

# A CAREER IN Horticulture



The horticulture industry contributes significantly to the Scottish economy and local communities. It is also one of the most advanced within the UK, with lots of research and development taking place.

The main career options are either Production Horticulture or Amenity, Landscaping and Sports Turf.

Whichever route you want your career to take, you will be working with the latest technologies, developing new species and innovative methods of growing, working in partnership with people and businesses from across the country and the world.

If using your creativity and getting your hands dirty sounds appealing, or using your knowledge of science and technology is more up your street, a career in horticulture could be for you.

[www.scotland.lantra.co.uk](http://www.scotland.lantra.co.uk)

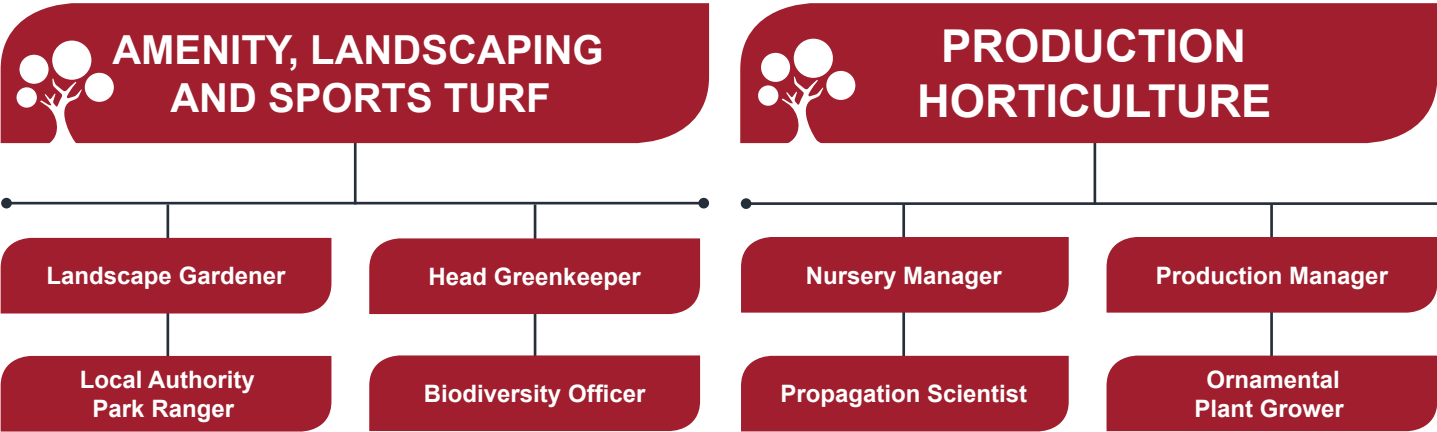






# Career Options

There is a great demand for new entrants and many different pathways into the industry. Horticulture is always changing, with advances in pest control, growing techniques, machinery and cultivation. There are opportunities for everyone, but if you are technically minded or want to start your own business, you can make fantastic progress. Here are some examples of jobs available.



**2,900+**

There are over 2,900 garden centre businesses in the UK, employing over 64,000 people

**5 billion+**

The UK horticulture industry is worth over £5 billion each year, and generates thousands of career opportunities

**200,000**

A top quality football pitch contains 150-200,000 leaf blades in every square metre. Each one of them needs skilled care and attention

# Routes into a career in Horticulture

Depending on your current skills and experience, you could enter at different levels.

JOB LEVELS	WORK-BASED	SCQF LEVEL	SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
Director Level		12	Doctorate
		11	Masters
Managerial Roles		10	Honours Degree
		9	Degree
		8	HND Landscape Management HND Garden Design HND Horticulture HND Horticulture with Plantsmanship HND Golf Course Management
Supervisory Roles	Scottish Vocational Qualification Modern Apprenticeship	7	Advanced Certificate: Golf Course Management HNC Horticulture HNC Garden Design HNC Landscape Management HNC Golf Course Management
		6	Highers NPA Local Food Production
Supervised Roles	Scottish Vocational Qualification Modern Apprenticeship	5	NC Greenkeeping NC Horticulture NC Horticulture with Landscape Construction NPA Rural Skills
Entry Level	Scottish Vocational Qualification	4	NC Introduction to Horticulture Skills for Work: Rural Skills NC Rural Skills NC Greenkeeping: An Introduction NPA Horticulture

## USEFUL LINKS

Argyll College UHI

Borders College

Dundee and Angus College

Glasgow Clyde College

[www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk)

[www.borderscollege.ac.uk](http://www.borderscollege.ac.uk)

[www.dundeeandangus.ac.uk](http://www.dundeeandangus.ac.uk)

[www.glasgowclyde.ac.uk](http://www.glasgowclyde.ac.uk)

Gosta Training

Moray College UHI

South Lanarkshire College

SRUC

Train Shetland

[www.gostatraining.co.uk](http://www.gostatraining.co.uk)

[www.moray.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.moray.uhi.ac.uk)

[www.south-lanarkshire-college.ac.uk](http://www.south-lanarkshire-college.ac.uk)

[www.sruc.ac.uk](http://www.sruc.ac.uk)

[www.trainshetland.com](http://www.trainshetland.com)



Parks and urban green spaces, no matter how small, help cool temperatures, reduce wind speeds and absorb pollution and flood waters. Good management of these areas is essential



New pests and diseases are building up defences to old pest management techniques, requiring a new generation of scientists to fight them



A job in horticulture supports many other industries, such as agriculture, forestry, engineering and environmental conservation



## Our Stories



### Kurt Crow

Kurt is doing a Modern Apprenticeship in Horticulture with the UK's most northerly garden centre, the Plantiecrub nursery in Tingwall, and with SRUC.

*"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do after school, but I had been working at the garden centre at weekends and during holidays, so that helped me decide that a career in horticulture was the right choice. I'm lucky to enjoy my work and going to college has given me so much more in the way of knowledge and skills. It's made me happier and more confident in providing horticultural advice to the public too."*

*"We get lots of great feedback from customers who see our Instagram and Facebook posts, so that's really rewarding as well. I enjoy being outdoors so being able to do the Modern Apprenticeship has been a great move for me."*

*Photograph courtesy of Skills Development Scotland*

### Ross Yuile

Ross went to Glasgow Clyde College to study horticulture, and progressed through an NC, a City and Guilds qualification with distinction, and then an HNC.

*"I have always enjoyed being outside doing practical work and experiencing nature, so combining the two is fantastic. Being out in the fresh air and working with plants is great for stress relief. Helping to create a herbaceous border at the college and seeing the plants flower for the first time is very satisfying."*

*"There is so much to learn in this industry. I'm still finding out new things every day, even after three years of study. Having just done an HNC in horticulture, and getting an A in my graded unit, I'm now going on to do an HND. Horticulture has really helped me come out of my shell and being able to do something that I really enjoy makes every day a good day."*



## Find out more

If you would like more information on training or qualifications, email [scotland@lantra.co.uk](mailto:scotland@lantra.co.uk) or call **01738 310164**.

[www.scotland.lantra.co.uk](http://www.scotland.lantra.co.uk)

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Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
[gov.scot](http://gov.scot)

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