



Dónall Flanagan - Nursery Stock and Ornamentals Specialised advisor
19th October 2023

Apprenticeships

- Landscape stream has just started
- Nursery stock stream will begin in Autumn 2024
 - Minimum class size of 7 apprentices
- Hosts needed
 - Register now with Solas
 - Employment and apprenticeships are at the discretion of the host
- Details@ Apprenticeship Generation website



The poster features a large, stylized green letter 'A' on a yellow background. The letter 'A' has a white leaf icon inside a circle on its left side and the text 'AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE' written vertically on its right side. Above the 'A', the text 'Apprenticeship' is written in large, bold, black letters. Below 'Apprenticeship', the text 'Higher Level Certificate in Horticulture' is written in bold, black letters, followed by '(NFQ Level 6)' in green. Below the 'A', there is a photograph of a nursery with many small plants in pots. At the bottom of the poster, the text 'Earn while you learn working in the Horticulture Industry' is written in black. At the very bottom, there are two logos: 'eagasc' on the left and 'GENERATION APPRENTICESHIP' on the right, with the website 'www.apprenticeship.ie' below it.

Apprenticeship

Higher Level Certificate in Horticulture
(NFQ Level 6)

AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE

Earn while you learn working in the
Horticulture Industry

eagasc
Agriculture and Food Development Authority

GENERATION APPRENTICESHIP
www.apprenticeship.ie

Plant protection product updates

- Insecticides
 - Oikos - azadiractin
 - » Ornamental protected
 - » Aphids, Leaf miner, Whiteflies, Thrips, Cutworm
 - » Natural insecticide
 - Lalgard - *Metarhizium brunneum* strain F52
 - » Ornamental protected and outdoor
 - » Vine weevil control
 - » USA label for liquid formulation includes Whiteflies, Thrips, Mites, Aphids



www.teagasc horticultureportal.ie



Vegetables



Nursery



Mushrooms



Fruit - Top



Fruit - Soft

SECTION - NURSERY

Teagasc Horticulture Portal

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Ornamental-flowers-outdoor

[Information](#)



Ornamental-flowers-protect

[Information](#)



Ornamental-outdoor

[Information](#)



Ornamental-woody-outdoor

[Information](#)



Ornamental-woody-protect

[Information](#)



Outdoor Cut Foliage

[Information](#)



Forest Nurseries

[Information](#)



Roses

[Information](#)



Ornamental-protected

[Information](#)



Ornamental-seedling-outdoor

[Information](#)



Ornamental-seedling-protect

[Information](#)

Pest and disease update

- Oak Processionary Moth
 - One case detected in the Ashtown/Pelletstown area of Dublin early this summer.
 - The four colonies on established young trees were destroyed.
 - Intensive surveying was carried out by DAFM all summer with no further colonies or adults were detected
- Sycamore sooty bark disease
 - *Cryptostroma corticale*
 - It is a lethal disease of sycamore causing wilt and dieback
 - No confirmed lab samples, though symptomatic trees have been seen in Dublin
 - Stress of the occasional hot weather last august and this May has caused the sudden death of the trees



Pest and disease update

- Horse chestnut bacterial canker and leaf miner.
 - Now widespread with no practical control measures for either.
 - *Aesculus x neglecta* 'Autumn Fire' is a medium sized tree resistant to both problems
 - » will be planted in our climate tree trial this winter.
 - *Aesculus Cyrilles Clean*. new leaf miner resistant tree was launched by Van Den Berk
- Box moth caterpillar.
 - The pest is now widespread in the landscape
 - The caterpillar is causing high levels of defoliation in particular where the pest has been able to build up over a few seasons.
 - There were reports of major defoliation in peak summer and again in September in parts of Dublin.



National Fertilizer Database

- Register of all professional fertiliser end-user to purchase since September 1st, 2023
 - 480 non farmers now registered
- 15th of October deadline for declaration of including nil stock
- Merchants no longer permitted to sell to unregistered professionals.



Growing media research

‘Beyond Peat’ will assess current, available alternative growth and casing materials across five key sub-sectors of horticulture

Transferable knowledge

developing advanced growth media utilising new technologies

- Biopolymers
- Biochar
- Composting
- Benchmark assessment of commercially available range of reduced peat media



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



Pillar 1 – Evaluate Existing Alternatives

Assess existing alternatives to determine the agronomic, economic and environmental impact on crop production

Pillar 2 – Develop new Growth Media



Pillar 3 – Life Cycle Assessment

Life Cycle Assessment
Economic Assessment



A sustainable circular bio-economy for growth media through the adoption of disruptive technologies



Thank you

