



New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture (General) (Level 3)



Domestic Fees

Fees Free



Intakes

22/07/2026



Campus

New Plymouth



Duration

1 year part-time



witt.ac.nz



New Zealand Certificate in Horticulture (General) (Level 3)

On this fees-free programme gain theoretical knowledge of plant and soils science and learn the science behind growing systems and environments. Use your new horticulture knowledge to gain a role working in nursery production, food production or parks and gardens.

You will learn how to:

- apply knowledge of plant and soils science to the identification, selection, and growing of plants.
- apply knowledge of growing systems and environments to the establishment and growing of plants.

Courses

CHG3.100

Introduction to Botany and Plant Nursery Production

This course introduces the basic theoretical knowledge of plant processes and nursery production including sexual and asexual propagation methods. Units 22178, 27707 and 27708.

CHG3.101

Introduction to Soil Science

This course aims to provide a basic understanding of New Zealand soil properties and sustainable soil management techniques. Units 22174, 22175 and 30257

CHG3.102

Introduction to Plant Protection

This course aims to provide a basic understanding of weeds, plant pests, diseases and disorders including methods of prevention and control. Units 27208 and

27210.

CHG3.103

Amenity Horticultural Practices

This course aims to provide a basic understanding of plant nomenclature and plant selection for landscaping and amenity situations. It also introduces the basic theoretical knowledge of pruning and training of amenity trees and shrubs. Units 829, 1672 and 1676.

Programme Specific Information

Intakes for 2026

24 February 2026 - Tuesday evenings from 6.00pm-9pm and 10 x Saturdays throughout the year for practical sessions

22 July 2026 - Every Wednesday from 9.00 am-2.30pm throughout the year

This programme is open entry

Graduates will benefit by having a breadth of horticulture knowledge and transferable skills valued by the horticulture community which will facilitate improved performance in the home garden, workplace and career progression, including to higher levels of study.

The horticulture sector will benefit from being able to recruit graduates who have an understanding of the underpinning science and growing practices used in a wide range of horticulture contexts.

Level 4 Scholarships available

We gratefully acknowledge the [Bashford-Nicholls Trust](#) for sponsoring ten scholarships for Primary Production (Level 4) students at WITT.

Employment/Cultural/Community Pathway

Graduates of this qualification may be employed or self-employed, and/or move flexibly between a range of horticultural enterprises.

This qualification will also be suitable for small block owners or for mature learners who wish to gain knowledge of horticultural science in a range of general horticulture growing systems and practices.

Further Study Options

This qualification may lead on to

- New Zealand Certificate in Organic Primary Production (Level 4)
- New Zealand Certificate in Conservation (Operations) (Level 4)