

**Qualification Code**

**QG-03-AG-00342-2023-V1.1-ASCI**

## **CONTACT DETAILS OF THE BODY SUBMITTING THE QUALIFICATION FILE**

### **Name and address of submitting body:**

Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)  
6<sup>th</sup> floor, GNG Building, Plot No – 10, Sector- 44,  
Gurugram, Haryana – 122004

### **Name and contact details of individual dealing with the submission**

**Name:** Ms Priyanka Prakash

**Position in the organisation:** Senior Manager – Standards & QA

**Address, if different from above**

**Tel number(s):** 0124 – 4670029/ 4814673/ 4814659

**E-mail address:** priyanka@asci-india.com

### **List of documents submitted in support of the Qualifications File**

1. Qualifications Pack – Annexure 1
2. Model Curriculum – Annexure 2
3. Affiliation Protocol- Annexure 3
4. Industry Validations- Annexure 4

### **Model Curriculum to be added which will include the following:**

- Indicative list of tools/equipment to conduct the training
- Trainers qualification
- Lesson Plan
- Distribution of training duration into theory/practical/OJT component

**• SUMMARY**

1	<b>Qualification Title</b>	Neera Technician cum Primary Processor
2	<b>Qualification Code, if any</b>	AGR/Q0505, v3.0
3	<b>NCO code and occupation</b>	NCO-2015/6112.0201
4	<b>Nature and purpose of the qualification (Please specify whether qualification is short term or long term)</b>	<p>Nature of the qualification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- a Qualification Pack (QP)</li></ul> <p>The main purpose of the qualification is -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- to train the incumbent for assisting in extracting neera by climbing coconut and palm trees, identifying mature inflorescence and collecting neera using the relevant tools and implements. The individual also assists in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera</li></ul>
5	<b>Body/bodies which will award the qualification</b>	Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)
6	<b>Body which will accredit providers to offer courses leading to the qualification</b>	Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI)
7	<b>Whether accreditation/affiliation norms are already in place or not, if applicable (if yes, attach a copy)</b>	Yes (Annexure 3)
8	<b>Occupation(s) to which the qualification gives access</b>	Plantation Crops Cultivation
9	<b>Job description of the occupation</b>	A Neera Technician cum Primary Processor is responsible for assisting in extracting neera by climbing coconut and palm trees, identifying mature inflorescence and collecting neera using the relevant tools and implements. The individual also assists in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera. Assisting in carrying out nutrient management of coconut/ palm crop, pest and disease management along with

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

		irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control are the other responsibilities of a Neera Technician cum Primary Processor.
10	Licensing requirements	NA
11	Statutory and Regulatory requirement of the relevant sector (documentary evidence to be provided)	NA
12	Level of the qualification in the NSQF	Level 3
13	Anticipated volume of training/learning required to complete the qualification	270 hours (Theory: 90, Practical: 150, ES: 30)
14	Indicative list of training tools required to deliver this qualification	Attached herewith
15	Entry requirements and/or recommendations and minimum age	Grade 10 OR Grade 8 with two years of (NTC/ NAC) after 8th OR Grade 8 pass and pursuing continuous schooling in regular school with vocational subject OR 8th grade pass with 2-year relevant experience OR 5th grade pass with 5-year relevant experience OR Previous relevant Qualification of NSQF Level 2 with 1-year relevant experience OR Previous relevant Qualification of NSQF Level 2.5 with 6 months' relevant experience Min Age: 17 years
16	Progression from the qualification (Please show Professional and academic progression)	Coconut Grower cum Primary Processor (L4)

17	<b>Arrangements for the Recognition of Prior learning (RPL)</b>	RPL assessment will be as per normal ASC assessment process.  (ASCI recognizes that there may be candidates who have prior learning experience in the Agriculture Sector and are desirous of being certified. Such candidates can apply to ASCI for testing and certification of their skills. Training Partners will be responsible for identifying and counselling candidates for RPL through mobilization camps and advertisements. The details of the RPL process have been defined by ASCI under the document- Guidelines for Recognition of Prior Learning under PMKVY).		
18	<b>International comparability where known (research evidence to be provided)</b>	Not done as yet		
19	<b>Date of planned review of the qualification.</b>	31-03-2025		
20	<b>Formal structure of the qualification</b> <b>Mandatory components</b>			
	<b>Title of component and identification code/NOSs/Learning outcomes</b>	<b>Estimated size (learning hours)</b> <b>Theory      Practical</b>		<b>Level</b>
(i)	Introduction (Bridge Module)	5	0	
(ii)	AGR/N0517: Assist in carrying out nutrient management of coconut crop	10	15	<b>3</b>
(iii)	AGR/N0518: Assist in carrying out pest and disease management	10	20	
(iv)	AGR/N0519: Assist in irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control	20	40	
(v)	AGR/N0524: Assist in extracting neera from coconut/ palm trees	10	20	
(vi)	AGR/N0525: Assist in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera	10	20	

