

BASiS



BASIS Information Booklet / 2017

BASIS Training and Certification has been an industry standard for almost 40 years. In that time the BASIS certificate became a statutory requirement for sellers, suppliers and advisers and has been retained in the Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012.

More recently we have added a number of courses and training programmes which allow practising agronomists to build their knowledge and skills whilst working towards a recognised (level 6) qualification

BASIS courses are accredited through Harper Adams University and build towards the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy and ultimately the Harper Adams Diploma with Environmental Management at Honours degree level. This is quite an achievement for many agronomists and represents a lifetime academic achievement.

Successful candidates can graduate at a Harper Adams University Graduation Ceremony. Currently over 200 agronomists have achieved the BASIS Diploma and are eligible to go on to gain the Harper Adams University Diploma if they take a further Advanced Module/Certificate.

New courses are being developed in line with industry innovation, to enable a wider range of skills and agronomy expertise to be recognised and contribute towards this higher level qualification.

Good luck to all those embarking on new course(s) of study.



Stephen Jacob
Chief Executive Officer

Grassland & Forage Crops

Grassland and Forage includes short, medium and long term leys, permanent pasture and various crops grown for forage, including maize, peas, vetches, forage brassicas and cereals grown for silage. The above crops will be used as examples with which to put across the basic principles of crop protection. Course duration is up to 15 days and may be run as either day release or in blocks of a week at a time; you will need to contact the trainer of your choice for details. Vertebrate pest control is covered in the Grassland & Forage Crops Syllabus and therefore anyone holding the FSTS Grassland & Forage Crops Certificate does not require further certification in Aluminium Phosphide.

Floriculture

The BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection – Floriculture is seen as including cut flowers, flowering pot plants and bedding plants. Growing situations include under glass, under plastic, other forms of protected cropping, as well as outdoor flower production. The following crops will be used to illustrate the basic principles of crop protection in flower production: roses, carnations, chrysanthemums, lilies, alstroemeria, flowering pot plants (poinsettia, chrysanthemum) narcissus (including bulbs) and tulip. There are a number of other flower types which may be grown and the syllabus does not exclude any which are not specifically listed. Courses may be run as either day release or in blocks of a week at a time; you will need to contact the trainer of your choice for details. Course duration is up to 15 days, but will depend on the knowledge and experience of the candidates.

Seed Sellers

The BASIS Seed Sellers Certificate is designed for those who sell treated seed. The course covers the knowledge required for those who interface with farmers and / or seed buying contracts, to be competent and confident in advising seed treatments for different crops and seed varieties.

The course will suit those already selling seed and those who intend to sell seed providing they have prior knowledge of farming practices. The course, and the ensuing certificate, do not qualify the candidate to give the full in-field crop protection advice needed once treated seed is sown. The syllabus does however cover knowledge of the principles of other parts of a full crop protection programme. Course duration is 3 days including the examination. The seed sellers certification also covers sellers of treated seed.

Aluminium Phosphide

The BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (Aluminium Phosphide for Vertebrate control) is intended for those who will only sell, and/or give advice, on the use of Aluminium Phosphide (for the control of vertebrate pests).

It does not cover sales of, or advice regarding, pesticides used in growing crops. Anyone who will sell or advise on pesticides used on growing crops must obtain the broader BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection (Agriculture, Commercial Horticulture or Vegetables). Vertebrate pest control is covered in the Grassland & Forage Crops Syllabus and therefore anyone holding the FSTS Grassland & Forage Crops Certificate does not require further certification in Aluminium Phosphide.

Barrie Orme Shield

Following the retirement of our founding Chief Executive, Barrie Orme, an award was inaugurated for outstanding candidates in examinations for the BASIS Certificates in Crop Protection. Examiners are asked to choose one candidate from each examination to be entered into a final selection process for the Barrie Orme Shield each year.

There is a presentation of this award every year.



Paul Singleton Award

The Paul Singleton Project of the Year Award was introduced in 2015 to recognise the outstanding input that many candidates apply to their project, which is a fundamental element of the Certificate in Crop Protection. The project requires significant crop protection content, personal practical involvement and original **research**.

The top 10 highest scoring projects are chosen to be entered into a final selection process for the Paul Singleton project award each year.

Advanced Crop Modules

The Advanced Crop Modules are awarded after the successful completion of an examination, following a short training programme, to holders of the BASIS Crop Protection Certificate. All candidates can either use these modules for updating or as part of the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy. Individual modules attract 30 CPD points for the training content, for members of the BASIS Professional Register. This course aims to identify candidates who have sound practical experience in crop protection, who are sufficiently skilled and have a desire to progress within the industry. The individual modules may be used for updating purposes or for staff moving into a new area who are faced with crops not previously experienced.

