry for the duration of the programme.

Courses will be operated from EIT Tairāwhiti campus and orchard properties, with learning being directed by growers, industry experts and qualified EIT staff. You are expected to attend all scheduled classes. In busier times of the year some alternatives may be available for planning around work.

Courses will teach theory that underpins on-job practices in the work environment. Some tasks will be assessed on-the-job as well. On campus courses and on-the-job learning will complement each other as much as possible.



Horticulture Apprenticeship Programme (Fruit Production strand)

Level 3-4, 165 credits

NZ Certificate in Horticulture (Fruit Production)

Level 3, 75 credits

NZ Certificate in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production)

Level 4, 90 credits



Tairāwhiti



Part-time: 2 years



Fee: Visit fees.eit.ac.nz to see the fees for this programme

Timetable

The Horticulture Apprenticeship Programme will suit those that are in full-time work within the horticulture and/or fruit production industry.

Contact Time

Classes are usually scheduled between 8.00am-4.00pm and tutorials are scheduled from 4.00pm-7.00pm to suit work requirements.

Entry Requirements

Each qualification has its own entry requirements, please talk with the Programme Coordinator regarding these.

You must be committed to being employed within the fruit production industry for the duration of the programme. Those currently employed in a horticulture business, and also those interested in combining this programme with employment in the fruit production industry are invited to apply.

A personal interview may be part of the application process.

English Language Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to have attained an acceptable level of English language fluency. This may be demonstrated in a variety of ways, including successful study in English, approved scores on TOEFL or IELTS (5.0 Academic) tests, completion of accepted international equivalents, or completion of an EIT assessment.

Entry with Credit

You may already have some knowledge or skills that can be recognised as part of your intended study. This may take a number of different forms including study while at high school, study at a private training establishment, workplace training, other tertiary study, life experiences or voluntary work. If you think you may qualify, you may want to apply for Cross Credit (CC) or Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

- CC is based on the equivalency of courses or qualifications. You would apply for CC if you have passed a very similar course at the same level.
- RPL is based on the assessment of your current knowledge and skills. You would apply for RPL if you had gained the relevant knowledge and skills through life experiences and informal learning situations.

You will be asked to provide details of anything that you would like to be considered as credit toward your intended programme of study, as part of your application.



2025 Key Dates

Various start dates throughout the year. Please contact the Programme Administrator for exact dates.

Semester Breaks

14 - 25 April

30 June - 11 July

22 September - 3 October

Please confirm the exact dates of Semester Breaks with the Programme Coordinator.

You must apply prior to enrolment. CC and RPL cannot be awarded for a course if you are already enrolled in that course.

For further information and enquiries about CC and RPL, please contact the Programme Administrator, Lucy Tomlinson, on 06 869 3168 or ltomlinson@eit.ac.nz.

Assessments

This is an achievement based programme which means that you will be graded on your assessments and rewarded for extra effort. Credits will be awarded on the courses that you achieve. Assessments include a variety of methods, such as theoretical assignments, research assignments, examinations, on job and off job practical assessments.

Credits will be awarded on the courses that you achieve. Assessments include a variety of methods, such as theoretical assignments, research assignments, examinations, on job and off job practical assessments.

Facilities

EIT has a range of student services available to ensure you are supported throughout your time with us. These include:

- Literacy and Numeracy support
- Computer suites
- Library support
- Laboratories
- Academic support
- Māori and Pasifika services

Experienced Lecturers

At EIT, you can be confident in the quality of our teaching and your learning experience.

EIT is highly regarded in New Zealand for research excellence due to the quality of our community centred research, our publications and our external grant income provided by funding institutions who have confidence in our research capability. You can be confident your lecturers use the latest knowledge and research in their field of expertise to inform their teaching, and many are at the forefront of knowledge creation within their discipline area.

A range of industry experts are used as guest speakers or hosts of field trips.

Scholarships

Scholarships are a way to help financially support your study. They can make life easier by helping to cover your fees and living expenses while you complete your qualification. You don't always need to be an academic high-flyer to qualify.

Find out what's available at scholarships.eit.ac.nz or for general scholarship information please contact scholarships@eit.ac.nz.