(vii)	AGR/N0536: Assist in the preparation of Neera- based products	10	20
(ix)	AGR/N9903: Maintain health and safety at the workplace	15	15
(x)	DGT/VSQ/N0101: Employability Skills (30 Hours) v1.0	30	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>150</b>

## **SECTION 1**

### **ASSESSMENT**

<b>21</b>	<p><b>Body/Bodies which will carry out assessment:</b></p> <p>ASCI affiliated assessment bodies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SHL India (Pvt.) Ltd</li> <li>2. Trendsetters Skill Assessors Pvt Ltd</li> <li>3. Mercer-Mettl</li> <li>4. SP Institute of Workforce Development (SPIWD)</li> <li>5. MSAG SI LLP</li> </ol> <p>More Assessment Agencies are being empanelled to cover wider geographical area</p>
<b>22</b>	<p><b>How will RPL assessment be managed and who will carry it out?</b></p> <p>RPL will be based on the same approved Qualification Pack and Assessment Criteria mentioned in the Qualification Pack and will be carried out as per normal ASCI assessment process. The Training Partner or any other authority as prescribed by the Steering Committee will identify and counsel candidates eligible for RPL through mobilization camps and advertisements. The mobilized candidates can be counselled, oriented about the standardized NSQF framework and basis their existing competency will be mapped against the suitable level of the concerned Job role for assessments. The candidates enrolled will be assessed by the Assessment Agency affiliated with the Sector Skill Council on the basis of assessment criteria decided by Sector Skill Council (SSC). The candidate will need to pass in the minimum assessment criteria of a particular QP decided by the SSC. Successfully assessed candidates with a valid Aadhaar or alternate ID (as per process) will be eligible for QP-NOS based Certification.</p>

23	<p><b>Describe the overall assessment strategy and specific arrangements which have been put in place to ensure that assessment is always valid, reliable and fair and show that these are in line with the requirements of the NSQF.</b></p> <p>A robust technology enabled assessment methodology has been designed keeping in mind the geographical/Physical constraints and target segment which assess a trainee's knowledge and skill set through three methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An offline Tablet based test through the use of Multiple Choice Text and Picture based questions in vernacular languages</li> <li>Actual demonstration on the field</li> <li>Viva</li> </ol> <p><b>ASCI's assessment strategy:</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Question sets are developed as per the weightage of each NOS of the Qualification Pack.</li> <li>Assessment criteria for each Qualification Pack developed, in which each Performance criteria (PC) assigned marks based on NOS</li> <li>Question Bank is developed to assess the theoretical and practical knowledge. To ensure the quality, each trainees get different set of question</li> <li>Empanelment of subject matter expert as assessor primarily from the Industry to assess trainee specifically on practical skills as per Industry demands</li> </ul> <p>Assessments are preferably conducted on tablets or pen or papers in regional languages according to the requirement.</p>

Please attach most relevant and recent documents giving further information about assessment and/or RPL.

Give the titles and other relevant details of the document(s) here. Include page references showing where to find the relevant information.

## **ASSESSMENT EVIDENCE**

**Complete a grid for each component as listed in “Formal structure of the qualification” in the Summary.**

*NOTE: this grid can be replaced by any part of the qualification documentation which shows the same information – i.e. Learning Outcomes to be assessed, assessment criteria and the means of assessment.*

### **24. Assessment evidences**

**Title of Component:**

## NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

Outcomes to be assessed/ NOSs to be assessed	Assessment criteria for the outcome
<b>Means of assessment 1</b>	
<b>Pass/Fail</b>	

**Job Role:** Neera Technician cum Primary Processor

**Qualification Pack:** AGR/Q0505, v3.0

**Sector Skill Council:** Agriculture Skill Council of India

### **Assessment Guidelines:**

1. Criteria for assessment for each Qualification Pack will be created by the Sector Skill Council. Each Performance Criteria (PC) will be assigned marks proportional to its importance in NOS. SSC will also lay down proportion of marks for Theory and Skills Practical for each PC.
2. The assessment for the theory part will be based on knowledge bank of questions created by the SSC.
3. Assessment will be conducted for all compulsory NOS, and where applicable, on the selected elective/option NOS/set of NOS.
4. Individual assessment agencies will create unique question papers for theory part for each candidate at each examination/training center (as per assessment criteria below).
5. Individual assessment agencies will create unique evaluations for skill practical for every student at each examination/training center based on this criterion.
6. To pass the Qualification Pack, every trainee should score a minimum of 50% of aggregate marks to successfully clear the assessment.
7. In case of unsuccessful completion, the trainee may seek reassessment on the Qualification Pack.