BASIS offers advanced training in the following disciplines:

Cereals

Optimising cereal yields and achieving market requirements for grain quality increasingly demands close attention to the detail of crop management.

The Cereals module will develop a detailed understanding of the requirements for improving crop management and profitable grain production. Decision-making will be stressed in the participative training for improving, in particular, cereal crop protection. To allow crop study at different times during the growing season, the module will be split into three 2-day sessions taking place in autumn, spring and summer.

Field Vegetable Crops

This module deals with the production of what are potentially high output crops, grown in rotation with the more widespread arable crops of Britain. Demand for the produce is volatile and the quality standards imposed by the market, and by statutory bodies, are very stringent.

Crop protection of vegetable crops is beset by many problems. Complicated cropping patterns require close integration of crop protection measures with all other agronomic production techniques. The total area of each crop is small, relative to other arable crops, so that there are comparatively few agrochemicals registered solely for each one. Residue levels have to conform to very tight limits and the need to store a high proportion of output adds another dimension to producers' problems.

The module deals with the problems and possibilities of growing a range of vegetable crops and integrating into a mixed crop rotation. It will give participants a good grounding in the growing, harvesting and storage programmes involved in this complicated, continually changing business.

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Advanced Crop Courses

Nursery Stock

Quality plant material is the hallmark of a successful nursery stock industry. The recognition of factors affecting quality in both containerised and field grown nursery stock is essential in this rapidly expanding industry. Knowledge of production cycles, domestic and European trends in the industry and marketing strategies are key areas of knowledge needed by advisers to be effective in this specialised crop production system. Comprehensive, up-to-date information on all aspects of nursery stock production will ensure the industry continues to develop, expand and compete successfully with our European competitors.

Potatoes

This module is aimed to give a detailed insight into the husbandry and marketing of potato crops grown in the UK. The potato crop market will be discussed in the context of seed, ware, earlies and processing, within a UK, EU and world context. The growth, crop protection, fertiliser requirements, selection of seed, establishment, harvest and storage methods will be discussed and reviewed in detail. The module will be of particular benefit to those advisers and representatives who wish to improve their in-depth knowledge of the potato crop.

Protected Crops

Participants will be updated in modern Protected Crop production techniques, with particular emphasis on crop nutrition, environmental control and integrated pest management.

Through individual project work, specifically selected visits and varied teaching techniques, the successful participants will be better equipped to effectively advise growers on appropriate and cost effective control measures for protected crop problems.

Sugar Beet

Over the past few years there have been major advances in sugar beet production and yields continue to increase. Not only do we see changes in the armoury of chemicals available to assist in crop protection but we also see new techniques develop for growing the crop. This module aims not only to offer a chemical update for those giving advice and making recommendations for sugar beet growers but it also aims to give a clear picture of the techniques involved in the production of a modern sugar beet crop. As a result of studying this module it is intended that the participant will have developed a detailed understanding of all aspects of the sugar beet crop including financial details and marketing.

Seeds and Traits

The BASIS Seed and Traits course is aimed at candidates who have a practical experience in the crop protection industry as well as seed production, crop nutrition and environmental awareness. This Module will be suitable for candidates who may want to develop or update their knowledge of seed production and technology or because they want to move into this industry for the first time.

This course will be launched in Autumn 2017.

BASIS Professional Register & FACTS Subscriber

BASIS Professional Register



Entry Qualifications

The Register is open to all qualified individuals who either provide advice on pesticide and fertiliser use or provide a support service to such use. Those providing advice to end users (practitioners) are entitled to be full members of the BASIS Professional Register. Those providing support services will normally be entitled to become Associate Members.

Individuals will be accepted for membership of the Register subject to complying with the following conditions:

All potential members will be required to complete an application for membership indicating their qualification, category and details of involvement within the industry, within 3 years of obtaining the relevant qualification. Potential members wishing to rejoin the Professional Register within 3 years following qualification or after less than 3 years absence will be admitted to the BASIS Professional Register only with the approval of the BASIS Professional Matters Committee.

All BASIS and FACTS certificates of competence and Validated Certificates relating to sales and advice are recognised for entry to the BASIS Professional Register as a full member.

The categories of entry relevant to the BASIS Professional Register are as follows. These will be indicated in brackets after the designatory letters MBPR (see point 6 overleaf).

