

Module Title:	Principles of Crop Production
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	5
NFQ Level:	6
Module Delivered In	4 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	Formal lectures will be complemented by practical field sessions that allows for a balance of theory and hands on learning activities. Classroom activities will focus on the production principles of various crops that are grown in Ireland. Visiting lecturers will be used where appropriate to enhance the learning experience of the students and expose them to new concepts in crop production. Learners will be brought to selected tillage and grassland farms in the South East to discuss the management concepts for crop production.
Module Aim:	This module aims to introduce students to crop production in Ireland and the various challenges faced by the sector. Students will learn about the principles that underpin all types of crop production, ensuring that an environmentally sustainable system of crop production can be achieved at farm level
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Knowledge of the crops that are commonly grown in Ireland
LO2	Understanding of the basic principles that underpin all forms of sustainable crop production
LO3	The influence of environmental factors on crop production
LO4	The application of crop management principles to pasture land
Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules <i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content

The arable sector in Ireland

An introduction to the arable sector including crops grown, area sown, end uses etc.

The cereals industry in Ireland

Where our crops grow. What they are used for. Amounts produced.

Basic principles of crop production

The science behind how a crop grows. Photosynthesis, nutrient uptake, water requirements.

The influence of environmental factors on crop growth

How temperature, sunlight, water, soil characteristics effect crop growth

Assessment Breakdown

	%
Continuous Assessment	50.00%
End of Module Formal Examination	50.00%

Continuous Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Practical/Skills Evaluation	Identification of crops of agricultural importance.	1,2	5.00	n/a
Multiple Choice Questions	A MCQ exam will take place covering the theory of crop production	2,3,4	5.00	n/a
Project	Students will complete a literature review assessment on the basic production principles of a crop of their choosing.	2,3,4	20.00	n/a
Written Report	Students will submit written reports of practical site visits.	1,2	20.00	n/a

No Project

No Practical

End of Module Formal Examination

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Formal Exam	An end of year exam will take place covering aspects of crop production delivered	1,2,3,4	50.00	End-of-Semester

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	Every Week	2.00
Practicals	Every Week	1.00
Independent Learning Time	Every Week	3.00
Total Hours		6.00

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_EFARG_B	Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Agricultural Systems Engineering	1	Mandatory
CW_EFARG_D	Bachelor of Engineering in Agricultural Systems Engineering	1	Mandatory
CW_SWSFM_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	1	Mandatory
CW_SWSFM_D	Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	1	Mandatory