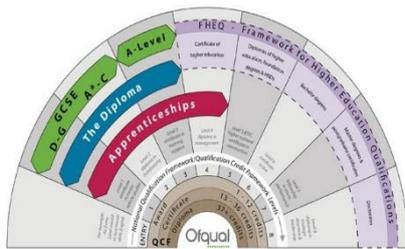


A Farmers guide to Training Terminology – cutting through the Jargon.

When you are a **farmer**, words like BPS, Gross Margin, Silage DM, white wormers and yellow wormers are all terms you are familiar with, and understand.



When you are a **Training provider** or **Trainer**, words like RQF, Level 2 award, Learning outcomes and Awarding bodies are all terms you are familiar with, and understand.

Imagine you are purchasing a tractor, what do you ask about?

A bloke comes up to you and whispers, "I've got a tractor for sale, and it's cheap."

Would you ask:

- Make/ model?
- Horsepower?
- Hours?
- Tyres- % worn?
- Condition?

Of course you would.



A bloke comes up to you and whispers, "I've got a pesticides course, and it's cheap."

Would you ask:

- Awarding body?
- Accredited training?
- Accredited assessment?
- Time?
- How good?



You should. Because that is the only way to compare like for like. You wouldn't buy a dodgy tractor, so don't buy a dodgy training course

Imagine you are purchasing some training, do you know what to ask about?

So here it is – a definitive guide of training terminology for Farmers.

It is perfectly fine for anyone to set up as a “training provider.” They can advertise a course, call it what they like, charge what they like, and deliver what they like. They can have 24 people on the course, it could be assessed or not, and you will have a Mickey Mouse certificate signed by Donald Duck.

So the first thing to ask is: who is the awarding body?

Most training providers will be registered with awarding bodies. Awarding bodies have to make sure their products are fit for purpose, just as Tractor manufacturers do.

When you have an awarding body, there are certain procedures, rules and quality assurance is in place. The instructors are regulated, checked and verified to ensure standards are set.

In the Farming world, the two main awarding bodies are

- **Lantra**
- **City and Guilds** (formerly NPTC – National Proficiency Test Council)



They offer what are termed “**regulated**” courses or assessment recognised by HSE, considered robust under PUWER regulations, and Health and safety at work act 1974. Examples are Chainsaws, Pesticides and Animals in Transit.

These 2 bodies operate differently, but both are recognised as Industry standard.

So what are the main differences?



Lantra run Industry standard **training** courses, most of which are integrated training and assessment. This means that the Instructor will be training you, and assessing you throughout the duration of the course, a one stop shop. The Instructors deliver a recognised list of contents, and are tested and verified on their training skills. The candidate on passing receives a **certificate of training** called **accredited** training and **assessment**.



City and Guilds (NPTC) do not offer training courses, but just offer assessment. This means that anyone can provide the training, and they do not have to be tested, assessed or verified. This is non-accredited training. The assessor is highly trained to industry standards, and has to be different to the person who trained the candidates. The candidate receives a **certificate of assessment** only.

There is a facility where candidates can undertake a LANTRA Training Course, followed by either a Lantra Assessment, or City and Guilds (NPTC) assessment. This means the candidate receives a certificate for **Training**, and a certificate of **assessment**. This can be useful if the candidates fails the assessment, as they can still prove they have been adequately trained. So the questions you should ask :

Is the course accredited as well as assessed?



Some training providers will offer



accredited training and assessment, others will offer non accredited training and assessment, so compare LIKE FOR LIKE.

Simply the best delivers Lantra accredited training, and City and Guilds and Lantra assessments

What is a qualification?

Now let's move on to qualifications, because they are different.

In the past

Learning has changed a lot over the last few years. Years ago, there was a vast range of courses you could attend, some assessed, some not, and every certificate was different, we would have all turned up on an ATB course, got a certificate, job done!