Agriculture	(Agric.)
Commercial Horticulture	(Hort.)
Field Vegetables	(Veg.)
Grassland & Forage Crops	(GFC)
Potatoes	(Potatoes)
Amenity Horticulture	(Amenity)
Forestry	(Forestry)
Aquatic	(Aquatic)
Seed Treatment	(Seed)
Seed Sellers	(Seed)
Fertiliser	(Fert.)
Indoor Landscaping	(Ind.Land.)
Mushrooms	(Mush.)
Floriculture	(Flor.)
Farmer	(Fmr.)
Associate	(Assoc.)
Grower	(Grw.)

Those with Stored Potato Crops, Stored Combinable Crops or the BASIS Foundation Awards will be added to the BASIS Professional Register as an Associate Member, along with Farmers and Growers.

FACTS Subscriber

The FACTS Subscriber Scheme is a technical update service for anyone who holds a FACTS qualification. The Scheme is independent and non-statutory. It is recognised by the Fertiliser Industry, Defra and the Environment Agency as a successful means of setting standards, training and accrediting the continuing professional development (CPD) of those providing nutrient management advice.

FACTS Qualified Adviser (FQA) status is only given to FACTS qualifiers who are up to date members of the Professional Register and have completed, or are within the deadline to complete, the Nutrient Management Planning training course and Online Assessment. All FQAs will have a Certificate clearly displaying this status. FQAs receive the technical updates also available to FACTS Subscribers.

BASIS Diploma in Agronomy

The BASIS Diploma in Agronomy

In-field advisers who have kept up-to-date with all the aspects of modern farming, need to be recognised as professional practitioners. Many agronomists do not necessarily have a degree or HND qualification but their experience and knowledge acquired through regular “on the job” training has given them an equivalent knowledge base. BASIS has structured the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy to include key components of day to day farm management practice, as qualification modules, leading to the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy.

The Components

Crop Protection Certificate and FACTS

The BASIS Crop Protection Certificate and BASIS FACTS qualifications are the foundation stones of the Diploma and each must be attained to achieve it.

BETA / Conservation Management

Knowledge of the environment and biodiversity is essential for proper agronomic decisions. The BETA qualification or the Conservation Management certificate are ideally suited to those managing farms, both directly and indirectly as land agents or management consultants. Anyone involved in Estate Management on a broader scale would also benefit from these courses.

Plant Protection Award (PPA)

The safety, application, formulation and effects of pesticides are contained in the Plant Protection Award training. It is the “Pesticide Technology” qualification and looks at the role of pesticides in modern society, as a key component of safe food production.

Soil and Water Management Certificate

Cross Compliance, changes to the agri-environment schemes, Entry and Higher Level Schemes all place high importance on the proper management of Soil & Water. This qualification helps meet the requirements placed on farmers and many believe that water quality will be a key future issue in the agricultural environment debate.

Advanced Module / Advanced Nutrient Management Planning Module / Waste to Land

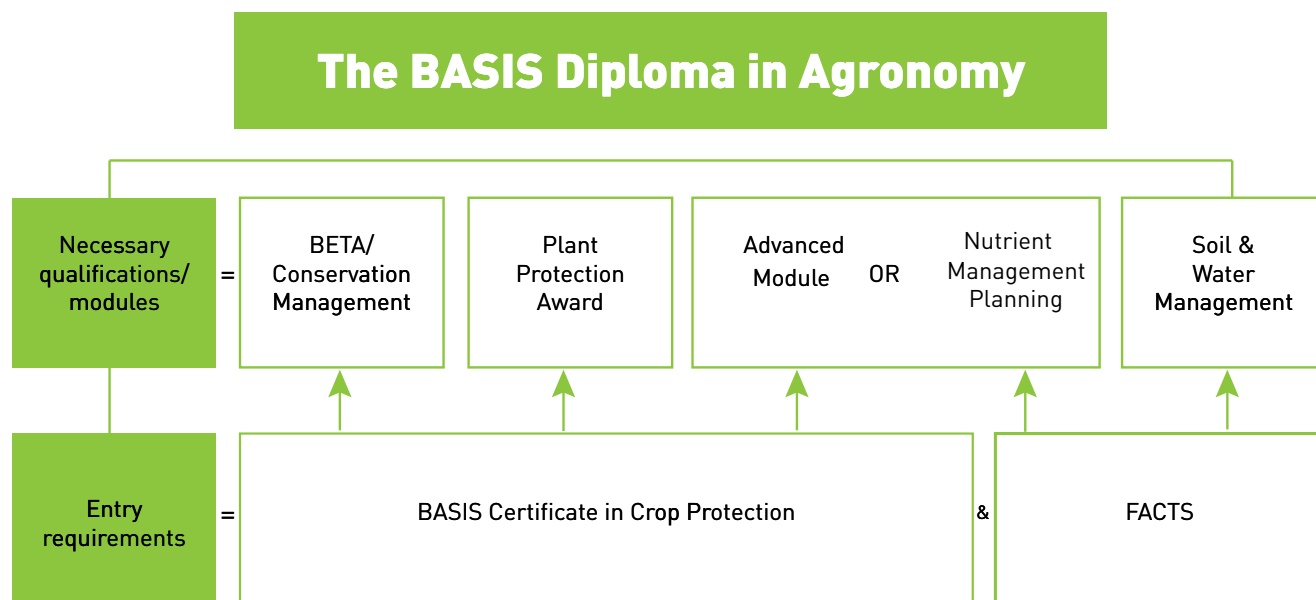
This module is based on a crop, or crops, in which the agronomist has, or develops, specialist knowledge. The weed, pest and disease control options along with marketing, food industry, environmental and crop assurance issues are the essential elements of this training. **For the Advanced Nutrient Management Planning Course and Waste to Land Course the prior achievement of the FACTS qualification is required.**

