

HORTICULTURE

(ARBORICULTURE, FLORICULTURE, PARKS & GARDENS, LANDSCAPE, NURSERY & TURF MANAGEMENT)

Horticultural workers are those involved in the many aspects of maintaining plants and planted areas, constructing horticultural features, and applying treatments to enhance plant growth and control pests.

Typical Duties:

- Prepare fields, garden beds or lawn areas by cultivating soil and adding fertilisers and compost
- Plant and transplant flowers, shrubs, trees and lawns
- Maintain gardens by weeding, watering, fertilising and trimming
- Prune trees and hedges
- Thin out, weed, hoe, irrigate and fertilise crops
- Maintain lawn and grass areas using machinery, fertilisers and chemicals
- Use growth regulators and other chemicals
- Identify and correct soil deficiencies
- Identify and treat pests and diseases on plants
- Read landscape plans and construct rockeries, paths or ponds
- Operate and install irrigation and drainage systems

Horticultural workers work outdoors much of the time and in all kinds of weather. Some of the work is physically demanding as it involves bending, lifting and handling machinery such as tractors, rollers and edging machines.

Ideal Personal Requirements to gain an Apprenticeship:

- Ability to undertake manual and heavy work
- Ability to work for long hours
- Ability to work outdoors in varied weather conditions
- Unaffected by allergies to chemicals and plants
- Entry requirements may vary but, generally, you need at least the successful completion of Year 10
- Having completed some work experience or study (VET/pre-apprenticeship program) in this industry is highly recommended

Education and Training to become qualified:

- Complete a 4year apprenticeship
- Trade school training is 'off the job' at a Trade training facility