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

<b>AGR/N0517: Assist in carrying out nutrient management of coconut crop</b>					
<b>PC</b>	<b>Assessment Criteria for Outcomes</b>	<b>Theory Marks</b>	<b>Practical Marks</b>	<b>Project Marks</b>	<b>Viva Marks</b>
<i><b>Assist in soil testing</b></i>		<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>PC1.</b>	sample the soil from the coconut field as per the supervisor's instruction	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b>	pack and label the soil sample	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b>	coordinate with an approved soil-testing laboratory for the testing of soil sample	-	-	-	-
<i><b>Assist in preparing the field</b></i>		<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>PC4.</b>	apply the organic or inorganic fertilisers recommended by the laboratory to meet the macro and micronutrients needs of the coconut crop, as per the recommended dose and schedule	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b>	follow various intercultural practices as per the supervisor's instructions to maintain the nutrient levels in the soil and improve the yield	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	assist in installing an appropriate irrigation or fertigation system such as the drip irrigation system	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b>	assist the supervisor in maintaining the record of fertilisers used in the field	-	-	-	-
<i><b>Optimise resource utilisation</b></i>		<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>PC8.</b>	use water and other resources optimally in different tasks and processes as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	plug water leakages to prevent its wastage	-	-	-	-
<i><b>Perform waste management</b></i>		<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>PC10.</b>	segregate waste into appropriate categories as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	recycle the recyclable waste appropriately and dispose the non-recyclable waste in an environment-friendly manner, as instructed	-	-	-	-
<i><b>Practice inclusion at work</b></i>		<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>PC12.</b>	empathise with Persons with Disabilities (PwD) at work	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b>	adopt gender-neutral behaviour at work	-	-	-	-
<b>NOS Total</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N0518: Assist in carrying out pest and disease management</b>					



**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

<i>Assist in preventing pests and disease</i>		12	14		12
<b>PC1.</b>	assist the supervisor in selecting the disease- resistant variety of coconut to grow, ensuring its suitability to the agro-climatic zone at the site	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b>	carry out appropriate treatment of the seeds as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b>	assist in adopting the natural enemies of the coconut pests and disease such as Bethyid fly, Bracon spp. Ichneumonid wasp, Goniozus nephantidis as per the expert's advice	-	-	-	-
<b>PC4.</b>	clean the palm crown regularly to protect from common pests and remove the crown tissues and coconut tree parts severely affected by pests and disease to contain the damage	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b>	use trap light and pheromone to catch bugs as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	remove the dry leaves, sheaths and spathe at the recommended intervals	-	-	-	-
<i>Assist in identifying pests, disease and their remedy</i>		8	16		8
<b>PC7.</b>	check the coconut crop regularly to identify the symptoms of various pests, diseases and disorders such as rhinoceros beetle, black-headed caterpillar red palm weevil, termites, bud rot, leaf rot, stem bleeding, pencil point disorder, button shedding, barren nuts etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b>	assist the supervisor in determining the stage of pest and disease infestation along with damage and the mode of transmission	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	coordinate with an expert to determine an appropriate treatment for removing the identified pests and disease	-	-	-	-
<i>Apply the necessary treatment</i>		10	10	-	10
<b>PC10.</b>	apply the recommended treatment as per the prescription in an appropriate dose to remove pests and disease, using the relevant PPE	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	assist in maintaining the record of the use of any pesticides, insecticides and any other treatment	-	-	-	-

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

	<b>NOS TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N0519: Assist in irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control</b>					
	<i><b>Assist in irrigation and moisture conservation</b></i>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>PC1.</b>	assist in installing an appropriate irrigation or fertigation system	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b>	irrigate the coconut crop as per the recommended irrigation schedule and supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b>	follow the recommended practices to maintain the required level of moisture in the soil such as mulching with coconut husks, leaves or coir pith	-	-	-	-
	<i><b>Assist in intercropping</b></i>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>PC4.</b>	assist the supervisor in selecting appropriate crops for intercropping based on the climate, suitability to the coconut variety being cultivated, market demand and profitability	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b>	carry out intercropping under supervision to increase the ratio of organic matters in the soil and prevent its erosion	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	maintain the crops cultivated under intercropping as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
	<i><b>Assist in pruning</b></i>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>PC7.</b>	prune or remove the dry coconut leaves as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b>	remove the dead plants and trees	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	use the organic waste to prepare compost or mulch as directed by the supervisor	-	-	-	-
	<i><b>Assist in weed control</b></i>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>PC10.</b>	assist the supervisor in identifying the weeds growing in the coconut field	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	apply the recommended pre-emergent herbicide in an appropriate quantity as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
<b>PC12.</b>	remove weeds manually or till the field as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
	<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N0524: Assist in extracting neera from coconut/ palm trees</b>					