The Diploma

Once agronomists have attained all the component elements listed above then they qualify for the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy,

The first agronomists to qualify were presented with their certificates in April 2005. Many more agronomists are aiming to achieve the Diploma and are currently undergoing training to qualify in the appropriate modules.

BASIS Diploma in Agronomy



ADVANCED MODULE / NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING / WASTE TO LAND

Weed, Pest & Disease Control, Crop Protection Programmes, Marketing, Food Industries, Crop Assurance, Nutrient Management

BETA / CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

Environment, Biodiversity, EIS's, CPMP's, ICM, Climate Change

PLANT PROTECTION AWARD (PPA)

Systems & Society, Formulation, Mode of Action, Application, Health & Safety

SOIL & WATER MANAGEMENT

Cultivation Types and Properties, Cropping Systems, Water Quality, Drainage, Pollution/Waste, Plant Nutrition

It is strongly recommended that candidates should have had at least two years' experience of on-farm practical agronomy before attempting any of the modules which contribute towards the BASIS Diploma in Agronomy, but in particular before taking the Plant Protection Award.

BASIS CPD points are available for training and certification in all modules of the BASIS Diploma.

The accreditation process for our qualifications has enabled BASIS to demonstrate a high standard of training and certification for our courses. The BASIS Diploma comprises a number of modules and 6 are required to complete the qualification.

A further consequence of accreditation by Harper Adams University and the Higher Education qualifications framework has been the development by Harper Adams University of a Graduate Diploma in Agronomy with Environmental Management.

BASIS Diploma

This is a 120 credit graduate level qualification.

BASIS courses have all been awarded a number of credits based on the time spent on the course (Targeted Learning Hours). This is a recognised formula including face to face tuition time, research, reading and experiential learning. The credits are awarded at a level that reflects the intensity / difficulty of the learning materials, for example 1st, 2nd or final year honours degree etc.

The qualifying BASIS courses with credits and levels awarded are shown below:

FACTS

Credit Value	15
Level	Intermediate

SOIL & WATER

Credit Value	15
Level	Honours

BASIS CROP PROTECTION

Credit Value	30
Level	Honours

BASIS PLANT PROTECTION AWARD

Credit Value	15
Level	Honours

BASIS ADVANCED MODULES / NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Credit Value	15
Level	Honours

BETA / CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

Credit Value	15
Level	Intermediate

Intermediate = 2nd or 3rd year of university degree qualification.

Honours level = Final year university degree.

The six modules required for the BASIS Diploma add up to 105 credits. In order to qualify for the Harper Adams University Graduate Diploma in Agronomy with Environmental Management, candidates will need to accumulate 120 credits (ie one extra 15 credit module in addition to the BASIS Diploma). This can be any of the Advanced Crop Modules or the Nutrient Management Planning qualification.

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Public Health and Pest Control Courses



Wildlife Aware

The Wildlife Aware training course is provided by the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) in collaboration with BASIS. The Wildlife Aware course will explore the conflicting requirements for rodenticides. The course is NOT intended to train candidates on basic rodent control. The course will increase understanding of current levels of wildlife contamination from rodenticides, explain the main primary and secondary routes of exposure of wildlife to rodenticides and alert competent professionals to the techniques that should be adopted to minimise wildlife exposure during rodent pest management in rural settings.