It was quite a mess, and the main problem was one of recognition- Was this certificate from Aberflyarff community college equivalent to that certificate from Ealing academy?

Now and the future.....

Now we have, or at least in the process of, standardizing all types of training, and making them recognizable to all bodies.

There are many awarding bodies in all sectors and industries.

There are probably about a dozen that can award a qualification in office type work, but the only accrediting bodies allowed to award QUALIFICATIONS like Chainsaws or pesticides are Lantra and City and Guilds.

Ofqual is the body that oversees qualifications.

How qualifications are built!

If we think of subjects of learning, we can break a subject area down into chunks of learning, which we call **Units**. Each unit is composed of a series of **Learning outcomes**, or **Objectives** and they all carry a **credit** rating. One individual unit may carry 2 credits or 4 credits, this value will always be shown.

Each of these units has a reference number assigned to it, and is "placed" on the Qualifications Credit Framework (**QCF**) once it is approved. The QCF was replaced in Oct 2015 by The Regulated Qualification Framework (**RQF**)

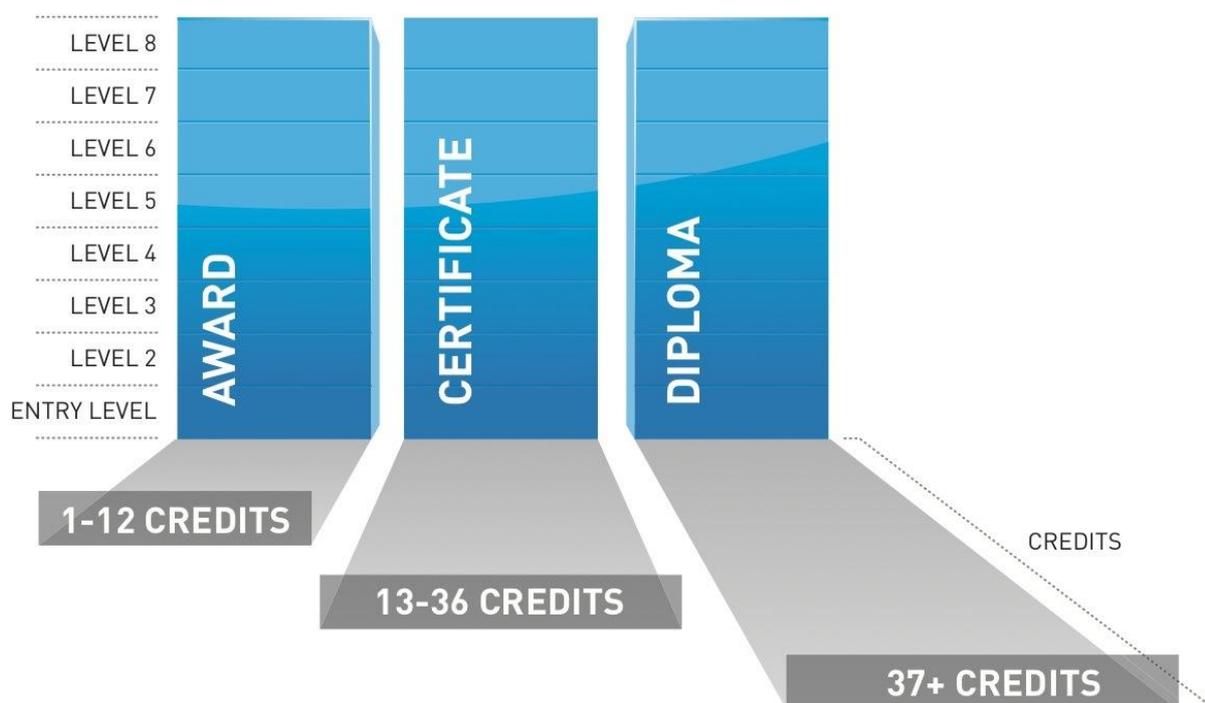
A **Qualification** consists of a collection of units placed together.