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

	<i>Prepare to collect neera</i>	12	16		14
<b>PC1.</b>	select the appropriate type of ropes along with husk or coconut/ palm tree climbing machine with the supervisor's help, for climbing the coconut/ palm trees	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b>	check the availability of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), tools and accessories such as tapping	-	-	-	-
	tools, knife, axe and container for extracting neera				
<b>PC3.</b>	sanitise the tools and containers as per the supervisor's instructions for neera collection	-	-	-	-
<b>PC4.</b>	apply Anti-Fermentation Solution (AFS) in an appropriate quantity in the containers, as instructed by the supervisor	-	-	-	-
	<i>Extract neera from coconut/ palm trees</i>	18	24		16
<b>PC5.</b>	climb the coconut/ palm tree safely using ropes and PPE, ensuring personal safety from any accidents, bees and wasp attacks	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	check the growth and maturity of inflorescence on coconut/ palm trees with the supervisor's help	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b>	clean the mature inflorescence with the recommended disinfectant to remove any microorganisms				
<b>PC8.</b>	create a cut of the recommended dimension on the tip of the inflorescence on the coconut/ palm tree and secure the inflorescence with strings	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	apply clay or other recommended material on the exposed part of inflorescence to prevent neera from flowing down	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b>	fasten a container below the inflorescence to collect neera, ensuring it has AFS applied in it	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	tap the inflorescence with appropriate force using a stick to stimulate the formation of neera	-	-	-	-
<b>PC12.</b>	rub the inflorescence from its bottom to the tip to cause neera to rise up to the tip of inflorescence	-	-	-	-

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

PC13.	ensure to extract neera at sunrise to obtain its best quality	-	-	-	-
	<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N0525: Assist in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera</b>					
	<i>Carry out post-harvest processing</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
PC1.	climb down the coconut/ palm tree safely, protecting the extracted neera	-	-	-	-
PC2.	accumulate the neera extracted from different trees in a large container and filter it through a fine-mesh cloth or wire-mesh as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
PC3.	assist in determining the quantity and quality of neera using tools such as measuring cans and pH meter	-	-	-	-
PC4.	undertake post-harvest processing of neera and assist in preparing neera-based products as per the supervisor's instructions	-	-	-	-
PC5.	follow the recommended measures to protect neera from contamination and fermentation during processing	-	-	-	-
PC6.	assist in preparing the storage area to ensure hygienic conditions and protection of neera from microbial contamination	-	-	-	-
PC7.	store neera at an appropriate temperature and humidity as instructed by the supervisor	-	-	-	-
PC8.	assist in loading the processed neera and neera-based products in the transport vehicle to be transported to the buyer or target market	-	-	-	-
PC9.	assist the supervisor in maintaining the record of harvesting and processing of neera	-	-	-	-
	<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N0536: Assist in the preparation of Neera- based products</b>					
	<i>Prepare neera products</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>		<b>22</b>
PC1.	prepare palm syrup by heating and distilling fresh neera at the recommended temperature	-	-	-	-

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

**Approved on file dated 07.02.2023**

<b>PC2.</b>	select the sap of the recommended species of the palm tree, such as the palmyra, date palms and coconut palms, for preparing palm wine	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b>	collect the sap in an appropriate pot and allow it to be fermented by the natural yeasts in the pores of the pot and air for the recommended duration	-	-	-	-
<b>PC4.</b>	prepare palm wine with a stronger, more sour and acidic taste by fermenting it for an appropriate duration	-	-	-	-
<b>PC5.</b>	prepare palm jaggery by boiling raw palm sap in appropriate vessels at the recommended temperature and converting neera into a solid or semi-solid crystalline mass	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	carry out deliming of the palm juice while preparing palm jaggery by adding phosphoric acid direct or triple super phosphate solution and stirring it	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b>	preserve palm jaggery in the liquid form or semi-solid form to obtain liquid palm jaggery	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b>	prepare palm honey at 78 Brix level	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	use sweet neera from palmyra to prepare palm candy	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b>	use molasses obtained from palm sugar to prepare bio-chemical products, such as ethyl alcohol, acetic acid, citric acid etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	select inflorescence sap and ferment it in a well-ventilated area for the recommended duration to prepare palm vinegar	-	-	-	-
	<i>Pack and store the neera products</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>		<b>8</b>
<b>PC12.</b>	select the appropriate packaging material to pack the neera products	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b>	pack the neera products in the selected packing material, ensuring hygiene to protect them from contamination	-	-	-	-
<b>PC14.</b>	store the packed neera products at the recommended temperature, ensuring hygienic conditions in the storage area	-	-	-	-
	<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>AGR/N9903: Maintain health and safety at the workplace</b>					