Wildlife Aware Accreditation

This accreditation is designed for professional pest controllers, local authorities, game-rearing enterprises and other businesses offering a commercial service of rodent pest management in the rural sector. This accreditation is intended to signal to prospective customers that those who hold the accreditation will work to the highest standards to achieve effective pest control with minimum adverse effects on wildlife and the wider environment. Accredited technicians will be able to use the licensed Wildlife Aware logo as a visual representation of their skill and increased competence should be adopted to minimise wildlife exposure during rodent pest management in rural settings. **The Wildlife Aware Accreditation is offered to all those who attend the course and pass the examination.**

Rat Control for Gamekeepers

The training provided by this course gives thorough understanding of rodent pests and their management in the context of gamekeeping operations. As a subsidiary aim, the course also provides training for those who conduct rodent pest management operations in and around farmsteads.

Principles of Rodent Control

The 'Killgerm Principles of Rodent Control' certification is approved certification in line with the requirements of the UK Rodenticide Stewardship Regime. The training provided by this course gives thorough understanding of rodent pests and their management in the context of public health pest control operations.

The logo for the PROMPT Register. It consists of the word 'PROMPT' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, with a registered trademark symbol (®) to its upper right. Below 'PROMPT' is the word 'Register' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a solid blue rectangular background.

The successful Principles of Rodent Control candidates get added automatically to the BASIS PROMPT Register.

The BASIS PROMPT Pest Controllers register is an industry initiative which provides independent proof that a pest controller has received proper training and continues to update their expertise.

PROMPT ensures that pest control is carried out responsibly by people who are properly trained and competent.

Using Rodenticides Safely

The 'BPCA Using Rodenticides Safely' gives thorough understanding of rodent pests and their management in the context of public health pest control operations. You can choose whether you would like to do this course online or classroom based.

Agri Awareness for the UAS Industry

This course is an introduction to basic aspects of the agricultural sector and is designed for professional operators of Unmanned Aerial Systems (drones).

The BASIS Agricultural Awareness for the UAS Industry module is a stand-alone course providing candidates with a level of understanding and knowledge appropriate for their work in the agricultural industry.

Who is this course for?

This course can also be completed by professionals who have occupations related to UAS operators (machinery manufacturer personnel; employees of sensors manufacturer and distributors; etc.) This qualification is essential to those who intend to join The BASIS® Professional Register for UAS Operators for the Agricultural Industry.



The BASIS® Professional Register for UAS Operators for agricultural industry is a voluntary register for Unmanned Aircraft Systems operators that work or have the intention to work within the Agricultural Industry.

This initiative will establish, develop and promote a standard of conduct within the members in order to ensure the safety, security and privacy of the operators, customers, bystanders and general public in the agro-environment and to prevent any risks of damaging crops, natural vegetation, fields, animals and structures present on farms and adjacent areas.

Nominated Storekeeper Training

Nominated Storekeeper

This course enables storekeepers to meet the standards of pesticide storage laid down in the 'Code of Practice for Suppliers of Pesticides to Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry': a requirement for companies storing professional pesticides. The BASIS Nominated Storekeeper (NSK) Certificate has been recognised by Ministers for many years as meeting the requirements of the regulations and industry best practice.

Who is this course for?

This course is for those Storekeepers who are responsible for stores holding professional pesticides for sale or supply. It was a requirement under the Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986) that pesticide stores involved in sale and supply and holding professional pesticide products must have at least one member of staff with a Certificate of Competence in storage. This is now strongly recommended under the new Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012 for all those storing Professional pesticides.

Benefits

This course will equip Storekeepers to meet the standards of pesticide storage laid down in the Defra 'Code of Practice for Suppliers of Pesticides to Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry' by identifying:

- The basic principles of good storekeeping
- The accountabilities of Nominated Storekeepers.
- The relevant points of the Sustainable Use Directive and the subsequent Plant Protection Products (Sustainable Use) Regulations 2012
- Their responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) with special reference to safe lifting and First Aid

- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations (2002)
- Responsibilities under the 'Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2004'

Entry Requirements

- As with any training situation, the more practical experience you have the better, as it helps you relate to the subject being discussed. It is recommended that you have at least six months experience in a store prior to attending the course
- The course is a valuable refresher for those with greater practical experience



The BASIS® NSK Professional Register is open to all qualified individuals who provide storage for pesticides and fertilisers or provide a support service to such use.

The objective is to provide a means of recognising, through the maintenance of a register, suitably qualified professionals in Storekeeping and related activities recognised by both the Industry and by the general public and government:

- By maintaining competence through suitable refresher training and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) ;
- By ensuring professional conduct of members through recognised training and monitoring, including the Code of Ethics and disciplinary systems.

www.basis-reg.com



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