

0171-510– Level 3 in Agriculture – Theory Exam (2)

March 2024

Examiner Report

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Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner, it is designed to be used as a feedback tool for centres to use in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document be referred to when preparing to teach and then again when candidates are preparing to sit examinations for City & Guilds Technical qualifications.

This report provides general commentary on candidate performance and highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat the **March 2024** examination series. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose, whether it was caused by a lack of knowledge, incorrect examination technique or responses that failed to demonstrate the required depth of understanding.

The document provides commentary on the following assessment;
0171-510 Level 3 in Agriculture – Theory Exam (2).

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade Boundaries and distribution

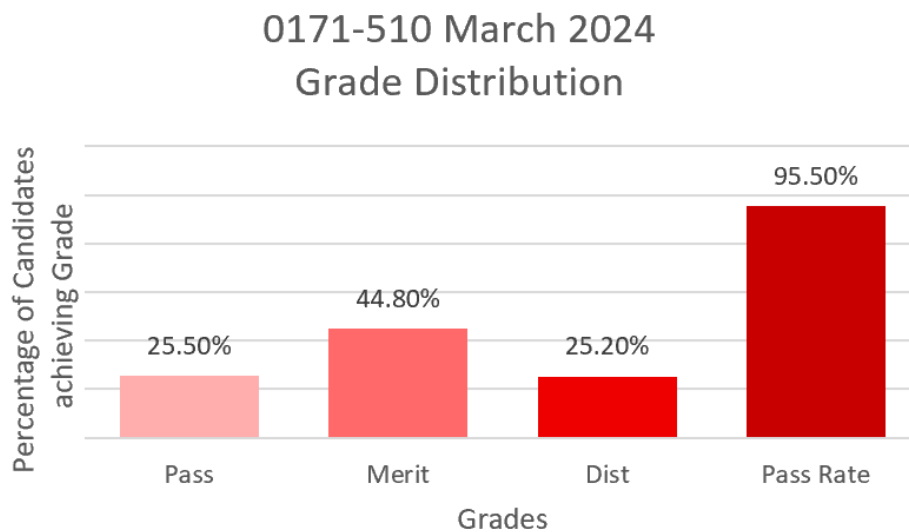
Assessment: **0171-510**

Series: **March 2024**

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel:

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	28
Merit mark	36
Distinction mark	44

The graph below shows the approximate distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment:



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 0171-510

Series 1 (March)

Overall, a well answered paper, with a wide spread of marks. There was a range of question types at the correct level for the candidates and the paper was comparable to previous series'. As seen last year, science and animal health questions presented more of a challenge to candidates. Questions related to machinery were answered better than the previous year.

The AO2 questions identified the more able and those who did not fully answer the question lost marks. The candidates who achieved higher marks were able to demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge, backed up by relevant examples and including explanation and justification where needed.

Overall, candidates showed strength in:

- RFTL/ATVs (Unit 335)
- Organic waste (Unit 316)
- Lambing (Unit 334)
- Reproductive systems (Unit 334)

Candidates require further support in:

- Administering medication (Unit 313)
- NVZ legislation (Unit 316)
- Central nervous system (Unit 313)

The Extended Response Question gave candidates the opportunity to demonstrate their grasp of the qualification and knowledge of agriculture and livestock in general. Candidates were asked to discuss ways to improve the performance of the livestock enterprises on the farm through advanced health and breeding technologies. Some very good and extensive answers were provided, however, many gave detailed information on breeding technologies but then did not include any information on advanced health technology, or vice versa. Candidates in the upper bands produced coherent and well-structured answers with excellent knowledge and discussion of the challenges and solutions with relevant technical language.

Candidates need to continue to practice answering the Extended Response Question to ensure accurate planning and to include sufficient detail in their answers. This will help the candidates to use their time more effectively. Candidates should also check over their answers before handing in their scripts.

Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' which can be accessed here:

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/agriculture/0171-technical-in-agriculture-and-landbased-engineering#tab=information>