The experience you need & the support to succeed

When you study at EIT you'll get the kind of experiences that will help you gain the knowledge and skills to get ahead.

You'll also be supported by lecturers and tutors who are here for you, within a learning environment where you are treated as an individual, not just a number.

They'll know your name and you'll receive one-on-one attention to make sure you get the support to succeed.

Programme Information

In your first year of study you will complete the NZ Certificate in Horticulture (Fruit Production) [Level 3]. This qualification will provide you with the skills and knowledge in; pest and diseases, pruning, agrichemicals, digital tools, irrigation, soils and team work.

The NZ Certificate in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production) [Level 4] will be completed in your second year and will cover the implementation and monitoring of fruit crops to achieve production goals and standards through orchard operations, protection and management techniques.

Course Descriptions

NB: Courses are offered subject to sufficient enrolments.

Year One - NZ Certificate in Horticulture (Fruit Production) [Level 3]

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
CHFP3.01	Introduction to the Growing Environment	3	15
CHFP3.02	Block Development and Maintenance	3	15
CHFP3.03	Crop Health	3	15
CHFP3.04	Fruit Development and Harvesting	3	15
CPIOS3.03	Pruning Fruit Crops	3	15

Year Two - NZ Certificate in Horticulture Production (Fruit Production) [Level 4]

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
CHFP4.01	Human Resources	4	15
CHFP4.02	Growing Environment	4	15
CHFP4.03	Fruit Crop Management	4	15
CHFP4.04	Pruning	4	15
CHFP4.05	Crop Production	4	15
CHFP4.06	Complying with Market Needs	4	15



How to Enrol

There is an easy 3-step process to follow when enrolling at EIT.

Step 1

Check out eit.ac.nz to see the programmes available for you to study. A copy of the course information for each programme is available on our website.

Step 2

You can now use your RealMe verified identity to apply for study at EIT. If you use your RealMe verified identity you will no longer be sent a copy of your application form to sign. You also will not need to provide us with a copy of your primary ID.

If you apply online without using RealMe then you will be sent a summary of your enrolment to check and sign. It will also include course selection forms which you need to complete and return. Your enrolment cannot progress until you have sent the summary and forms back to us.

You can also apply using a paper enrolment form. Please call us on 0800 22 55 348 and we will send you one.

You will receive an acceptance letter from your Faculty with programme information. This will include the start date of your study and any special information regarding your programme. Depending on your chosen programme of study, you may be invited to attend an interview before you are accepted.

Step 3

Arrangement for full payment of enrolment fees must be made before the start of your programme. You will receive an invoice with payment details.

Fees Free Government Scheme: Tertiary education is fees-free for eligible domestic tertiary students. To check if you are eligible, go to FeesFree.govt.nz and enter your National Student Number (NSN). If you are not eligible you will be responsible for paying your fees.

Scholarships and Grants: Scholarships and grants make life easier by helping to cover your fees, other costs and living expenses while you study. You don't always need to be an academic high-flyer to qualify. You can find out more about scholarships and other options for paying your fees at eit.ac.nz.

StudyLink: If you need to pay for your own study you can choose to apply for your Student Loan and Student Allowance with StudyLink. You should do this early, even if you haven't yet been accepted on your programme. You can change your details later if anything changes. Visit studylink.govt.nz to find out more about StudyLink.

Student Services Levy

The student services levy is a compulsory non-tuition fee that is charged to students enrolled at EIT. The levy is to contribute to the provision of quality student services that support learning. The funds received by EIT from the levy are ring-fenced, meaning they can only be spent on student services.

Student Loans and Allowances

StudyLink is a service of the Ministry of Social Development. Apply well before your programme begins (even if you haven't been accepted yet) so you'll be ready to get your payments when you need them most.

Check out what you qualify for at studylink.govt.nz.



DISCLAIMER:

All information in this publication pertains to New Zealand Citizens or Permanent Residents, and is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change. EIT is a Business Division of Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology. EIT reserves the right to amend/withdraw programmes or courses. Fees for 2025 will be set by November 2024 and are subject to change.

For the latest information, or for full programme entry requirements visit eit.ac.nz or phone 0800 22 55 348.