If we think of the units as chocolates, filled with credits, when assembled in a box they are wrapped as a qualification.

These boxes of chocolates can be different sizes, if you have a selection of units (or even 1 unit) that have 12 or less credits it is called an **Award**.

If it has a selection of 12-36, then it is termed a **Certificate**.

If it is over 36 credits, it is called a **Diploma**



PESTICIDES AND CHAINSAWS AND ANIMALS IN TRANSIT ARE ALL AWARDS

So it is a small manageable chunk of learning that will give you a qualification. Every unit or qualification is set at a “**level**”. This indicates how hard it will be!

In order for you to achieve a qualification it must be **assessed**. In the old days, this meant an exam! But nowadays, the assessment is composed of evidence, which can be generated in many different ways other than an exam

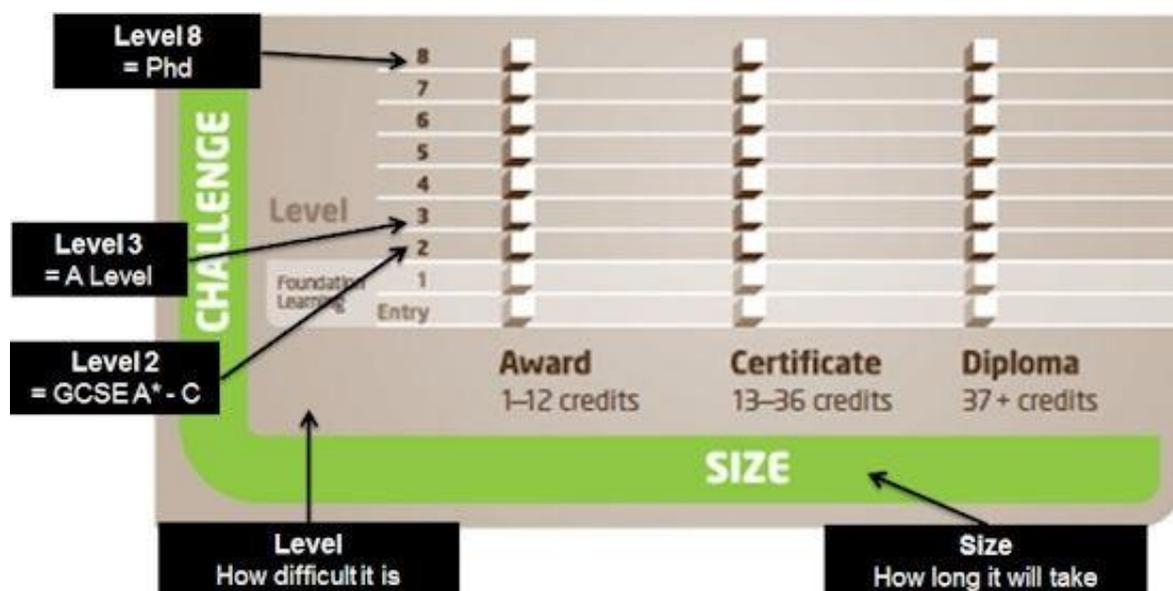
Example

The assessment at level 2, is very practical, so we can use Observation and Questioning for using a boom sprayer PA2, and multiple choice questions for Safe use of Pesticides, PA1

The assessment will reflect the level, e.g.

A level 2 award may have a multiple choice set of questions to answer at the end of the training day, and often practical assessments, as in the case of pesticides and chainsaws.

Level 4 and 5 requires you to apply the knowledge, and make it relevant to you or your business. In assessment terms, it often means reports or essay style answers.



PESTICIDES, SOME CHAINSAWS AND ANIMALS IN TRANSIT ARE ALL LEVEL 2 AWARDS

Hope this helps,



SIMPLY THE BEST TRAINING
CAERLAN FARM, TONYPANDY CF40 1SN
01443 670267

www.simplythebesttc.co.uk