

Organisations in Clare who have advertised horticulture related vacancies in the past include ...

Public

Clare County Council

Office of Public Works

FAS - CE Schemes

Self Employment is also a common option in this industry

Private

Golf Clubs

Landscapers

Garden Centre/ Nurseries

Some Useful Contacts

Horticulture Jobs

www.jobsinhorticulture.ie

Teagasc

www.teagasc.ie

(Paul Mullins is the Teagasc Education Officer for Clare/ Galway—
065 6828676)

Coillte

www.coillte.ie

Irish Organic Farmers & Growers Association www.iofga.org

National Organic Training Skillnet www.nots.ie

Bord Bia www.bordbia.ie

College of Amenity Horticulture www.teagasc.ie/botanicgardens

Irish Landscape Institute www.irishlandscapeinstitute.com

Garden and Landscape Designers Association <http://www.glda.ie/>

Clare Adult Guidance and Information Service

Adult Education Centre, Ennis

TEL: 065 6897617 www.clareguidance.ie

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Horticulture

Horticulture is the art and science of the cultivation of plants. Horticulturalists work and conduct research in the fields of plant propagation and cultivation, crop production, plant breeding and plant physiology.

Horticultural activity is broadly divided into 2 types : Amenity and Commercial



In common with many other countries there has been a decrease in the number of people in Ireland working on the land in recent years. This trend is expected to continue even after the current recession ends. There are over 10,000 people employed in the horticulture industry in Ireland currently. (FAS National Skills Database Jan 2011).

Some positives of a job in horticulture include outdoor work, varied and fulfilling work, good advancement opportunities and some areas can be quite financially rewarding.

Negatives to this job might be physically demanding work and having to work in all weathers, a lot of the work can be seasonal and returns can be weather dependent. Salaries starting out can be low and recent labour market reports indicate that the numbers of people employed in horticulture and agriculture have been decreasing for some time now.

Jobs in Horticulture

Horticultural Worker: Helps in the cultivation of plants and trees for commercial or amenity use. May work outdoors or in a controlled environment preparing soil beds, sowing seeds and planting grafts. Also involved in daily tasks such as mowing lawns, watering, pruning, clearing and staking plants. No formal qualifications are required though a FETAC certificate at Level 4/5 in Horticulture would be an advantage.

Landscape Gardener: A landscape gardener develops and maintains parks, gardens, sports or leisure centre grounds and other outdoor areas, including business parks and industrial estates. Often creates or renovates garden space according to an existing design or plan. May

specialise in creating and designing features and incorporating them into the garden .

Green Keeper/ Grounds Keeper: Cares for outdoor sports pitches and arenas like golf courses and tennis courts. The job involves using powered equipment.

Other jobs with a horticultural element include **horticultural manager, florist, organic farmer, garden centre employee, forester** and **agri-business** and **agri-tourism**.

Wages and salaries can vary in this area from CE scheme rates to minimum wage up to €25k per year dependent on qualifications and experience (www.careerdirections.ie). See <http://www.jobsinhorticulture.ie/>

LOCAL COURSES IN HORTICULTURE- FURTHER EDUCATION

Course Title	Provider	Qualification	Duration
Horticulture	Limerick and Clare ETB B.T.E.I. (countywide)	QQI Level 3/4/5	Varies
Horticulture	C.L.D..C. (courses running in various locations for example Miltown Malbay... participants should be unemployed and ideally aged 18-	QQI level 5	Contact the office.
Horticulture/ Agriculture for part time farmers	Teagasc, Ennis	QQI level 6	2/3 years (restricted to part time farmers)
Organic Growing & Sustainable Living Skills Organic- Enterprise	Organic College, Drumcollogher, Co. Limerick (distance learning option also available)	QQI Level 5 QQI Level 6	1 year full time (level 5) + 1 extra year if you wish to do the level 6 course.
Horticulture	Galway Community College	QQI Level 5	1 year full time

Progression Options—Higher Education Courses in Horticulture and Related Areas

Course Title	Provider	Qualification	Duration
Horticulture *	Cork IT (also runs in other I.T.s including Waterford, Blanchardstown and DCU)	Ordinary Degree—Level 7	3 years
Rural Enterprise & Agri-business	GMIT	Ordinary Degree—Level 7	3 years
Agriculture	Cork IT (also runs in Waterford IT and Dundalk IT)	Higher Certificate—Level 6 Ordinary Degree—Level 7	2 years 3 years
Horticulture, Landscape & Sports Turf Management	U.C.D.	Honours Degree—Level 8	4 years
Food & Agribusiness Management	U.C.D.	Honours Degree—Level 8	4 years

*Students who achieve a Merit or Distinction in a FETAC level 5 or 6 course in Horticulture at a Teagasc college can apply for a transfer into Year 2 of the BSc in Horticulture at W.I.T..

Skills and Qualities Needed

Enjoy working outside

Good Attention to Detail

Enjoy physical work

Full Driving Licence

Interest in plants

Good numeracy skills

Its very useful to have some

Need to be in good health and physical-