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

**Approved on file dated 07.02.2023**

	<i>Maintain personal hygiene</i>	10	5	-	10
<b>PC1.</b>	wash hands, legs and face with soap/alcohol-based sanitizer at reasonable intervals	-	-	-	-
<b>PC2.</b>	wash the worn clothes with soap and sun-dry before use next time	-	-	-	-
<b>PC3.</b>	ensure the face is covered with mask or three layers of cloth-piece	-	-	-	-

<b>PC4.</b>	follow the workplace sanitisation norms including distancing from sick people	-	-	-	-
	<i>Maintain clean and safe workplace</i>	15	15		15
<b>PC5.</b>	carry out basic safety checks before operation of all tools, implements, and machinery and report identified hazards to the supervisor	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while performing work in accordance with the workplace policy	-	-	-	-
<b>PC7.</b>	follow the instructions mentioned on the labels of chemicals/pesticides/fumigants etc. to avoid hazards	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b>	assess risks prior to performing manual handling jobs, and work according to currently recommended safe practices	-	-	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	sanitize equipment, tools and machinery before and after use	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b>	use equipment and materials safely and correctly and return the same to designated storage after use	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	dispose waste safely and correctly in the designated area	-	-	-	-
<b>PC12.</b>	recognize risks to bystanders and take required action to reduce the risks	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b>	work in a manner which minimizes environmental damage, ensuring all procedures and instructions for controlling risks are followed	-	-	-	-
<b>PC14.</b>	report any accidents, incidents or problems without delay to an appropriate person and take necessary immediate action to reduce further danger	-	-	-	-

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

PC15.	follow government / workplace advisories in case of outbreak of any disease/disaster	-	-	-	-
	<i>Administer appropriate emergency procedures</i>	15	5		10
PC16.	follow procedures for dealing with accidents, fires and emergencies, including communicating location and directions to the location of emergency, as per the workplace requirements	-	-	-	-
PC17.	use emergency equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and workplace requirements	-	-	-	-
PC18.	provide treatment appropriate to the patient's injuries in accordance with recognized first aid techniques	-	-	-	-
PC19.	recover (if practical), clean, inspect/test, refurbish, replace and store the first aid equipment as appropriate	-	-	-	-
PC20.	report details of first aid administered in accordance with workplace procedures	-	-	-	-
	<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>25</b>		<b>35</b>
<b>DGT/VSQ/N0101: Employability Skills (30 Hours)</b>					
	<i>Introduction to Employability Skills</i>	1	1	-	-
PC1.	understand the significance of employability skills in meeting the job requirements	-	-	-	-
	<i>Constitutional values – Citizenship</i>	1	1	-	-
PC2.	identify constitutional values, civic rights, duties, personal values and ethics and environmentally sustainable practices	-	-	-	-
	<i>Becoming a Professional in the 21st Century</i>	1	3	-	-
PC3.	explain 21st Century Skills such as Self- Awareness, Behavior Skills, Positive attitude, self-motivation, problem-solving, creative thinking, time management, social and cultural awareness, emotional awareness, continuous learning mindset etc.	-	-	-	-
	<i>Basic English Skills</i>	2	3	-	-



