

National Diploma Plant Production

SAQA ID 49010

STUDY PROSPECTUS
2021/2022

COURSE OVERVIEW

National Diploma: Plant Production, NQF 5, SAQA ID 49010

The National Diploma in Plant Production is an academic online programme supported by practical hands-on modules, developed for the Namibian and broader southern African Agricultural Industry. The qualification focuses on operational agronomics and crop production skills within the framework of the sciences of chemistry and physics, plant biology, business numeracy, and communication.

This two-year National Diploma in Plant Production will enable qualifying students to actively participate in primary crop production, whilst enhancing the overall agrarian process and gaining opportunities to access local, national and international agricultural markets. Competency will be obtained in specialised sub-fields of Crop Production, depending the client's specific requirements (i.e., dry land crops, vegetable crops and irrigated crop production) with a strong focus on management and technical knowledge.

On completion, students will be well positioned to extend learning and practice into other sub-fields such as Animal Production, Mixed Farming and Farm Management.

WHAT YOU STUDY

First Year modules

1. Communication in the workplace
2. Biometry
3. Agricultural management I
4. Plant Biology
5. Chemistry and Physics

Second Year modules

1. Agricultural management II
2. Agronomic systems
3. Permaculture systems
4. Irrigation

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum admission requirements will be required to enter for the National Diploma:

- Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate, or National Certificate (Vocational) that allows entrance to Diploma or Higher Certificate studies
- English tuition language with a minimum achievement level 3 (40%)

- Mathematical Literacy with a minimum achievement level 4 (50%), or
- Mathematics with a minimum achievement level 2 (30%)

CURRICULUM LAYOUT (3rd Tab)

First Year:

Communication

- Sustained oral Communication
- Evaluation text and verbal speech
- Communication and language in occupational programmes
- Written text in communicative context
- Research methodology and writing of Academic Assignments

Biometry

- Introduction to Biometry
- Graphical methods of data description
- Numerical methods of data description
- Statistical probabilities
- Hypothesis testing and confidence intervals
- Analysis of variance
- Solve problems in sequences and series and simulated situations
- Patterns and Inverses of function
- Complex numbers in non-trivial situations

Agricultural Management I

- Agricultural Economics I
- Introduction to farm management
- Management of Natural and Sustainable Resources
- Financial management in the Agri-business
- Food Safety and Quality Management Systems
- Human Resource Management

Plant Biology

- Plant Anatomy
- Plant Physiology

Chemistry and Physics

- Introduction to Chemistry
- Chemical and Physical changes

- Physical changes and how to distinguish them
- Unpacking Chemical Elements
- How to view the periodic table
- Formulas and how to read and write them
- Soil physics, chemistry and biochemistry
- Biochemistry of feeds and feed products
- Water chemistry, properties and quality

Second Year:

Agricultural Management II

- Agricultural Economics II
- Strategic and Operational Planning and Execution
- Commercial Farm Planning
- Marketing
- Production management
- Analyse production system and financial reports

Agronomic systems

- Geology and soil sciences
- Soil systems and classification
- Plant propagation and manipulation
- Weed and pest management and control
- Crop harvesting
- Effective management of agro-chemicals
- Irrigation systems and management
- Horticulture
 - o Dry land grain production
 - o Irrigated grain production
 - o Cultivated pastures
 - o Vegetable production
 - o Tropical and sub-tropical Fruit and Nut production
 - o Permaculture and Hydroponics

SKILLS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

You will develop, over the tenure of your studies, a critical understanding of agriculture in Africa in the modern era and working in a global economy. You will gain practical and relevant skills that will enable you to work in the agronomy and horticulture production sectors in Namibia and broader southern Africa.



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All course content is based and supported by the latest industry developments, and these best practices will allow to you to participate meaningfully in primary crop production.

Graduates will be able to enter the primary agricultural workplace and establish a thriving career through hard work and commitment.

METHODOLOGY

The National Diploma in Plant Production is presented as an exciting e-learning programme. This is done through own studies, reading and the online submission of assignments.

This is a participatory learning programme, where the student will also be able to communicate with fellow students across the country via, Agri-social, our social media platform. This platform allows for questions to be discussed, and the opportunity to upload and share interesting articles, images, and videos.

Throughout the academic year, lecturers will be available on the Agri-social platform. They are also readily accessible via email, SMS, WhatsApp or direct telephonic contact.

Theoretical studies are completed through our online Agri-learn platform and the student is provided with a practical logbook to achieve practical competencies and experiences through the student's own workplace. Where needed, students will be assisted towards practical competence through our work placement programme.

ACADEMIC FEES

The following academic fees are applicable for 2021/2022.

Methods of payment:	Year 1 (2021): ND 23 400	Year 2 (2022): ND 23 400
At registration:	ND 1 950.00	ND 1 950.00
After registration: 50% deposit	ND 10 725.00	ND 10 725.00
At the start of the second term: (outstanding balance)	ND 10 725.00	ND 10 725.00



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ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT

If you are not in a financial position to pay the full quarterly amount, you may apply in writing for the payment of modules on a month-to-month basis. Please direct your application to: The Financial Director, info@agra.i3a.africa

WHY AGRA AGRICULTURAL ACADEMY?

- Courses are SAQA accredited
- World class lectures and affiliated academics
- Custom-designed online Agricultural Campus that includes e-learning modules and an online encyclopaedia for lifelong support

TO FIND OUT MORE

Email: info@agra.i3a.africa

www.agra.i3a.africa

Tel: +264 61 290 9208

WhatsApp: +264 81 846 7632

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