



Name:

Achievement Standard Agricultural and Horticultural Science 91298:

Report on the environmental impact of the production of a locally produced primary product

Resource reference: Agricultural and Horticultural Science 2.10

Resource title: Primary production in Southland

Credits: 4

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Report on the environmental impact of the production of a locally produced primary product.	Report effectively on the environmental impact of the production of a locally produced primary product.	Report comprehensively on the environmental impact of the production of a locally produced primary product.

Student instructions

Introduction

The production of agricultural and horticultural products in New Zealand often impacts on the local environment – the soil, water, air, or living organisms.

Over time, this may cause a decline in the level of production. It could also affect ecosystems and communities, causing problems for farmers/ growers selling New Zealand products in overseas markets.

This assessment activity requires research a locally produced primary product and report on the environmental impact of their production.

You will need to gather information on the environmental impact of the production system and its associated management practices. You will then write a report that details this impact. The audience for this report is a group of interested but relatively unaware members of the public.

You may wish to record your interview a farmer/grower as part of the report - this is optional.

This is an individual task. You have 3 weeks of in and out-of-class time to complete it.

Background information

This needs to be considered before selecting your topic

Collect detailed, accurate, and relevant information about the systems and practices used by on a farm/producer.

Make notes about:

- The systems and practices on the farm that impact on the environment.
- The specific impact on the land/soil, air, water, and living organisms.
- The farmer/grower's response to these impacts, for example, can they be prevented or minimised? Are they worth worrying about?
- Possible modifications to the production process that will reduce or minimise the identified environmental impacts.

If possible photographs to include in your report.

Task

Use the information you gathered by research to write a report that contains relevant, accurate information and is presented in a concise, coherent manner.

Your report needs to include:

- a description of how **EACH** aspect of the environment (soil, air, water, and living organisms) is being changed or modified by the normal operations of the production system
- explain why these environmental changes are occurring, for example, what is happening on the farm to cause the change, why it is happening, and why it is necessary
- evaluate the overall impact of the production process on the environment. This will require an accurate summary that assesses the impacts of production on the environment and explains if the grower can do anything to minimise negative environmental impacts. The overall impact should consider the balance between positive and negative impacts.

Note: You are being assessed on the quality of your report, for example, content, structure, conciseness, coherence, and accuracy.

You need include a reference list when you submit your report.

Possible topics

- lamb production
- beef production

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- Dairy farming (but you must emphasis local environmental impacts)
- horticultural products grown in southland such as tulips, carrots, strawberries
- any other primary product that gives you enough to write report.