**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

**Approved on file dated 07.02.2023**

<b>PC4.</b>	Speak with others using some basic English phrases or sentences	-	-	-	-
	<i>Communication Skills</i>	1	1	-	-
<b>PC5.</b>	Follow good manners while communicating with others	-	-	-	-
<b>PC6.</b>	Work with others in a team	-	-	-	-
	<i>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</i>	1	1	-	-
<b>PC7.</b>	Communicate and behave appropriately with all genders and PwD	-	-	-	-
<b>PC8.</b>	Report any issues related to sexual harassment	-	-	-	-
	<i>Financial and Legal Literacy</i>	3	4	-	-
<b>PC9.</b>	Use various financial products and services safely and securely	-	-	-	-
<b>PC10.</b>	Calculate income, expenses, savings etc.	-	-	-	-
<b>PC11.</b>	Approach the concerned authorities for any exploitation as per legal rights and laws	-	-	-	-
	<i>Essential Digital Skills</i>	4	6	-	-
<b>PC12.</b>	Operate digital devices and use its features and applications securely and safely	-	-	-	-
<b>PC13.</b>	Use internet and social media platforms securely and safely	-	-	-	-
	<i>Entrepreneurship</i>	3	5	-	-
<b>PC14.</b>	Identify and assess opportunities for potential business	-	-	-	-
<b>PC15.</b>	Identify sources for arranging money and associated financial and legal challenges	-	-	-	-
	<i>Customer Service</i>	2	2	-	-
<b>PC16.</b>	Identify different types of customers	-	-	-	-
<b>PC17.</b>	Identify customer needs and address them appropriately	-	-	-	-
<b>PC18.</b>	Follow appropriate hygiene and grooming standards	-	-	-	-



**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

**Approved on file dated 07.02.2023**

	<i>Getting ready for apprenticeship &amp; Jobs</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-
<b>PC19.</b>	create a basic biodata	-	-	-	-
<b>PC20.</b>	search for suitable jobs and apply	-	-	-	-
<b>PC21.</b>	identify and register apprenticeship opportunities as per requirement	-	-	-	-
	<b>NOS Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	-	-

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

**SECTION 2****EVIDENCE OF LEVEL****OPTION B**

Title/ Name of qualification/ component: Neera Technician cum Primary Processor			Level: 3
NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain
Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist in soil testing</li><li>• Assist in preventing pests and disease</li><li>• Assist in extracting neera from coconut/ palm trees</li><li>• Assist in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera</li><li>• Assist in irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control</li><li>•</li></ul>	A Neera Technician is responsible for assisting in extracting neera by climbing coconut and palm trees, identifying mature inflorescence and collecting neera using the relevant tools and implements. The individual also assists in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera. Assisting in carrying out nutrient management of coconut/ palm crop, pest and disease management along with irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control are the other responsibilities of a neera technician.	3
Professional knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to apply the necessary treatment</li><li>• Prepare to collect neera</li><li>• Optimise resource utilisation</li><li>• Perform waste management</li><li>• Practice inclusion at work</li><li>• Administer appropriate emergency procedures</li></ul>	The job holder is expected to have knowledge to apply the recommended treatment as per the prescription in an appropriate dose to remove pests and disease, assist in maintaining the record of the use of any pesticides, insecticides, select the appropriate type of ropes along with husk or coconut/ palm tree climbing machine with the supervisor's help, check the availability of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment	3

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

Title/ Name of qualification/ component: Neera Technician cum Primary Processor			Level: 3
NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain
		(PPE), tools and accessories, apply Anti-Fermentation Solution (AFS) in an appropriate quantity in the containers, use water and other resources optimally in different tasks and processes, plug water leakages to prevent its wastage, segregate waste into different categories, deposit recyclable and reusable material, empathise with Persons with Disabilities (PwD) at work, adopt gender-neutral behaviour at work, follow procedures for dealing with accidents, fires and emergencies, report details of first aid administered in accordance, use emergency equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and workplace requirements, refurbish, replace and store the first aid equipment as appropriate.	
Professional skill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist in irrigation and moisture conservation</li><li>• Carry out post-harvest processing</li><li>• Assist in intercropping</li><li>• Assist in weed control</li><li>• Maintain clean and safe workplace</li></ul>	The job holder is expected to assist in installing an appropriate irrigation or fertigation system, follow the recommended practices to maintain the required level of moisture in the soil, irrigate the coconut crop as per the recommended irrigation schedule, Protecting extracted neera after collection, accumulate the neera extracted from different trees in a large container and filter it through a fine-mesh cloth, assist in determining the quantity and quality of neera using tools, undertake post-harvest processing of neera and	3

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

Title/ Name of qualification/ component: Neera Technician cum Primary Processor			Level: 3
NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain
		<p>assist in preparing neera-based products, assist in preparing the storage area to ensure hygienic conditions and protection of neera from microbial contamination, assist the supervisor in maintaining the record of harvesting and processing of neera, assist the supervisor in selecting appropriate crops for intercropping based on the climate, suitability to the coconut variety being cultivated, carry out intercropping to increase the ratio of organic matters in the soil and prevent its erosion, maintain the crops cultivated under intercropping, assist the supervisor in identifying the weeds growing in the coconut field, apply the recommended pre-emergent herbicide in an appropriate quantity, remove weeds manually or till the field as per the supervisor's instructions,</p> <p>carry out basic safety checks before operation of all tools, implements, and machinery and report identified hazards, assess risks prior to performing manual handling jobs, and work accordingly, work in a manner which minimizes environmental damage, ensuring all procedures and instructions for controlling risks are followed, follow government / workplace advisories in case of outbreak, Wear PPE during the work, sanitize the equipment, Machinery and tools before and</p>	

