

Module Title:	Integrated Farm Management
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	10
NFQ Level:	8
Module Delivered In	No Programmes
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	This module will be delivered using a learner-centred approach with a strong emphasis on the integrated farm management and systems approaches to agriculture. A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be used such as lectures, guest lecturers, group workshop, case-studies, group discussions and group activities, site visits and classroom assessment techniques. Where possible students will have the opportunity to visit sites operating differing systems or changing from one system to the next e.g. from conventional to organic. A responsibility for learning will be fostered in the learners. To develop confidence, class participation will be encouraged and collaborative work will be instrumental in nurturing team building amongst the group.
Module Aim:	This module will explore the need a systems type approach in agriculture allowing students to critically evaluate how management practices within the system can be optimised to deliver an acceptable return on investment from the market place. As well as within system evaluation, students will learn how to compare and contrast different systems of production the impact of system change on the economics and environmental impact of the business.
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Investigate the cross-over between traditional farming methods and modern techniques nationally and internationally. Paying particular attention to applicability to Irish agriculture
LO2	Appraise the role and effectiveness of precision technology to advance farm management
LO3	Critically evaluate the principles of conservation agriculture
LO4	Critically assess farm systems both within system and across systems and management practices that maximise return on investment.
LO5	Be capable of applying an integrated farm management approach to farm businesses.
LO6	Be able to apply high ethical standards in farm practice including public perception to modern farm practice. Students should be able to communicate the benefits of these practices to the public
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

Minimum Tillage Agriculture

Critically evaluate the environmental and economic and resource impact of minimum tillage agriculture.

Conservation Agriculture

• Investigate and apply the principles of conservation agriculture • Examine and communicate the principles of conversion from conventional agriculture

Precision Farming

• Evaluate the effectiveness of evolving technologies in precision farming and their application including prescriptive planting • Examine and communicate the principles of conversion from conventional agriculture to conservation agriculture and organic farming.

Organic Farming

• Examine the practices of organic farming as an alternative to conventional farming. • Examine and communicate the principles of conversion from conventional agriculture to conservation agriculture and organic farming.

Assessment Breakdown

%

Continuous Assessment

100.00%

Continuous Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Other	In-Class Assessment: Learners will be given an in-class assessment based on Learning outcomes 4 and 5	4,5	25.00	n/a
Performance Evaluation	Research Report and Presentation: Learners will be required to find appropriate source material in order to compose a research report. Learners are required to present the findings of their research report in a presentation to the rest of their class.	2,6	25.00	n/a
Performance Evaluation	Research Report and Presentation: Learners will be required to find appropriate source material in order to compose a research report. Learners are required to present the findings of their research report in a presentation to the rest of their class.	1,6	25.00	n/a
Performance Evaluation	Research Report and Presentation: Learners will be required to find appropriate source material in order to compose a research report. Learners are required to present the findings of their research report in a presentation to the rest of their class.	3,6	25.00	n/a

No Project

No Practical

No End of Module Formal Examination

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	30 Weeks per Stage	2.00
Practicals	30 Weeks per Stage	1.00
Independent Learning	30 Weeks per Stage	3.67
Total Hours		200.00