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

Title/ Name of qualification/ component: Neera Technician cum Primary Processor			Level: 3
NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain
		after use, follow instructions mentioned in the chemicals/pesticides/fumigants etc to avoid hazards	
Core Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assist in applying the fertilisers</li><li>• Assist in identifying pests, disease and their remedy</li><li>• Extract neera from coconut/ palm trees</li></ul>	The job holder is expected to apply the organic or inorganic fertilisers to meet the macro and micronutrients needs of the coconut crop, as per the recommended dose and schedule, follow various intercultural practice to maintain the nutrient levels in the soil and improve the yield, assist the supervisor in maintaining the record of fertilisers used in the field, check the coconut crop regularly to identify the symptoms of various pests, diseases and disorders, assist the supervisor in determining the stage of pest and disease infestation along with damage and mode of transmission, determine an appropriate treatment for removing the identified pests and disease, check the growth and maturity of inflorescence on coconut/ palm trees, clean the mature inflorescence with the recommended disinfectant to remove any microorganisms, create a cut of the recommended dimension on the tip of the inflorescence on the coconut/ palm tree, fasten a container below the inflorescence to collect neera, ensuring it has AFS applied in it, ensure to extract neera at sunrise to obtain its best quality.	3

**NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE**

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

**Approved on file dated 07.02.2023**

Title/ Name of qualification/ component: Neera Technician cum Primary Processor			Level: 3
NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain	NSQF Domain
Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Assisting in preparing and extracting neera</li><li>Assisting in post-harvest processing of neera</li><li>Assist in irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control</li></ul>	A Neera Technician is responsible for assisting in extracting neera by climbing coconut and palm trees, identifying mature inflorescence and collecting neera using the relevant tools and implements. The individual also assists in carrying out post-harvest processing of neera. Assisting in carrying out nutrient management of coconut/ palm crop, pest and disease management along with irrigation, moisture conservation, intercropping and weed control are the other responsibilities of a neera technician.	3

**SECTION 3****EVIDENCE OF NEED**

<b>26</b>	<b>What evidence is there that the qualification is needed? What is the estimated uptake of this qualification and what is the basis of this estimate?</b>
<b>Basis</b>	
Need of the qualification	<p>While collecting data from the companies for the occupational map, we also took feedback from industry, training institutions which was collected with respect to roles for which qualification packs development, was to be prioritized. This was largely based on volume of people required, quantitative and qualitative shortfall which the industry feels they face. Governing council of ASCI and Occupational Standards Committee which comprises of experts &amp; senior leaders gave final approval and endorsement for the same.</p> <p>Production of horticulture crops in India was estimated at a record 326.6 million metric tonnes (MMT) in FY20 as per third advance estimates, an increase of 5.81 million metric tonnes over FY20. India has the largest livestock population of around 535.78 million, which translates to around 31% of the world population. Milk production in the country is expected to increase to 208 MT in FY21 from 198 MT in FY20, registering a growth of 10% y-o-y. Area under horticulture is projected to rise by 2.7% in FY21. There is a wide variation in agricultural growth across different states in India. There is an increasing role of the corporate sector in agriculture through infusion of new technologies and accessing of new markets. Government of India has taken measures to retain farmers in agriculture and improve returns to farmers by enhancing institutional credit to farmers; promotion of scientific warehousing infrastructure for increasing shelf life of agricultural produce; improved access to irrigation through Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) Agriculture is the largest sector for employment in India infusion of new technologies and accessing of new markets.</p>
Industry Relevance	<p>Validations have been received from Hithkari Nursery, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Aruna Nursery, Excel Plant Link Pvt. Ltd.</p> <p>Neera technicians in Kerala is expected to go up to 10 lakh if 10 per cent of the coconut palms in the States are tapped.</p>
Usage of the qualification	<p>An industry-determined specification of performance, sets out the skills, knowledge and attitudes required to operate effectively in employment.</p> <p>For employers, the <b>Neera Technician</b> Qualification standards offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a means of assessing occupational competence objectively, including knowledge and understanding of the subject</li> </ul>

## NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a guide for job descriptions and recruitment requirements</li><li>• a basis for staff appraisals</li><li>• a systematic approach to analyzing training needs</li><li>• an opportunity to improve overall company performance by developing a better-trained, better-equipped and more effective workforce.</li></ul> <p>To employees and freelancers, the <b>Neera Technician</b> Qualification standards provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a means for recognizing ability</li><li>• a means for determining gaps in knowledge, experience and skills</li><li>• an objective process for identifying training needs</li><li>• performance indicators and a guide to effectiveness and efficiency.</li></ul> <p>One of the most valuable uses of the occupational standards is in the assessment of a person's performance within a particular job. Because the standards are based on the industry's requirements for ability, skills and knowledge, they provide an objective and directly relevant measure for employers and employees alike.</p> <p>The Qualification Pack shall also be helpful in conducting Recognition of Prior Learning of the Neera Technician Worker</p>			
Estimated uptake	QP/Job Role Name	"States where Demand exist	"District where Demand exist	Projections for the next 3 years
	Neera Technician	Southern States and Goa	Various district of mentioned States	250
27	<b>Recommendation from the concerned Line Ministry of the Government/Regulatory Body. To be supported by documentary evidences</b> Have received concurrence from Horticulture Division, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Department. of Agriculture, Coop. and Farmers Welfare			
28	<b>What steps were taken to ensure that the qualification(s) does (do) not duplicate already existing or planned qualifications in</b>			



## NSQF QUALIFICATION FILE

Approved in 17th NSQC Meeting-NCVET-Dated-31/03/2022

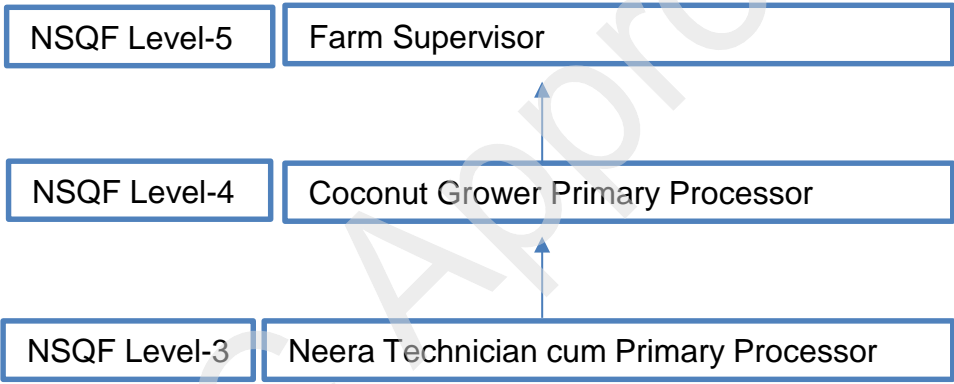
Approved on file dated 07.02.2023

	<p><b>the NSQF? Give justification for presenting a duplicate qualification</b></p> <p>This is the revised version of the already NSQC approved QP. The revision has been undertaken as the QP is going to expire soon.</p>
<b>29</b>	<p><b>What arrangements are in place to monitor and review the qualification(s)? What data will be used and at what point will the qualification(s) be revised or updated? Specify the review process here</b></p> <p>Any institution or individual is welcome to send the feedback, which is recorded and considered during next review cycle. Communication will be sent for any feedback to all the main stakeholders/users one month prior to the review of the qualifications pack. A formal review is scheduled in three years.</p>

Please attach most relevant and recent documents giving further information about any of the topics above.

Give the titles and other relevant details of the document(s) here. Include page references showing where to find the relevant information.

**SECTION 4****EVIDENCE OF PROGRESSION**

30	<p><b>What steps have been taken in the design of this or other qualifications to ensure that there is a clear path to other qualifications in this sector?</b> <b><i>Show the career map here to reflect the clear progression</i></b></p> <p>Career path in the agriculture sector is generally in terms of activities done &amp; ownership of responsibility because they are primarily self-wage employment/ entrepreneurship roles.</p> <p><b>Annexure 1: Career Map of Neera Technician</b></p>  <pre>graph BT; A[NSQF Level-3 Neera Technician cum Primary Processor] --&gt; B[NSQF Level-4 Coconut Grower Primary Processor]; B --&gt; C[NSQF Level-5 Farm Supervisor];</pre> <p>The diagram illustrates a career progression path for a Neera Technician. It consists of three horizontal boxes arranged vertically, connected by upward-pointing arrows. The bottom box is labeled 'NSQF Level-3' and 'Neera Technician cum Primary Processor'. The middle box is labeled 'NSQF Level-4' and 'Coconut Grower Primary Processor'. The top box is labeled 'NSQF Level-5' and 'Farm Supervisor'.</p>
----	--

Please attach most relevant and recent documents giving further information about any of the topics above.

Give the titles and other relevant details of the document(s) here. Include page references showing where to find the relevant information.